



Farm Business Transition Program

Questions and Answers

Thank you for your interest in the Farm Business Transition Program. The following common questions and answers aim to assist you in responding to the application steps and questions. We strongly encourage you to read these prior to preparing your application.

Application Timeframe

1. What is the closing time and date for applications?

The application form must be submitted by **9:00 pm AEDT on Monday 1 December 2025**. It is recommended that you submit your application **well before the closing time and date**.

2. If I am not able to submit my application by the due time and date, can I be granted an extension?

No, late applications will not be accepted and no extensions will be granted.

Eligibility

3. What is the purpose of the Farm Business Transition Program grant opportunity?

The objective of this grant opportunity is to support sheep producers impacted by the phase out by enabling a range of planning, professional and technical advice, application of research and development innovations and extension activities, and investment in on-farm infrastructure and improvements to increase the uptake of alternative farming systems and practices.

4. Who is eligible to apply for grant funding?

To be eligible you must:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for the purposes of GST
- be a resident of Australia for operational and tax purposes
- have an account with an Australian financial institution, and

be a legal entity with the capacity to enter into a legally binding agreement or contract with the Australian Government.

Also, you must be one of the following entity types:



- Company
- Cooperative
- Incorporated Association
- Indigenous Corporation
- Person
- Sole Trader.

If you are applying as a Trustee on behalf of a Trust1, the Trustee must be one of the eligible entity types as listed above.

Further information on entity types is available on the Community Grants Hub² webpage.

We can only accept applications from eligible entities who can provide approved evidentiary documentation (see section 4.3 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines) demonstrating you have actively participated in the live sheep exports by sea industry in at least 1 of the past 3 financial years.

5. Who is not eligible to apply for grant funding?

As set out in section 4.4 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, you are not eligible to apply if you are a/an:

- Entity who cannot meet the additional eligibility requirements at sections 4.2 and 4.3.
- International Entity
- Non-corporate Commonwealth Entity
- Corporate Commonwealth Entity
- Corporate State or Territory Entity
- Local Government
- Non-corporate Commonwealth Statutory Authority
- Non-corporate State or Territory Entity
- Non-corporate State or Territory Statutory Authority
- Statutory Entity
- Unincorporated Association
- Partnership

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¹ Trusts are not legal entities in their own right. To be eligible, only the Trustee for the Trust can apply by providing the signed Trust Deed and any subsequent variations with the application form. Trustees must be an eligible entity type listed in section 4.1. Both the Trust's and Trustee's details will be collected in the application form.

² https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/information/inf



- organisation, or your project partner is an organisation, that is included on the <u>National</u> <u>Redress Scheme's website</u>³ on the list of 'Institutions that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme'
- organisation, or your project partner is an organisation, that is included on the <u>Workplace</u>
 <u>Gender Equality Agency website</u>⁴ on the non-compliant list
- Any business entity or sole trader who has applied for, or received, Commonwealth or State funding for the same activity proposed under this program.

6. How can I check or verify my legal entity status?

The <u>Community Grants Hub</u>⁵ website provides tools to assist in verifying legal entity status. Go to <u>Confirming the legal entity status of an applicant | Community Grants Hub</u>⁶.

To maintain a fair and equitable process for all applicants, the Community Grants Hub is unable to provide assistance in, or undertake on behalf of an applicant, the determination if an applicant's legal entity status meets the eligibility requirements. Applicants are required to self-determine their organisation's legal entity's eligibility in reference to the grant's eligibility requirements.

As part of entering into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia, an organisation may be asked to verify its legal entity status to make sure it has the legal capacity to enter into a legally binding agreement. This may involve a request for documentation, including proof of any name changes.

7. As per section 4.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, it states: To be eligible, you must:

have an account with an Australian financial institution

Does this include foreign subsidiary banks?

Yes, if the financial institution is incorporated in Australia and governed by Australian Bank Regulations then your account may be with this institution. You will be required to provide verification documentation in your application to verify bank details. Acceptable verification documentation is a recent bank statement, issued in the last 6 months, in a pdf file type. The bank account must be in the name of the organisation applying for funding. The transaction details and balances can be hidden but the BSB, Account Number and Account Name must be visible.

