



Primary Producer Emergency Response Grants

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q What are the Primary Producer Emergency Response Grants?

A Grants are available to support primary producers across Tasmania affected by the August/September storm events, to help them with clean up, re-establish their properties and get their enterprises up and running again.

The financial assistance is being jointly funded by the Australian and Tasmanian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Q Who is considered eligible under this Grant Program?

A To be eligible for a grant an applicant must meet all the eligibility criteria below:

- a) Meet the definition of a primary producer (refer to [Taxation Ruling TR 97/11](#)),
- b) Devote part of their labour to the primary production enterprise;
- c) Derive at least 50 per cent of their gross income from primary production;
 - i. An applicant may also be eligible for a grant if the applicant derives at least 50 per cent of their total gross income from primary production and value-added products (eg wine) made directly from raw produce grown by the applicant.
- d) Hold an Australian Business Number (ABN) and have held that ABN at the time of the disaster;
- e) Have a primary production enterprise that is located in the defined area for the eligible disaster and have suffered direct damage as a result of the eligible disaster;
- f) Have been engaged in carrying on the primary production enterprise when affected by the event;
- g) Intend to re-establish the primary production enterprise in the same community, region or sector requested;

- h) Be primarily responsible for meeting the costs claimed in the applications; and
- i) For costs relating to eligible activities of the Grant Guidelines, provided satisfactory evidence of loss or damage

Q How much is available for Grants under the Program?

A Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for the whole of Tasmania, with an additional \$15,000 available for those impacted by floodwaters in the Derwent Valley and Central Highlands Local Government Areas.

Q Is there a cap in funding available under the Program?

A Yes. Under the financial arrangements, total funds are capped and applications will be managed in order of first-in served basis. This means that all funds may be expended before the closing date of 30 June 2025.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to make their applications and provide all necessary quotes/receipts as soon as possible and before the closing dates.

Please speak to an AgriGrowth Liaison Officer through FarmPoint on 1300 292 292 or farmpoint@nre.tas.gov.au if any questions.

Q Can I seek in-principle approval for a grant before I incur expenses?

A Yes. However, the release of grant funds is subject to the provision of evidence to substantiate the cost to recover from the event. Applicants may submit written quote(s) or a written estimate(s) to seek in-principal approval of the grant. However, funds will not be released until evidence of eligible expenditure is provided in the form of tax invoices / receipts

Q Can I submit an application for a claim for reimbursement after the closing date?

A No. Late applications will not be accepted.

Applicants have until the funds available under the Program are fully expended or until 30 June 2025 (whichever occurs first) to provide all required information to complete their claim for payment.

Q How do I know that I have been approved to make a claim?

A You can check the status of your application in SmartyGrants. You will also receive an email from Farmpoint confirming that your application has been 'approved' or 'approved in principle'. Only those applicants that have their application 'approved' or 'approved in principle' will be eligible to be paid under the Program.



If you have not received a notification on the status of your application, please contact Farmpoint.

Q What can I use the funding for?

A Grants are provided to help pay for the costs of clean-up and reinstatement of primary production. This includes:

- engaging a tradesperson to conduct safety inspections
- hiring and/or leasing equipment or purchasing materials to clean a property, premises or equipment
- paying additional wages to an existing employee or employing a person to clean
 - Own labour for clean-up will only be paid to a maximum of \$1,500
 - Own labour with machinery to a maximum of \$5,000.
- Removing and disposing of debris and spoiled materials
- Removal and disposal of injured or dead livestock
- Salvaging damaged crops, grain or feed
- Buying fodder
- Repairing buildings or fittings in a building that are essential for resuming operation
- Purchasing, hiring or leasing equipment or materials that are essential for resuming operation
- Repairing or replacing fencing
- Maintaining the health of livestock and poultry
- Carting water

Please refer to the [Guidelines](#) for the details regarding eligible and ineligible activities that can be reimbursed, before submitting an application.

Q Can I use the funds to repair a road, bridge or other essential infrastructure?

A Yes. If you can demonstrate that the restoration is essential for immediately resuming operation of the primary production enterprise.

Q What evidence do I need to support my claim?

A You will need to provide:

- evidence that you are a primary producer and that your primary production enterprise was operating immediately prior to 26 August 2024 (such as a bank statement highlighting business transactions, a recent utility account, or taxation records or financial management accounts).



- a statement describing how the severe weather event impacted your business and photographic evidence to support your claim;
- evidence of ownership structure for the land parcel impacted (registered owners, share farmers or lease holders), for example a copy of council rates.
- A copy of the Trust Deed if you are operating as a Trust.
- A copy of a lease agreement if the property is leased.

Q Is there an assessment of the damage?

A Yes, you will be required to provide receipts or invoices showing expenses incurred and photos. You may also have an on-site inspection carried out by NRE Tas.

Q Can two primary producers apply for funding if located on the same property?

A Primary production entities who are independently operated, separately owned and registered, may receive the maximum available grant amount providing they meet additional conditions. Primary producers on the same property cannot claim for the same expenses.

Please refer to the [Guidelines](#) for the before submitting an application.

Q What commercial primary production operations are considered eligible to apply for these Grants?

A **Agriculture**; including nursery and floriculture production, mushroom and vegetable growing, fruit and tree nut growing, grain, sheep and beef cattle farming, other crop growing, dairy farming, poultry farming, deer farming, other livestock farming.

