

JPET RFT Questions and Answers

The JPET RFT (reference to page 55 and 187 of the JPET RFT) states that

'The JPET target group includes young people aged between 15 and 21 years (inclusive) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and/or who face multiple non-vocational barriers including:

Our understanding of this is that a young person who is not facing homelessness but is experiencing other multiple non-vocational barriers is eligible to receive JPET services.

An example might include a 17 year old person who has issues directly related to a refugee background such as torture and trauma, and has a lack of employment experience or an appropriate skill base. This young person does not have an accommodation issue but is facing multiple non-vocational barriers. Would this young person be eligible to receive JPET services?

Young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness usually face a number of the non-vocational barriers listed in the JPET RFT at section 3.2.1 and in the draft funding deed at clause 2.3. Young people whose housing situations are unstable or who are likely to become homeless or at risk of homelessness would also normally face multiple non-vocational barriers that are contributing to, or being exacerbated by, the difficulties in their home life. A young person who is facing multiple non-vocational barriers but not necessarily homeless or at risk of homelessness under the definitions at sections 3.2.3 and 3.2.4 may be eligible to participate in the JPET programme subject to the other eligibility criteria. It is likely that young people in this situation would be experiencing circumstances that would result in them becoming homeless or at risk of homelessness in the near future. In the example in the question, a response on eligibility for JPET is not possible as there a number of eligibility requirements that have not been covered such as citizenship or visa status and the exclusions to eligibility. Rules governing eligibility for the JPET programme are outlined in full at section 3.2.2 (pg 55) and clauses 2.4 and 2.5 (pg 188) of the draft funding deed.

(posted 17/11/2005)

Can you please explain what the term 'places' means in relation to 'Annual JPET places available for tender' (p.110 Request for Tender document) re. ESAs.

As described on page 95 of the JPET RFT at point number 4 'Annual JPET places available for tender' means: 'JPET places in an ESA represent the minimum number of new participants JPET providers will be funded to commence in each financial year in that ESA.

Tenderers will bid for a number of places in an ESA, nominating their preferred minimum and maximum number of JPET places in each ESA, and indicating the sites from which they will operate. The places available in an ESA are the minimum new commencements in the ESA for a financial year. For example, an ESA with 100 places available for tender in this RFT has 100 new commencements allocated to it

each year for the duration of the funding period, subject to any business re-allocation processes.'
(posted 17/11/2005)

There appears to be a discrepancy relating to client eligibility between the current (2005-2006) JPET guidelines, and the JPET request for tender. This discrepancy relates specifically to the eligibility of young people currently serving custodial orders.

The 2005-2006 JPET Programme Guidelines apply to the current Funding Agreement period, which ends on 30 June 2006. Organisations should not refer to the information contained in any current JPET programme documentation, including the 2005-2006 JPET Programme Guidelines, when responding to the Request for Tender.

The Request for Tender contains all relevant programme and funding information, including participant eligibility requirements, for the new funding period which will commence on 1 July 2006. The eligibility requirement at section 3.2.2 of the RFT stating that "young people who are incarcerated or in a detention centre pursuant to a Commonwealth, State or Territory law" are not eligible to participate in the JPET programme will apply to funded service providers and potential JPET participants from the commencement of the new funding deed period on 1 July 2006.
(posted 05/12/2005)

I would like some clarification on the JPET payment model and KPI 1. The JPET RFT states that DEWR requires 25 per cent of providers contracted business levels to be achieved each quarter. How do providers manage referrals and commencements in the first 3 quarters of the contract? Is there a ramp-up period?

My questions are best illustrated using a hypothetical example.

E.g.

Contracted business share = 80 places

Quarterly commencement target = 20 places

Scenario 1

Assume in the 1st quarter 2006 50 eligible referrals are made to the provider. Does the provider commence 20 participants and place the others on a waiting list until next quarter? Or does the provider commence the whole 50?

Assuming the provider has to commence 50 participants, following the payment model, only 16 places (20% of 80) will have been paid (at beginning of quarter) with the remaining 5% (4 places paid after the first quarter). When will the remaining commencements 30 get paid?

Scenario 2

Assume that in the first quarter 2006 the provider commences only 10 participants. Following the payment model and this may mean that the 5% balance will not be paid.

However in the second quarter the provider commences 30 participants and is therefore at 40 participants = to quarter 1 + quarter 2 targets. Does the provider ever get paid the 5% 1st quarter balance? That is, can the provider catch up?

As per section 3.5.7 of the JPET RFT and clause 4.1 of the draft Funding Deed, JPET quarterly targets are 25% of contracted business unless otherwise agreed to by DEWR through the service work plan. If a provider would like to request that lower quarterly targets be in place for an establishment period immediately after 1 July 2006, discussions can be initiated with DEWR Account and Contract Managers regarding this.

With regard to scenario 1, DEWR only requires that funded providers commence the minimum target number of participants in each quarter. Section 3.2.5 (page 57) of the JPET RFT states: 'It is expected that JPET providers will only refuse referrals of young people not eligible to participate in the JPET programme. However, there may be instances where the JPET provider is at maximum operating caseload and is unable to accept and commence more participants immediately'. A JPET provider's 'maximum operating caseload' is the number of active participants a provider can assist at any point in time taking in to account the complexity of issues the young people are facing and the intensity of support and assistance required.