³ https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/

⁴ https://www.wgea.gov.au/what-we-do/compliance-reporting/non-compliant-list

⁵ https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/

⁶ https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/information/in@matib@aptcants/legal-entity-status



Funding and Grant Period

8. How much funding is available for this grant opportunity?

The Australian Government has announced a total of \$30.0 million (GST exclusive) over 3 years from 2025–26 to 2027–28 for the Farm Business Transition Program. For this grant opportunity, up to \$20.0 million (GST exclusive) is available over 2 years from 2025–26 to 2026–27.

9. Where is the funding coming from?

Funding for the Farm Business Transition Program grant opportunity will be provided as part of the Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance within Outcome 1 of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's Portfolio Budget Statement.

10. How much funding can I apply for?

Grant funding of up to \$75,000 (GST exclusive) per eligible applicant will be available to applicants to contribute to the future costs associated with the adoption and implementation of an eligible alternative farming system/s.

The grant amount will be up to 50 per cent of eligible expenditure to a maximum of \$75,000 (GST exclusive).

11. Is there a minimum grant amount?

No, there is not a minimum grant amount. Grant funding of up to \$75,000 (GST exclusive) per eligible applicant will be available.

12. How much of the activity/project cost will I be required to fund?

You are required to contribute towards the grant activity.

Co-funding of 1-1 is required for applications submitted under this program and the applicant must match the dollar value of the grant funding approved. In-kind contributions will not be counted towards matching funding.

You cannot use funding from other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government sources to fund your share of eligible expenditure.

For example, the grant activity to implement on-farm feeding system management practices and upskilling staff to diversify business operations for \$150,000 (\$75,000 grant funding plus \$75,000 co-contribution from the applicant).



13. What is the maximum grant period?

The maximum grant period under these guidelines is 2 years (from 2025–26 to 2026–27), with a grant activity end date of 31 May 2027 at the latest. The exact timing will depend on your grant agreement.

14. Is the funding on-going?

No, the funding is not on-going. This grant will terminate at the end of the grant period being 31 May 2027.

You must complete your grant activity by 31 May 2027.

15. What can I use the Farm Business Transition Program funding for?

Information about what the grant funds can be used for is included in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines (see section 5 – What the grant money can be used for).

Not all expenditure on your grant activity may be eligible for grant funding. The decision maker makes the final decision on what is eligible expenditure.

16. What can I not use the grant money for?

Information about what the grant funds cannot be used for is included in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines (see section 5.3 – What the grant money cannot be used for).

17. If my organisation is successful, when can we expect payments? (updated answer at question 70)

If you are successful, you will be expected to be able to commence your grant in June 2026.

Financial Information

18. If my application is successful, will I receive the full funding amount requested? Only if approved by the Delegate.

Only eligible activities will be funded, which may result in some successful applicants offered less funding than requested.

If you are successful, the total amount of funding offered will be stipulated in the successful outcome letter you will receive.



19. Should I include Goods and Services Tax (GST) in my requested funding amount?

GST will be paid for this grant. If you are registered for the <u>Goods and Services Tax</u>⁷ (GST), where applicable, we will add GST to your grant payment and issue you with a Recipient Created Tax Invoice.

Grants are assessable income for taxation purposes, unless exempted by a taxation law. We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the Australian Taxation Office. We do not provide advice on your particular taxation circumstances.

20. How do I know if my organisation is GST registered?

For guidance, seek advice from your financial advisor. If your details are up to date, you can find your GST registration status on the <u>Australian Business Register</u>⁸ website by using the ABN Lookup tool.

More information on GST can be found on the <u>Australian Taxation Office website</u>9.

21. What is 'value with relevant money'?

For the purpose of this grant round, 'value with relevant money' is defined as a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations.

When assessing the extent to which the application represents value with relevant money, the relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits of each proposal should be considered, including but not limited to:

- how well it meets the criteria
- how it compares to other applications
- whether it provides value with relevant money.

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⁷ https://www.ato.gov.au/businesses-and-organisations/gst-excise-and-indirect-taxes/gst/registering-for-gst

⁸ https://abr.business.gov.au/

⁹ https://www.ato.gov.au/



Application Process

22. Why is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry using the **Community Grants Hub to administer its grants?**

It is a requirement that the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry use the Community Grants Hub to administer its grant programs.

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) provides a shared-services arrangement to deliver grant administration services on behalf of Australian Government client agencies to support their policy outcomes.

