



Australian Government

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AGRN1280 Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle and Associated Flooding in WA Category D

Primary Producer Recovery Grants Program Public Guideline

June 2026

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Primary Producer Recovery Grants Program at a glance.

Key features of the Program are:

- The Primary Producer Recovery Grants Program provides financial assistance to primary producers to help pay for the costs of clean-up and reinstatement of primary production enterprises that suffered direct damage as a result of Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle in March 2026.
- A grant applicant can submit an initial claim for up to \$5,000 along with evidence of the direct damage such as quotations and or invoices.
- To claim the subsequent amount of up to \$35,000 a grant applicant is required to provide full evidence of payment for all work/activities being claimed (including that claimed under the initial grant of \$5,000).

Should you read on?

To help decide whether you are eligible to apply for funds through this grant program, you should answer yes to these questions:

- I am a primary producer, who holds a current Australian Business Number (ABN) that was held at the time of Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle.
- My primary production enterprise is located within the defined disaster area, was operational at the time of Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle and suffered direct damage as a result of those events.
- I intend to re-establish my primary production enterprise in the defined disaster area.

To receive a grant under this Program you must:

Demonstrate that you:

- meet the eligibility criteria, and
- meet the assessment criteria.

Complete and submit the application form online through SmartyGrants, ensuring all required supporting information and documents are clear and legible when uploaded.

Contact:

Email: RuralBusiness.Developmentunit@dpird.wa.gov.au

1. Program Purpose

1.1 Purpose of Assistance

The purpose of the Primary Producer Recovery Grants Program (the Program), jointly funded under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) by the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments is to assist with the costs of clean-up and reinstatement of operations for primary producers directly impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone (STC) Narelle and associated flooding.

STC Narelle (AGRN1280) was proclaimed an eligible disaster event under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) on 28 March 2026.

1.2 Eligible Applicants

To be eligible for assistance primary producers must be operating a primary production enterprise in one (1) of the DRFA activated Local Government Areas (LGA) that have been impacted by STC Narelle and are listed below:

- Ashburton
- Carnarvon
- Exmouth
- Shark Bay
- Upper Gascoyne

Any additional LGAs that are subsequently declared under STC Narelle may also be considered for eligibility.

1.3 Administrative Arrangements

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is delivering the Program for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). DPIRD is responsible for assessing applicant eligibility and paying approved funds to applicants that demonstrate eligibility criteria has been met.

2. Eligibility

2.1 Eligibility Criteria

2.1.1 To be eligible for assistance, an applicant must be a *primary producer* who meets the following criteria:

- be recognised by the Australian Taxation Office as a primary producer¹, and have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and be registered for GST for a minimum of 12 months prior to the event;

¹ Primary producers are defined as those that are listed under the Australian New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006 (ANZSIC) 1292.0 (Revision 2.0) Codes 01 (Agriculture), 02 (Aquaculture), 03 (Forestry and Logging), 04 (Fishing, Hunting and Trapping) and 05 (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services)

- suffered direct damage as a result of STC Narelle, which may include damage to outbuildings, crops, pasture, stock, fencing and/or tools of trade (equipment, plant);
- is responsible for the repair or replacement of eligible activities and costs
- were located or conducting the impacted primary production business in the community, region, or sector at the date of the eligible disaster; and
- are intending to re-establish the primary production business in the community, region or sector affected.

A *primary producer* is defined as an individual, partnership, trust, or company which:

- has a right or interest in the affected primary production enterprise;
- devote part of their labour to the affected primary production enterprise; and
- derives at least 50 per cent of their income from the affected primary production enterprise.

2.1.2 In some cases, the primary producer may not be the landowner, and both may wish to claim assistance. For example, the landowner may be responsible for the restoration of buildings, while the primary producer (lessee/share farmer) may be responsible for stock and crops. In these cases, a joint claim may be lodged. Where a joint claim is made between the primary producer and the landowner, the maximum amount of assistance is that of a single grant split between the primary producer and the landowner. Should the landowner wish to claim assistance, the landowner must meet the definition of an eligible applicant in their own right.