Services to agriculture, hunting and trapping, forestry and logging, commercial fishing (marine fishing aquaculture and mariculture) are included.

Included under these categories are flower growing, intensive horticulture (for example tomatoes and herby, hydroponics and beekeeping). Plant nurseries are also included, however a plant nursery with a retail outlet is not (these may be eligible under the Small Business Emergency Recovery Grants through Business Tasmania).

(refer to [Taxation Ruling TR 97/11](#))

Q Who is not eligible?

A Applicants that do not meet the definition of a primary producer or have not incurred clean-up, removal of debris or restoration costs as a result of this weather event.

Hobby farmers are also not eligible as primary producers under ATO definitions (refer [Taxation Ruling TR 97/11](#)).

Please refer to the [Guidelines](#) for the before submitting an application.



Q What is direct damage?

A To be considered as having suffered direct damage as a result of the event you must have incurred costs relating to cleanup, removal of debris or restoration to resume operation of the primary production enterprise following the event.

Please refer to the [Guidelines](#) for the before submitting an application.

Q Can I claim the difference between my insurance coverage and amounts in excess of the value insured?

A You may be eligible for a grant to cover the difference and will need to provide acceptable forms evidence, such as a:

- copy of relevant section of Insurance Product Disclosure Statement
- letter of advice from insurance company detailing what is not covered by the policy
- signed Statutory Declaration declaring the insurance cover is insufficient.

Q Is Goods and Service Tax (GST) applicable?

A The Grant funds will be provided to you **ex GST**. This means that your request for reimbursement costs up to the maximum grant amount will need to exclude GST.

The receipt of funding from this program may be treated as income by the ATO. While grants are typically treated as assessable income for taxation purposes, how they are treated will depend on the recipient's particular circumstances.

Applicants may wish to seek independent advice about the possible tax implications for receiving the grant under the program from a tax advisor, financial advisor and/or the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), prior to submitting an application.

Q Do I need to provide quotes and receipts?

A Yes. Applicants will be required to provide quotes and receipts as evidence of damage and costs. The goods and services described on each invoice must be clearly identifiable as having been paid and be related to damage from the severe weather event.

Quotes/receipts should include the providers name, address and ABN and should be itemised. The State reserves the right to not pay on invoices that do not appear to be genuine.

You are required to keep evidence of what the grant is spent on and be asked to provide additional information. Be aware that you may be audited after the grant has been paid.



Q Can I send an unpaid invoice to the Department and request the Department to pay the invoice on my behalf?

A No, The Department will reimburse the primary producer for costs, not the supplier.

Q How many times can I get paid?

A Only **one** application and claim are normally accepted for assessment of the Grant for the Scheme. Please contact AgriGrowth Tasmania through FarmPoint on 1300 292 292 or farmpoint@nre.tas.gov.au if you may need to submit more than one grant claim for reimbursement.

Q How will I receive payment?

A Payment will be made where possible via direct debit to your nominated bank account.

Q How soon can I anticipate receiving payment?

A The Department aims to have your payment paid to you within ten working days of approval of an application and completion of all evidence required to process your claim.

Q What happens if I provide the incorrect bank account details?

A Providing incorrect bank account details may result in funds being paid to an incorrect account. These funds will need to be returned to us before we attempt another grant payment. This process may result in significant delays in funding being received. Additionally, we cannot guarantee that funds paid to an incorrect bank account will be returned to us.

Q Is there an income or asset test?

A No.

Q Will I receive confirmation of my application being received?

A Yes. Through an email via SmartyGrants. To ensure good communication with applicants, FarmPoint will acknowledge questions from applicants within 24 hours. A written response to the applicant's question and/or an update will be provided via Smartygrants or email within seven working days.

Q What happens if I receive an email requesting further information or evidence to support my application?



A During the assessment process the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania through AgriGrowth Tasmania may contact you to request further information to support or clarify an application.

You will also receive an email advising the detailing what is required. You will need to then update your application form within SmartyGrants with the requested information and re-submit.

FarmPoint will follow up within seven (7) business days to clarify any questions that you may have and prompt you to resubmit your application form with the requested information.

If the application form is not re-submitted prior to the closing date or when the fund has been fully expended (whichever occurs earlier) then application will not be assessed.

Q How are applications assessed?

A Applications will be assessed against the Guidelines and the evidence you provide. Applications will be assessed in order of receipt.

All applicants will receive an email notification letting them know the outcome of their application.

Q Can I appeal a decision if my application is declined?

A Yes. All requests must be in writing to the General Manager Agriculture and Water and be received within 28 days from the date of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) notifying you of the decision about your application. Requests should be addressed to

FarmPoint
PO Box 46
Kings Meadows Tas 7249
or farmpoint@nre.tas.gov.au

Q Where do I lodge my application?

A Applicants should complete and lodge an application online via [Smarty Grants](#) from the NRE Tasmania website. Applicants without internet access should contact FarmPoint on 1300 292 292 to discuss alternative methods for applying.

Full details of the Primary Producers Emergency Response Grant can be found in the [Guidelines](#) on the NRE Tasmania website.

For further information about the application process, please contact FarmPoint on 1300 292 292 or email farmpoint@nre.tas.gov.au.