Also in relation to scenario 1, JPET providers are not paid according to when participants commence with the programme. Payments are made to providers based on 20% of the ESA FY Funding Amount in advance at the start of each quarter with a further 5% of the ESA FY Funding Amount paid at the conclusion of the quarter subject to satisfactory provider performance in the ESA.

With regard to scenario 2, payment of the remaining 5% in each quarter is subject to satisfactory provider performance and achievement against targets. Targets are set at 25% of the annual target each quarter unless otherwise agreed to by DEWR through the provider's service work plan. If the 5% payment is to be withheld, that will occur after consultation with the provider. Section 3.4.2 (page 65) provides detail on circumstances under which the 5% may not be paid at the end of a quarter. If the 5% of ESA FY Funding Amount is not paid to a provider at the end of the first quarter as a result of unsatisfactory performance it will not be paid to the provider later in the financial year should the provider 'catch up' against targets.

(posted 05/12/2005)

If a JPET provider receives a referral through means other than Centrelink or a CWCA, are they able to refer the participant to the CWCA for an assessment? Does the JPET provider pay for this service?

Participants referred to JPET through means other than Centrelink or a CWCA will be able to be referred for a CWCA assessment. The arrangements for how this will happen are still being finalised and details will be in the new JPET programme guidelines for 2006-09. JPET providers will not pay for CWCA assessments.

(posted 07/12/2005)

In the JPET tender it mentions generalist and specialist services but it does not define what a specialist service is and which target group with the youth age range (which in the PSP the specialist target groups are identified)

My question is if your general makeup of an catchment area you are bidding for has a high percentage of CALD youth should we complete C5 as a generalist as this is your general clientele or in DEWR's eye is CALD seen as specialist.

DEWR is not specifying what sub-groups of the JPET target group a tenderer can bid to deliver a specialist JPET service to. If an organisation wishes to bid to provide specialist services to a particular sub-group of the JPET target group, they must identify that area of speciality at Question 1 in Form C6 and demonstrate the need for the specialist service in responding to Criterion 3. As outlined at section 3.3.1 of the JPET RFT, a JPET provider's service delivery model must reflect the needs of the JPET eligible young people in the area "taking into account the dynamics of the community where the JPET services are delivered". If an organisation wishes only to service a particular CALD group then it would tender for a specialist service. However, if the organisation wishes to service that particular CALD group and other young people in the ESA then it might consider bidding for a generalist service.
(posted 07/12/2005)

If we are bidding for a particular postcode, and not the whole ESA, are there some figures available for each postcode that shows the annual JPET places available for tender. If we have to put these figures in, there should hopefully be some indication as to what the numbers for each postcode will be.

The JPET places available for tender are not broken down in to postcodes, figures are provided by ESA only. There is no notional allocation of JPET places to postcodes, but as stated in section 3.6.3 of the JPET RFT "in ESAs where the level of places is greater, especially metropolitan areas, DEWR expects to be able to fund a sufficient number of JPET providers to ensure complete coverage of the ESA". It is a tenderer's business decision to determine the range of places they wish to tender for and the level of coverage they will tender to provide for the ESA.
(posted 07/12/2005)

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'DEWR requires that 25% of a provider's annual contracted business levels must be achieved each quarter' – What if the provider has achieved in excess of 75% of the contracted business levels at the commencement of the final quarter? Is there still a requirement to achieve a further 25%?

Yes, unless otherwise agreed to by DEWR through the service work plan (refer to section 3.5.7 of the JPET RFT and clause 4.1 of the draft Funding Deed).
(posted 28/11/2005)

We have traditionally delivered JPET services in the Illawarra from Helensburgh to Kiama, now Kiama and Shellharbour have no JPET places available for tender (greyed out in the maps on Appendix C), so where an ESA has no business available, can they still be serviced from an adjacent area?

As indicated in Appendix C of the RFT, the ESAs where there is no business available for tender have been coloured grey in the maps and this includes the ESA of Southern Suburbs NSW (where Kiama and Shellharbour are located). While there are ESAs with no JPET places available for tender, there are currently no restrictions on young people accessing JPET providers in ESAs different from those they reside in. Therefore, a young person who lives in either Kiama or Shellharbour could access a JPET provider at the JPET provider's location/s in Wollongong ESA.
(posted 29/11/2005)

If a JPET participant moves to another ESA in a subsequent financial year, given that there is the requisite three month break prior to the new commencement, is it possible for the same provider to claim the new commencement in the new ESA if it also services this ESA?

As per section 3.3.5 of the JPET RFT, when a participant returns to a JPET provider for assistance in a different financial year from their original commencement and a period of three months has elapsed between exit and the new commencement, the provider is able to count that participant as a new commencement against contractual targets. In the scenario given, it does not matter that the participant has moved to a different ESA or whether JPET is delivered by the same organisation in the other ESA or not, as all the conditions for counting the returning participant as a new commencement have been met as per section 3.3.5 of the JPET RFT and Clause 9.4 of the draft Funding Deed.
(posted 09/12/05)