

**DROUGHT
RESPONSE**



COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS DROUGHT RESPONSE

As part of the South Australian Government's package of measures to support the farm sector through and beyond the current drought conditions, funding has been made available for community projects that will contribute to build the resilience and spirit of rural communities.

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available for group activities that will support rural communities in areas affected by drought conditions.

Accessibility

This publication is available in alternate formats upon request.

Please contact Prudential & Rural Financial Services

- Telephone: 1800 182 235 (toll-free) or (08) 8226 0240.
- Facsimile: (08) 8226 0229

PURPOSE OF SUPPORT

- (a) The support provided through this grant aims to contribute to the funding of activities that will support rural communities to:
- Maintain or improve the spirit and resilience of the rural community;
 - Maintain or improve the well-being of younger people in rural areas;
 - Maintain or improve the functions of key rural community organisations; or
 - Develop or learn better mechanisms for managing drought conditions in the future.
- (b) The Grants for up to \$5,000 are to support innovative ways that help communities better cope through the current drought.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- (a) The grants are available to any not-for-profit rural community and/or industry associations in **rural areas affected by drought conditions and declared eligible for Exceptional Circumstances support**.
- (b) The applicant must be covered by the public liability insurance of an incorporated body for at least \$5 million, be willing to manage the activity and funding arrangements, and ensure the activity complies with all relevant legislation and regulations.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- (a) Applications will be assessed and prioritised by an Assessment Panel according to:
- (i) an appraisal of the activity and how it aligns with the aims of the support and the expected benefits in the short, medium and longer term (inc. the expected number of people who will benefit);
 - (ii) an appraisal of the longer term benefits to the community expected to result from the activity;
 - (iii) the regional distribution of applications received and the impacts of the drought on that region; and
 - (iv) whether the activity has widespread support within the community.

- (b) Funding is not available for:
 - (i) infrastructure or equipment;
 - (ii) activities that are scheduled to occur after 31 March 2009;
 - (iii) activities already in receipt of other State Government funding;
 - (iv) alcoholic beverages;
 - (v) activities where attendees are required to pay an entry fee;
 - (vi) coordination or facilitation costs to develop and implement the event, or volunteer labour costs;
 - (vi) regular or ongoing activities normally funded through other arrangements;
 - (vii) repeat of an activity that has previously received a grant under this program
- (c) Applications must be lodged **no later than** by the last working day of each month. **The Assessment Panel will then assess the applications** as soon as practicable in the following month.
- (d) Applications will be received by PIRSA Prudential and Rural Financial Services until 31 December 2008 or until funds are fully committed, whichever occurs first.

CONDITIONS OF SUPPORT

- (a) PIRSA Prudential and Rural Financial Services shall enter into a funding agreement with the applicant and ensure that the support has been used for the intended purpose. Payment will be made following the completion of the activity. A brief acquittal is required within four weeks of completion of the project and must include an assessment of the level of success. Claims for funding must be submitted no later than 30 April 2009
- (b) The Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries may vary these guidelines at any time without notice.
- (c) The Minister will not be responsible for any cost overruns associated with the proposed activity.

DEFINITIONS

- (a) Areas affected by drought conditions: most areas of the State have been affected by drought conditions. The applicant will need to describe the impact of the drought conditions in their area.
- (b) Assessment Panel: a panel consisting of representatives from the South Australian Farmers' Federation, Local Government Association of SA, SA Tourism Commission, SA Department of Health and Primary Industries and Resources SA will be responsible for assessing and prioritising applications for support.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to submit an outline of the activity that includes the following details:

- Name of applicant organisation, contact details, ABN and confirmation the organisation is registered for GST;
- Description of activity including how it aligns to the aims of this grant program and benefits the community, how the community was consulted to determine the need for the event, the location and timing, details of local organisations participation in organising & running the activity, details as to how the activity will be advertised to those most affected by drought in your area, details on the level of community support for the activity and confirmation the event is free & open to all community members
- Itemised budget;
- Target region and impact of drought conditions in the area;
- Target audience (ie. general population, young people etc.);
- Expected number of people who will be involved and benefit from the activity;
- Details of any professionals involved (i.e. speakers, consultants, community artist, health worker, rural financial counsellor etc.);
- Confirmation that other State Government funding has not been made available for this activity;
- Details of public liability insurance.
- NOTE: Please ensure letters of support from the community are attached

On completion, applications are required to be lodged to:

**Address: PIRSA Prudential & Rural Financial Services
25 Grenfell Street
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001**

Toll Free: 1800 182 235 Facsimile: (08) 8226 0229

Website: www.pir.sa.gov.au/grants

FURTHER INFORMATION

Drought Link Hotline - 180 20 20

Drought Link Website – www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp

PIRSA Website – www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought

Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website – www.daff.gov.au