2.1.3 Where an applicant's income from primary production is less than 50% of their total income, the applicant may be eligible for a grant if they can demonstrate that in the ordinary course of business the applicant would meet that requirement, but:

- their primary production income is currently reduced due to seasonal or unanticipated conditions; and/or
- due to long lead times to full production, the applicant expects to earn such an amount of income within a three-to-eight-year period, taking into account the nature of the industry.

2.1.4 Applicants who operate more than one primary production enterprise (business), for example under a single ABN at separate locations, may apply for assistance for each eligible business (i.e. each at each location) up to the maximum amount of the Program.

An eligible separate business means a business that would be commercially viable and autonomous business if the other separate businesses operated by the applicant ceased to operate.

When determining an application on this basis, the following may be considered (but is not limited to):

- the staffing arrangements of the separate business;
- whether the separate business has its own plant, equipment or stock;
- the accounting and insurance arrangements of the separate business;
- whether the separate business operates under its own trading name;
- the location of each separate business; and
- the commercial viability and autonomy of each business.

2.1.5 An applicant may also be eligible for a grant if both of the following apply:

- the applicant's primary production enterprise is located outside the defined disaster area for the eligible disaster but is carried on at least sometime on a regular basis in the area; and
- livestock, plant or equipment of the primary production enterprise situated in the defined disaster area has been damaged as a result of the eligible disaster.

2.1.6 Applicants will not be eligible for a grant, or part of a grant, if:

- the applicant has received, or has been approved to receive, financial assistance for eligible costs from another government or other assistance scheme;
- the applicant is entitled to receive a payment under an insurance policy for costs, however the applicant may be eligible for a grant for the portion of costs that are not covered by their insurance or for amounts in excess of the value insured; or
- they have already applied in relation to the same primary production enterprise and received maximum assistance.

2.2 Available funding

The Program provides reimbursement grants of up to a maximum of \$40,000 to eligible primary producers to assist with costs of eligible activities.

Applicants must be able to provide clear evidence that they were directly impacted by STC Narelle and has appropriate evidence to demonstrate the damage was as a direct result of the event to support the grant applications submitted.

Applicants may submit one (1) application per eligible primary production business or property, up to the maximum grant amount per business/property. Where an entity operates multiple eligible properties or independent primary production enterprises under the same ABN, separate applications must be submitted for each property or enterprise, subject to assessment and eligibility requirements. Applications must provide information indicating the activities they will be undertaking and their estimated costs.

- **Tier 1:** An initial payment of up to \$5,000 is available. To support a Tier 1 claim, the applicant must provide evidence of direct damage resulting from the event. This will include photographs and quotes (at a minimum) and, where available, tax invoices or official receipts that meet the requirements described on the [Australian Taxation Office website](#).

Where a Tier 1 payment is approved based on photos and quotes and the applicant does not seek further funding under Tier 2, the applicant must provide invoice/s and evidence of payment within three (3) months of receiving the Tier 1 grant for acquittal purposes.

Under the DRFA, eligible applicants can only claim recovery grants to the value of actual quotes up to \$5,000 for the Tier 1 payment, and/or invoices and evidence of payment up to the agreed grant amount for Tier 2 payment. Where an applicant provides evidence of payment that is less than the amount paid under Tier 1, the applicant will be required to repay the difference.

- **Tier 2: Subsequent amount(s)** A subsequent payment of up to \$35,000 is available. To support Tier 2 claims, applicants must provide full evidence of payment, including valid tax invoices and evidence of payment, for all claimed expenditure.

Invoices and evidence of payment must also be provided for any amounts previously claimed under Tier 1 where this has not already been submitted.

2.3 Eligible activities

The following activities are eligible:

- Activities associated with the clean-up and reinstatement of a primary production enterprise from damage directly resulting from STC Narelle.

Any eligibility queries should be addressed to DPIRD at RuralBusiness.Developmentunit@dpird.wa.gov.au or 1300 374 731.

2.4 Ineligible activities

Ineligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- activities associated with the clean-up and reinstatement of a farm enterprise from damage not directly resulting from STC Narelle; or

- where adequate evidence for the eligible event cannot be provided.