Client agencies are responsible for grant policy and the development of grant programs, while the Hub is responsible for administering grant programs at the direction of policy owners and consistent with the requirements of the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024¹⁰

23. Why is there Child Safe information in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines?

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse highlighted the need for organisations to adopt practices to provide an environment in which children and young people¹¹ are safe, protected and respected, and where staff have the skills, confidence and knowledge to safeguard children.

To help drive this change, and raise awareness of good child safe practices, Commonwealth grant recipients delivering activities or services that involve children must implement a set of child safety measures. You will be asked about this in the application form, and it may form part of your grant agreement.

24. What are the Child Safe measures?

There are 2 levels of child safe measures, which one applies to your application will depend on the level of interaction your proposed grant activity will have with children.

The lower level of measures is used when interaction with children is *unplanned or irregular*. This applies to grant activities where children would not normally be involved in the funded activity, but there is a reasonable chance interaction with a child could occur. In this circumstance you must:

ensure child related personnel, including volunteers¹², work in compliance with child safe related legislation in your state or territory, and have and maintain working with children checks

¹⁰ https://www.finance.gov.au/government/commonwealth-grants/changes-commonwealth-grants-framework-2024

¹¹ Children/Child/Young Person refers to an individual under 18 years.

¹² Child related personnel means officers, employees, contractors (including subcontractors), agents and volunteers of the Grantee involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who as part of the France involved with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity who are part of the France involved with the Activity with



 apply the same conditions in the Child Safe Clause to any subcontractors delivering the funded activity.

A higher standard applies if interaction with children is direct or expected. This applies where services contact with children is a normal part of the funded activity. This includes delivery of service directly or indirectly to children. In this circumstance, the lower standard (above) applies, as well as a commitment to:

- implement the <u>National Principles of Child Safe Organisations¹³</u>
- provide training to staff on the National Principles of Child Safe Organisations, the organisations risk strategy and relevant legislation
- undertake annual risk assessments and a strategy to manage risks.

25. What if I cannot confirm in my grant application that these child safe measures will be in place before the activity starts?

If you cannot comply with the relevant child safe measures, your application may be ineligible for funding. The delegate makes the final determination on eligibility.

26. Do word or character limits apply to my application?

Yes, the application form includes character limits – up to 6,000 characters (approximately 900 words) per assessment criterion. Please note spaces are included in the character limit.

27. Will hyperlinks/web addresses to external material submitted in my application be accepted and assessed?

No, only text entered into the application will be considered as part of the assessment process.

28. How can I submit the application form?

The form is an online application form that you must submit electronically. The Community Grants Hub will not provide application forms or accept application forms for this grant opportunity by fax, email or through Australia Post unless otherwise stated in the grant opportunity documents.

You must submit your grant application using the application form, which is available on GrantConnect14. The application form includes help information.

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¹³ https://www.childsafety.gov.au/resources/national-principles-child-safe-organisations

¹⁴ https://www.grants.gov.au/



29. Can I submit multiple applications?

No. You can only submit one application for this grant opportunity. However, that single application can include more than one proposed activity, as long as all activities are identified within your business plans. If more than one application is submitted, the latest accepted application form will progress.

30. I have already submitted an application, but I want to revise it. What should I do?

An application cannot be revised once it is submitted, but you can submit a new application before the closing date and time. Where more than one application is submitted, the latest accepted application form will progress.

31. Can I copy and paste information into the application form?

Yes, applicants can copy and paste text they have prepared for this grant round into the free text fields. Applicants will need to make sure that the text they are copying includes only eligible characters of A-Z, 0-9, ().,-\@ including carriage returns. All other characters are not accepted.

32. My address will not validate, can I manually enter it into the application form?

Yes, enter the address manually and select the 'unable to validate' checkbox. This will enable you to proceed with the application form.

33. If the online application cannot validate my address, will the address be accepted?

All eligible addresses (as per ABS definitions) will be considered, even if the online application cannot validate the address.

34. What is an Indigenous Organisation?

An Indigenous Organisation is one that is owned or controlled by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, as defined in the application form.

35. What is the Workplace Gender Equality Agency?

The Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) is an Australian Government statutory agency established under the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012. Its main role is to promote and improve gender equality in Australian workplaces.

36. Can I apply with other businesses as a group or partnership?

No, as per section 4.4 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, Parternships are not eligible to apply.



