



Sheep & Goat eID Industry Support Scheme Guidelines

Round 3 – For sheep and goat owners, agricultural show societies, school farms, organisations that run sheep and goat livestock events, not-for-profit organisations, local government and veterinarians.

1. Support Scheme Overview

Nationally, all states and territories are working towards a harmonised framework and implementation timeline for the introduction of electronic identification (eID) of sheep and goats from 1 January 2025.

The Tasmanian Sheep and Goat Support Scheme Guidelines for Round 3 funding provide information on eligibility requirements and available reimbursements to support the transition of sheep and goats to electronic identification (eID).

Under legislation the buyer/receiver of the livestock must record the livestock movement on the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database. For more information see **General Biosecurity Direction - Livestock Traceability**.

The Support Scheme is administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas).

For more information on Sheep and Goat eID Project visit www.nre.tas.gov.au/eID

2. Key dates

Round 3 opens 1 July 2024 and closes 30 June 2025, or until available funds are expended, whichever occurs first.

3. Eligible applicants

- Sheep and Goat Owners
- Agricultural Show Societies
- School Farms
- Organisations that run sheep or goat livestock events
- Not-for-profit organisations
- Local Government
- Veterinarians that treat sheep or goats

4. Ineligible Applicants

Applicants not referenced in section 3.

5. Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for a reimbursement, the following conditions must be met where relevant:

- You are an eligible participant outlined in section 3.
- You have an active Property Identification Code (PIC) listed in one of the categories below:
 - o Producer
 - o Pound
 - o Showground
 - o Veterinary Practice
- You have an Australian Business Number (ABN) if applicable
- You have a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) account

6. Eligible participants, items and reimbursements

Eligible applicants	Eligible items and reimbursements
Sheep and Goat Owners	<p>Reimbursements are capped at \$5,000 per PIC* (gst ex). A reimbursement of 75% is available on any of, or combination of, the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handheld Radio Frequency Identification Devices (RFID) Readers• RFID Panel Readers (fixed or mobile)• Panel Antennas (fixed or mobile)• eID Readers• eID Compatible Scale Readers• Associated eID Software and Subscriptions until 30 June 2025
School Farms	<p>Reimbursements are capped at \$5,000 per PIC* (gst ex). A reimbursement of 100% is available on any of, or combination of, the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handheld Radio Frequency Identification Devices (RFID) Readers• RFID Panel Readers (fixed or mobile)• Panel Antennas (fixed or mobile)• eID Readers• eID Compatible Scale• Associated eID Software and Subscriptions until 30 June 2025

Organisations that run livestock events for sheep or goats, local government and veterinarians that treat sheep or goats	75% of the cost of one handheld RFID reader up to a maximum of \$2,000 (gst ex)
Agricultural show societies and not-for-profit organisations	100% of the cost of one handheld RFID reader up to a maximum of \$2,000 (gst ex)

* Eligible applicants must have PICs that represent physically distant properties, to be eligible for funding. For example, a producer with a PIC for a property at Scottsdale and another PIC for a property at Fingal could apply for funding for scanning equipment for each PIC. However, a producer with adjacent properties that have different PICs will only be eligible for funding for one of those PICs. NRE strongly recommends producers consolidate adjacent PICs by contacting nlis.tas@nre.tas.gov.au or going to <https://pras.biosecurity.tas.gov.au/pras/ui>. NRE Tas reserves the right to consider applications on their merit and asks that producers make clear claims where issues around PICs and localities are at play.

7. Ineligible Items

Any items not listed in section 6 including: computers, load bars and weight crates and autodrafters (other than the eID components, as listed in section 6).

8. How do I apply

If you meet the eligibility requirements, and your application has been given pre-approval, you must purchase the item/s that you require and provide proof of purchase via SmartyGrants.

Refer to the NRE Tas website at www.nre.tas.gov.au/eID to complete an online application.

If you are uncertain whether you are eligible or an item you wish to purchase is an eligible item, please contact the project team via the email or phone number at the end of this guideline.