2.5 Eligible costs

Eligible costs may include:

- Purchasing, hiring or leasing equipment and materials to undertake clean-up²;
- Additional labour costs (above and beyond normal wage expenditure i.e. day-to-day staffing);
- Disposing of damaged goods and injured or dead livestock, including associated costs;
- Repairs to buildings (other than residential buildings and houses);
- Repairing or replacing fencing, other than to the extent, the cost may be recovered under other assistance from the Commonwealth or State;
- Reconditioning/repairing essential plant and equipment or replacing lost or damaged plant, equipment, materials and supplies if the replacement is essential to immediately resume business activities;
- Salvaging crops, grain and feeds;
- Health maintenance for livestock and poultry;
- Purchase of fodder not covered by any other assistance;
- Purchase or hire/lease costs for equipment essential to the immediate resumption of the business;
- Water cartage;
- Payment for tradespersons to conduct safety inspections;
- Essential repairs to business premises and internal fittings;
- Replacing dead livestock, where satisfactory evidence of loss is provided; and
- Costs associated with insurance excess and insurance claim shortfall that are directly related to the eligible disaster.

2.6 Ineligible costs

Ineligible costs include, but are not limited to:

- Costs associated with ineligible activities;
- Loss of income as a result of the eligible disaster;
- Damages to residential buildings and dwellings (except for staff accommodation);
- Damages that are covered by insurance;

² Purchasing equipment may be considered eligible on a case-by-case basis if demonstrated to be more cost effective than hiring or leasing.

- Own labour (including existing staff and use of own equipment);
- Expansion projects or for areas that were not in active production, however this should not prevent sensible preparation for future events; and
- Costs associated with replacement of topsoil.

These costs are examples only and are not intended to cover all circumstances. If there is any doubt about the eligibility of costs, please contact DPIRD at RuralBusiness.Developmentunit@dpiird.wa.gov.au or 1300 374 731.

3. Time limits for grant applications

Applications to the program should be made as soon as practicable. The application period for the grants program will close on 31 December 2026.

4. Assessment

- a) Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria.
- b) DPIRD reserves the right to request further information from you or from any business or individual you have engaged to assist in completing your application to verify or add to any information provided in your application. Failure to provide information may result in DPIRD declining your application.
- c) DPIRD reserves the right to decline an application where eligibility criteria are not met, or where the applicant does not, or cannot, provide sufficient information for DPIRD to determine if eligibility criteria have been met.
- d) Applications submitted may be subject to audit by DPIRD or its representatives in order to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.
- e) Applications will only be assessed once all required information has been received.

5. How to apply

Complete applications should be submitted via the online grant platform. However, applicants may also apply in person via local government recovery hubs/offices or via outreach teams, who will assist with an online application.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure their application is complete and correct. DPIRD will not accept responsibility for any misunderstanding arising from the failure by an applicant to comply with the guidelines, or arising from any discrepancies, ambiguities, inconsistencies, or errors in an application.

DPIRD may request clarification information from an applicant and will allow ten (10) business days to respond with information and/or documentary evidence to verify their claim. DPIRD's decision will be final and will be made at its absolute discretion.

Before applying for financial assistance under this program, applicants should seek advice from their legal, business, or financial advisers about tax implications of this financial assistance.

Applicants are required to provide a range of supporting documentation, including the latest local council rate notice, a copy of your latest bank statement, latest available Income Tax Return and Financial Statements(s) for your farm business.

6. False and misleading information

By submitting the application form, you are declaring that the information provided in the application form and supporting documentation is true and accurate.

Providing inaccurate, untrue, or misleading information may be a breach of criminal law for which serious penalties may apply. Applicants should be aware that the giving of false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

If any information provided in an application or supporting documentation is found to be inaccurate, untrue, or misleading, legal action may be taken against you, including action to recovery the funds.

7. Conflict of interest

A conflict of interest arises where a person makes a decision or exercises a power in a way that may be, or may be perceived to be, influenced by either material personal interest (financial or non-financial) or material personal associations.

DPIRD manages conflicts of interest in accordance with Government policies and procedures.

8. Notification of funding decisions

All applicants will be notified of decisions in writing via email as soon as practicable by DPIRD. Unsuccessful applicants will be able to reapply (before the closing date) if they have evidence that addresses the reason for decline.