37. Can you explain what is meant by at least 1 of the past 3 financial years?

It refers to any one of the financial years from 2022–23 to 2024–25 (such as, between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2025).

To be eligible, your business must have actively participated in the live sheep export by sea industry in at least one of these years.

You must provide evidentiary documentation as outlined in section 4.3 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

38. What alternative records are accepted if I don't have the listed evidentiary documentation?

You may submit other documentation such as a statutory declaration or documents from a Stock and Station Agent to demonstrate your involvement in the live sheep exports by sea industry.

39. Are travel expenses covered, and how should I cost them?

Yes. Reasonable travel expenses are permitted provided they are directly related to eligible activities under the grant. These could include travel for professional advice, training, or other approved transition-related purposes. You should estimate costs based on expected travel distances, accommodation rates and duration, and include supporting quotes or calculations where possible. It is important to provide information on how many people are travelling, how many days, and approximate dates for travel to provide context.

When estimating travel costs, applicants are encouraged to use the most recent <u>Australian Taxation Office (ATO)</u> reasonable travel allowance rates as a benchmark. These rates provide a standardised guide for daily expenses such as accommodation, meals, and incidentals incurred during work-related travel.

Overseas travel, or domestic travel that is not linked to an eligible activity, is not eligible as set out in section 5.3 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Applicants should ensure that:

- Travel costs are clearly linked to eligible grant activities
- Estimates are reasonable
- Supporting documentation or rationale is included in the application.

40. Are salaries or indirect costs eligible?

Reasonable salaries and indirect costs may be requested as part of your project budget, provided they are directly linked to the delivery of eligible activities, and within the timeframe of the project.



Salaries for ongoing employees that are not specifically engaged to deliver project activities are not eligible, as set out in section 5.3 in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Applicants should ensure that:

- Salary costs are clearly linked to eligible grant activities
- Salary costs are requested within the timeframe of the project activity
- Estimates are reasonable
- Supporting documentation or rationale is included in the application.

41. How do I demonstrate the average proportion of business income derived from the live sheep exports by sea industry over the past 3 financial years?

You should provide a written explanation and include calculations into the application form to show the average proportion of your business income from live sheep exports over the past three financial years (such as from 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2025).

Your explanation should clearly show:

- Total business income for each financial year
- Income specifically from live sheep export-related work for each year
- The percentage of income from live sheep exports for each year
- The average percentage across all three years.

This helps assessors understand how much of your business relied on live sheep exports and how that's changed over time.

42. How detailed should my project timeline be?

Your project timeline should be detailed enough to show that your activities are well planned and achievable within the grant period.

If your project activity is part of a broader project, include key milestones for the broader project, but provide more detail for the specific activity you're seeking funding for.

If your project has dependencies (like needing approvals before starting construction), make sure those are clearly shown. A clear timeline helps assessors understand how your project will be delivered and whether it's realistic.

43. What risks should I consider in my Risk Management Plan?

Your Risk Management Plan should identify key risks that could delay your project or reduce the quality of your outcomes. Focus on risks that may arise during delivery and outline how you plan to manage them. You should consider:



- Accessing materials, equipment, or contractors within required timeframes
- Unexpected events such as severe weather or natural disasters
- Work health and safety risks for you, your team, or contractors
- Protecting First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property, where applicable.

Each risk should be described in terms of its potential impact, likelihood, and the strategies you will use to mitigate or respond to it. This demonstrates your preparedness and commitment to successful project delivery.

44. What could help me to complete my application?

You should read this document and the Grant Opportunity Guidelines carefully before you commence your application.

When framing your application, you must consider the objective of the program and clearly specify you proposed activity/activities and outcomes.

Please note that a lack of information in your application may impact its overall assessment. The information you provide must be succinct and directly related to the activity/activities.

Please see section 8 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for further information on how grants are assessed.

45. Can someone from the Community Grants Hub help me with my application?

The Community Grants Hub can provide general information and advice on completing your application.

To maintain the fairness and integrity of the application process, applicants cannot be offered individual support or help with their applications

46. Who do I contact if I am experiencing technical issues with my application form?

If you require help or support in using and/or submitting an application form on the GrantConnect website, please contact the Community Grants Hub by emailing support@communitygrants.gov.au or by visiting the Community Grants Hub's Contact Us 15 page.