9. Reimbursement amounts

Refer to section 6 above for reimbursement amounts, and a cap on the total reimbursement that applies to sheep and goat producers.

10. Terms and Conditions

- The assessment process is non-competitive and eligibility based however the total available funding is limited and applications for reimbursement will be made on a 'first come first assessed basis'.
- The Assessment Team will reimburse applicants in the order that applications are received.
- Applicants that pay for items prior to applying for approval do so at their own risk. If you are uncertain about being eligible for a reimbursement, or about whether an item is eligible, it is recommended you apply for approval before purchasing any item.
- To ensure the available funding is spread fairly NRE Tas anticipates it will fund one application per PIC. Where producers operate a number of separate properties in physically distant localities, for example, a

producer with a PIC for a property at Scottsdale and another PIC for a property at Fingal could apply for funding for scanning equipment for each PIC.

- e. A producer with adjacent properties that have different PICs will only be eligible for funding for one of those PICs. NRE strongly recommends producers consolidate adjacent PICs by contacting nlis.tas@nre.tas.gov.au or going to <https://pras.biosecurity.tas.gov.au/pras/ui>. Reimbursements only apply for equipment purchased from 1 July 2024.
- f. Valid tax invoices submitted in relation to this scheme may not be used to secure funding under any other similar schemes.
- g. If you have a requirement to dispose, sell or replace any equipment within a two-year period you must notify NRE Tas before doing so.
- h. Applications received after the advertised application closing may not be accepted.
- i. Without limiting any rights, NRE Tas (or another Tasmanian agency), in its sole discretion, may recover funds from the claimant and determine that a debt is due if evidence indicates that the claimant:
 - a) did not meet the eligibility criteria; and/or
 - b) received an overpayment from the scheme.

NRE Tas reserves the right to consider applications on their merit and asks that producers make clear claims where issues around PICs and localities are at play.

11. Funding Sources

The Scheme is operated by NRE Tas using funds provided by both the Australian Government and the Tasmanian State Government. The total amount of funding for the project is \$11.66 million dollars over four years. Approximately \$2.3 million dollars is available in Round 3 for eligible entities.

12. Application Assistance

If you need assistance with submitting your application, please contact us:

Phone: 0429 968 078

Email: sheepandgoatID@nre.tas.gov.au

If you need assistance with interpreting or translating, please click **here**.

13. Exclusions

You are not eligible for a reimbursement if you have received, or are eligible to receive, financial assistance for costs associated with the eligible items described, from another grants program.

14. Assessment and Decision Making

Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria by Assessment Officers, who are responsible for routine assessment against the criteria in these guidelines.

The scheme is administered in accordance with these guidelines and reimbursements will be approved based on recommendations by Assessment Officers.

NRE Tas reserves the right to request further information from you or from any business or individual you have engaged to assist in assessing your application and to verify any information provided in your application. Failure to provide such information may result in the refusal of your application.

NRE Tas reserves the right to refuse an application where eligibility criteria are not met or where you do not or cannot provide sufficient information for NRE Tas to determine if eligibility criteria have been met.

NRE Tas can put an application on hold where the applicant is under investigation or has been charged in relation to the fraudulent receipt of grants or rebates under this or other NRE Tas programs or schemes.

Completed applications will be assessed in order of receipt. Incomplete applications will not enter the assessment queue until all required information is provided.

Applicants should note that past financial assistance under this scheme or any other program or scheme is not a reliable indicator of eligibility for future financial assistance under this scheme.

Applications submitted will be subject to audit by NRE Tas to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.

15. Approval

Applicants will be notified of the outcome within 15 business days after submitting a completed application.

16. Claiming

You should refer to the NRE Tas website and complete an online application. You are required to purchase eligible items before applying for a reimbursement and valid receipts for all eligible items will be required prior to payment. Payments will be GST-exclusive. Applicants that pay for items prior to applying for approval do so at their own risk. If you are uncertain about being eligible for a reimbursement, or about whether an item is eligible, it is recommended you apply for approval before purchasing any item.