9. Personal information and disclosure of information in application

This Program is administered in accordance with the Western Australian *Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024* (PRIS Act). DPIRD and DFES are committed to protecting personal information and ensuring that all information collected, used, stored and disclosed through this Program is managed in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles and responsible information sharing provisions of the PRIS Act.

DPIRD may collect personal information from applicants for the purposes of administration and assessment of an application and program-level audit and evaluation. Personal information may be shared with other Western Australian government agencies subject matter experts and the National Emergency Management Agency provided disclosure is consistent with relevant legislation. Personal information will be used and stored in accordance with the legislative requirements.

DPIRD's Privacy Policy is available on its [website](#). Applicants may contact DPIRD about their personal information or to make a complaint.

10. Additional Information

Applicants are advised that funding received may have taxation implications and that they should seek independent taxation and financial advice from a suitably qualified professional before submitting their application if they have any concerns.

11. Definitions

Defined Disaster area: the local government areas activated for assistance under the eligible disaster. These are published on DFES website.

Eligible disaster: the disaster event activated by the State in accordance with the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements under which these grants have been made available. For the purpose of this Guideline, the event is: Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle and Associated Flooding (25–28 March 2026).

Eligible separate business: a separate *primary production enterprise* owned by the same *primary production enterprise* owner that would be a commercially viable and autonomous business if the other separate enterprise operated by the eligible entity ceased to operate.

Evidence of direct damage is the information applicants must provide at the point of application demonstrating the direct damage associated with the *eligible disaster*. This may include:

- a. Photographs clearly showing damage to the property with a brief explanation of what they are showing contained in the title or name; or
- b. Information that demonstrates the financial impact of the damage, such as quotations, damage assessments, invoices or receipts. This information must include the name, address, date and ABN (if applicable) of the entity that has issued the quote, assessment, invoice or receipt with information clearly identifying the work required.

Evidence of payment means:

- a. tax invoice(s) showing full details of the goods or services provided. The goods and services described on each invoice must be clearly identifiable having been

paid by the applicant and being related to damage from the eligible disaster;
and

- b. evidence of payment for these tax invoices. A copy must be provided of an applicant's bank transfer(s) and/or bank statement(s) with any relevant official receipt(s) from suppliers or contractors.

Official receipt means a receipt including the name and address and ABN (if applicable) of the entity that issued the receipt and a description of each item to which the receipt relates

Primary producer means:

- a) a sole trader who -
 - a. spends part of their labour on a *primary production enterprise*; and
 - b. either –
 - i. derives at least 50 per cent of their income from the *primary production enterprise*; or
 - ii. in the opinion of DPIRD based on the demonstrated production potential of the *primary production enterprise*, will eventually derive³ at least 50 per cent of their incomes from the *primary production enterprise*.
- b) in relation to a partnership, private company or trust that carries on a primary production enterprise, the partners in the partnership, shareholders in the company or beneficiaries of the trust who –
- c) spends part of their labour on a primary production enterprise; and
- d) either –
- e) derive at least 50 per cent of their income from the *primary production enterprise*; or
- f) in the opinion of DPIRD based on the demonstrated production potential of the *primary production enterprise*, will eventually derive at least 50 per cent of their incomes from the *primary production enterprise*.

Primary production enterprise:

- a) a business that is carried on by a primary producer and involves primary production, as listed under the Australian New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006 (ANZSIC) 1292.0 Codes 01-05, including the agricultural, apicultural, aqua-cultural, commercial wild-catch fishing, forestry, grazing and horticultural industries; and
- b) for which an entity holds an Australian Business Number.

Reinstatement: the carrying out of activities that are necessary to help the *primary*

³ For example, this could be because of seasonal conditions, or long lead times for production.

production enterprise to continue/resume normal trading or production as soon as possible following an eligible disaster.

Quote: a document provided by a supplier that outlines the estimated cost of goods or services and includes sufficient detail to identify the supplier, the proposed goods or services, and the estimated price, in accordance with requirements described on the Australian Taxation Office website. (This should also include a reference to the declared disaster).