¹⁵ https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/contact-us



47. Who do I contact if I'm having trouble using or submitting an application form?

Please contact the Community Grants Hub immediately by emailing support@communitygrants.gov.au or by visiting the Community Grants Hub's Contact Us¹⁶ page.

48. Is there somewhere I can practice submitting my application?

If you are not familiar with the GrantConnect system, you can practice submitting applications on their website: Submit an Application¹⁷.

49. Will the names of successful applicants be made public?

The entity name of successful applicants and the funding amount they receive will be published on the Australian Government <u>GrantConnect¹⁸</u> website.

50. What are the implications for providing false or misleading declarations in my application?

Applicants sign a declaration before submitting the application, which states "I acknowledge that giving false or misleading information to the Community Grants Hub/Department of Social Services is a serious criminal offence. Persons who do so may be prosecuted under Section 137.1 of the *Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995*".

51. I'm not familiar with using technology, what do I do?

If you or members of your organisation require digital training, support can be accessed through the <u>Be Connected</u> website. Be Connected is an Australian Government initiative aimed at increasing the confidence, skill and online safety of older Australians (people over 50 years of age), their families and peers and local community organisations. Be Connected provides information, interactive training tools and resources nationally.

Assessment Process

52. Will the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry be involved in assessing the grants?

Yes, the Community Grants Hub will use trained assessors to undertake an assessment of eligible applications against the assessment criteria on behalf of the Department of Agriculture,

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¹⁶ https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/contact-us

¹⁷ https://help.grants.gov.au/getting-started-with-grantconnect/submit-an-application/#practice%20submitting%20an%20application?

¹⁸ https://www.grants.gov.au/

¹⁹ https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au/



Fisheries and Forestry. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will contribute to the training of assessors.

The assessment will consider applications on their merits and provide a preliminary score against each application to inform the deliberations of the Selection Advisory Panel.

The Selection Advisory Panel will be established by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and may include a mix of employees of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, experts from the sector, and other Commonwealth officers with relevant specialist expertise. The Selection Advisory Panel will review applications, assessment outcomes and possibly seek further information before making final recommendations to the decision maker on which applications to approve for a grant.

53. Who will be approving the Farm Business Transition Program grants?

Based on the value of the grant opportunity, and in line with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's Financial Delegations, the First Assistant Secretary with responsibility for the Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance package will be the decision maker for this grant opportunity.

The decision maker decides which grants to approve based on the recommendations of the Selection Advisory Panel, taking into consideration any further information that may become known, including the availability of grant funds for the purposes of the grant program.

54. When will I know the outcome of my application?

You will be notified of the outcome of your application at the end of the selection process. For probity reasons, to treat all applicants fairly and equally, it is not possible to give you information about the status of individual applications during the assessment process.

Timeframes are indicated in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, although in some instances due to volume and complexity of applications, timeframes may be modified.

55. Can I appeal the outcomes of the selection process?

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant. The decision maker's decision is final in all matters, including the approval of the grant, funding amount to be awarded, and the terms and conditions of the grant (Grant Opportunity Guidelines, section 8.3).

56. What feedback will I receive on my application?

A general feedback summary will be published on the Community Grants Hub website to provide all organisations with easy access to information about the grant selection process and the main strengths and areas for improving applications.

Individual feedback will be available upon request. Applicants seeking individual feedback should submit requests to LSPOgrants@aff.gov.au. Requests for individual feedback will only





be accepted within 7 days of receipt of the outcome of your application. Feedback will be provided within 14 days of receipt of the request.

57. Can alternative farming systems and practices be introduced across multiple locations?

Yes, the program allows for the uptake of alternative farming systems and practices in multiple locations, if the locations reflect different components of your business operations and are identified within your business plans.

58. Do I need quotes from suppliers, how recent should they be and do they lock me into that supplier?

You must provide recent quotes to support your budget request. Quotes help demonstrate cost accuracy and will be considered during assessment.

Ideally the quote should indicate how long it is valid for, however if there is no expiry date we recommend quotes should be no older than 6 months at the time of submission. Quotes older than that are considered likely to be outdated and should be refreshed to reflect current pricing. This helps avoid unexpected additional costs or the need for a budget variation if your application is successful.

Providing a quote does not lock you into using that supplier. Quotes are used to justify your budget, but you retain flexibility to choose your preferred supplier if your application is successful.

