Participation in the Australian Government ICT Entry-level Programs

Approved by the Secretaries’ ICT Governance Board on 22 September 2011.

To all agencies under the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act)

Should an agency wish to opt-out from a Whole-of-Government arrangement, please follow the advice of the Process for administration of opt-outs from Whole-of-Government ICT arrangements.

Purpose

The purpose of this Circular is to advise agencies that the Secretaries’ ICT Governance Board (SIGB) decided that the ICT Entry-level Programs (Programs) delivered by the Australian Government Information Management Office (AGIMO) provides a single Whole-of-Government service for ICT apprenticeship, cadetship and/or traineeship programs for the Australian Government. The Circular has been timed to ensure awareness of the SIGB decision in advance of your nomination and commitment levels to participate in the 2013 Programs.

Key points

1. On 22 September 2011, the SIGB agreed that AGIMO should provide a single Whole-of-Government service for ICT apprenticeship, cadetship and/or traineeship programs for the Australian Government. In agreeing to this position, SIGB took into consideration a previous decision by Government.

2. The implications of this decision are that:
   a. from January 2013, agencies participate in the Whole-of-Government entry-level Programs; and
   b. existing agency-specific ICT entry-level programs be migrated to the Whole-of-Government Programs by December 2013. (Note: Agencies may continue to recruit ICT entry-level staff through their internal graduate programs.)

3. AGIMO is now calling for agency nominations and commitments to participate in the 2013 Programs.
Background

4. The SIGB considered the challenges faced by agencies to attract and retain ICT skills and the need for consistency in programs across Government.

5. The SIGB considered that multiple agency programs would introduce unnecessary competition, increase costs for participating agencies and possibly create public perceptions of duplication and inefficiency.

6. There had been a previous decision by Government that endorsed Finance as the agency responsible for coordinating the ICT Entry-level programs function.

7. The SIGB subsequently endorsed AGIMO as the sole provider of this function.

8. The SIGB also decided that AGIMO would establish an opt-in ICT Graduate Program for 2013.

Action required

9. AGIMO is calling for agency commitment to participate in the 2013 Programs. For agencies that have not participated in the Programs previously, I strongly encourage you to contact AGIMO to obtain an overview of the Programs and discuss your requirements.

10. AGIMO requires a formal commitment from agencies to participate in the 2013 Programs including indicative numbers and locations of positions by COB Friday, 15 June 2012.

Contacts

11. Please provide the above information and/or direct any questions you may have in relation to this Circular to Michelle Norris, Director, ICT Skills on (02) 6215 1954 or michelle.norris1@finance.gov.au

Ann Steward
Australian Government Chief Information Officer/ Deputy Secretary
Australian Government Information Management Office
21 May 2012