17. Fraudulent Claims

NRE Tas takes fraud and corruption seriously.

NRE Tas responds to fraud by:

- a. auditing applications that are of concern;
- b. referral to Tasmania Police; and
- c. recovery of any assistance provided under a fraudulent application.

18. Evaluation

NRE Tas is committed to providing excellent service that responds to your needs through well targeted programs and may ask you to participate in a survey or contact you about your experience of the assistance you received. NRE Tas will always treat the responses you provide as confidential and use the information only for the purposes it was collected.

19. Personal Information Statement

Personal information (which identifies an individual) will be managed in accordance with the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004* and may be accessed by the individual to whom it relates on request to NRE Tas. A fee may be charged for this service and basic personal information may be disclosed to other public sector bodies where necessary, for the efficient storage and use of the information.

20. Complaints

Any concerns about the Scheme should be submitted in writing to complaints@nre.tas.gov.au or by using the external complaints form, [here](#).

Following resolution of your complaints by NRE Tas, if you do not agree with the way the Department has handled the issue, you may wish to contact Ombudsman Tasmania via www.ombudsman.tas.gov.au/home/contact-us

21. Definitions

Applicant	The entity/individual who makes the application under the Support Scheme.
Approval	Your application will be approved based on your eligibility and request for eligible items. In the event of an early close, NRE Tas will reimburse applicants ranked by the date received up to the allocated funding.
Associated eID Software and Subscriptions	Associated eID Software necessary for the operation of any of the eligible eID equipment, along with relevant subscriptions.
Goat	<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i> .
Movement	Any movement involving one or more sheep or goats between two properties with different PICs.
NLIS	National Livestock Identification System.
NLIS database	The national database operated by Integrity Systems Company Ltd that registers electronic NLIS devices and stores records of sheep, goat, pig, and cattle movements.
Not for profit organisations	An organisation that does not operate for the profit, personal gain or other benefit of particular people (for example, its members, the people who run the organisation, or their friends or relatives). Examples include animal shelters, Pet Rescue, RSPCA or similar organisations that receive and care for sheep or goats.
Property Identification Code (PIC)	A unique spatial code allocated by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) to a property in accordance with the General Biosecurity Direction (livestock traceability) or the <i>Animal (Brands and Movement) Act 1984</i> .

Rangeland Goat	A goat that is extensively managed behind fencing, that may have been part of a managed breeding program but has not been fed in a feedlot or been given veterinary/chemical treatments.
Scheme	The reimbursement scheme referred to in this guideline, also referred to as Round 2 Funding Round.
Sheep	<i>Ovis aries</i> .
Sheep and goat owners	A person, organisation, or business engaged in breeding, feeding, raising sheep or goats. It includes any person keeping sheep or goats for commercial purposes, for lifestyle reasons or as pets.
Valid tax receipt	A paid invoice including the name, address, and ABN of the entity that issued the receipt and a description of each item to which the receipt relates, which is clearly identifiable as being related to approved expenditure for the applicant.

Disclaimer

Information in this publication is provided as general information only and is not intended as a substitute for advice from a qualified professional. NRE Tas recommends that users exercise care and use their own skill and judgment in using information from this publication and that users carefully evaluate the accuracy, currency, completeness, and relevance of such information. Users should take steps to independently verify the information in this publication and, where appropriate, seek professional advice.

Funding assistance provided through the Support Scheme is subject to funds being available. NRE Tas reserves the right to make changes to the Support Scheme to ensure it meets the objectives outlined in these guidelines and provides equitable funding support to applicants.

In the event of an early Support Scheme closure, NRE Tas will pay applicants ranked by the date received up to the allocated funding.

In extenuating circumstances, applications submitted after the deadline may be accepted at the sole discretion of NRE Tas.

These guidelines are subject to change at any time at the sole discretion of NRE Tas.

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (1 July 2024). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NRE Tas or the user's independent adviser.

General enquiries and more information:

Phone Farmpoint on 1300 292 292

Email: sheepandgoatID@nre.tas.gov.au

Website: www.nre.tas.gov.au/eID