59. Do I have to wait for grant funding to be available before purchasing items, or can I make purchases and then be reimbursed?

The Commonwealth is not liable for any costs you incur prior to you having an executed grant agreement in place.

If successful, there will be an agreement negotiation process in which milestones will be set and funding cash-flowed throughout the project timeline. Payments will be made upon evidence of satisfying milestones and receipt of tax invoices.

60. Are council and regulatory approvals required before submitting my application, or will indicative dates be accepted?

Applicants are encouraged to contact regulators to seek advice on their project, and to provide evidence of this communication as part of their application.

61. What is an open competitive grant opportunity?

An open competitive grant opportunity refers to any providers operating in the marketplace applying in an open competitive selection process. Open processes are advertised through the



media, the Hub website, GrantConnect and other sources as required to attract as much interest as possible. Open competitive grant rounds have open and closing dates for applications, and eligible applications are assessed against set selection criteria.

62. Can I apply in Round 2 if my application is unsuccessful in Round 1?

If eligible, applicants who are unsuccessful in Round 1 are encouraged to consider the feedback provided and submit an application in Round 2.

63. When will Round 2 open?

Round 2 is scheduled to commence mid-2026.

64. What other programs are available to support sheep producers as part of the Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance?

There are several programs available to help sheep producers as part of the Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea – transition assistance. For more information, please visit: www.agriculture.gov.au/2028²⁰

65. Can I subcontract some activities?

Yes. You can subcontract parts of your project, as long as the meet the eligibility criteria at section 5 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and you explain which activities will be subcontracted and how they'll be managed.

66. Can I create my own business plan?

Yes. A business plan created by you or a business consultant will be accepted.

67. Where should I go for further information?

More information about this grant can be found in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. If you have any questions during the application period, please contact the Community Grants Hub by email support@communitygrants.gov.au or by visiting the Community Grants Hub's Contact Us²¹ page. The Community Grants Hub will respond to emailed questions within 5 working days.

²¹ https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/contact-us



²⁰ https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/export/controlled-goods/live-animals/livestock/live-sheep-exports-phase-out



Question and Answer added 17 October 2025

68. I am applying for the Supply Chain Capacity Program Grant. I am fearful that this program may be oversubscribed and that my application may not be successful. For this reason, I am also applying for the Farm Business Transition Grant.

Does the paragraph in the application form (Additional Information -

Commonwealth/State Funding* - Please confirm that you have not applied for or received funding for this project activity through other Commonwealth or state government programs, including the Supply Chain Capacity program managed by the WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development) preclude this?

If so, what can be done so Western Australian sheep producers have the opportunity to fully participate in these funding opportunities?

Applicants may apply for both the Supply Chain Capacity Program and the Farm Business Transition Program, However, under section 4.4 of the Farm Business Transition Grant Opportunity Guidelines, they are **not eliqible** to apply for the Farm Business Transition program if they are a business entity or sole trade who has applied for, or received, Commonwealth or state funding for the same project activity under the Supply Chain Capacity Program.

If an applicant intends to apply for the Farm Business Transition Program for the same project activity, they are encouraged to submit their application in Round 2 of the Farm Business Transition program should their application for Round 1 of the Supply Chain Capacity Program be unsuccessful.

Applicants may apply for both the Supply Chain Capacity Program Round 1 and the Farm Business Transition Program Round 1 for different project activities.

Question and Answer added 22 October 2025

69. Can you please explain why Partnerships are excluded from being able to apply for this grant funding? Our farming business operates through a partnership of individuals and is directly affected by these changes and would like to apply for the funding.

Partnerships are generally not recognised as legal entities and therefore cannot enter into legally binding agreements or contracts with the Australian Government.

Grant agreements must be made with a single legal entity that can accept full legal and financial responsibility for the funding.

As per section 4.4.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, a legal parent organisation, or an individual partner who is an eligible legal entity, may submit the application and enter into the agreement on behalf of the partnership, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements for the program.



Question and Answer added 23 October 2025

70. If my organisation is successful, when can we expect payments? (updated answer to question 17)

If you are successful, a milestone payment will be made upon execution of the grant agreement. The value of this payment will be detailed in the grant agreement.

We will make subsequent payments in arrears, based on your progress against milestones and reports and based on your actual eligible expenditure.