



Hand Up Drought Edition Check List

Please tick as you complete each step

- QCWA – Public Rural Crisis Fund Form Attached
Up to \$1500 for eligible applications
 - Email form to prcf@qcwa.org.au
 - For further information call **3026 1275**
- Farm Aid Online Application - <https://www.buyabale.com.au/can-we-help-you/>
Financial support, fodder and/or water for eligible applications
 - Once registered complete this online application form - <https://www.buyabale.com.au/financial-assistance-application/>
 - For further information call **1300 327 624**
- Aussie Helpers – Assistance Form Attached
Financial support, fodder and/or water for eligible applications
 - Email form to admin@aussiehelpers.org.au
 - For further information call **1300 665 232**
- Drought Angles Online Application
<https://www.droughtangels.org.au/apply-for-assistance/>
Financial support and/or fodder for eligible applications
 - For further information call **4662 7371**
- Graham House - Financial support
 - Call **4169 8400**
- Farm Household Allowance
Financial Assistance
 - Complete online or sit down with a local Farm Household Case Officer to complete together.
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/farm-household-allowance/how-claim>
 - Call **13 23 16**
- Ergon Energy – Drought Relief Application Form Attached
Drought relief and payment extension options
 - Fax to 4932 7310 or Email form to droughtrelief@ergon.com.au
 - For further information call **1800 185 750**
- Telstra A range of payment and service options
 - Call on **13 22 00** and say "Financial hardship".
- Food Hampers
 - South Burnett Pantry - 22 Stolzenberg Road, Kingaroy
Every Friday - \$40 for \$160 worth of groceries
 - Mundubbera Food Pantry - 32 Stuart Russell Street Mundubbera
Every Thursday
- Local Financial Councillors are available to assist
 - South Burnett Call **0448 999 742**
 - North Burnett Call **0427 296 848**



80 Gore Street Murgon Q 4605
0400 695 456
community@biedo.org.au

Application Form

PUBLIC RURAL CRISIS FUND

THE INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL



Name:		
Affected Address:		
Address for Correspondence:		
Postcode:		No. dependents:
Telephone:	Home:	Work:
Email address:		

Proof of residential address must be included with all applications. This could be a copy of applicant's Driver's Licence, Utility (water, electricity, rates) or Phone account with affected address. It must show your name and street/road address.

Assistance up to a maximum of \$1500 per family/household is available to eligible applicants.

WHAT IS YOUR PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME?

Do you receive a pension? Yes/No If so what type

Have you received financial assistance from our Organisation or any other charitable Organisation in the last 12 months? Yes/ No If so, what type?

Briefly describe what impact the disaster has had on your primary source of income and your circumstances:

1. This assistance will be in the form of Woolworths Essential Cards, IGA Vouchers or Store Credit in your area. If seeking this assistance please indicate store or supermarket as listed below

- Woolworths Essential Cards IGA Vouchers
- Store Credit - Name of Store

OR

2. If other urgent financial assistance is required e.g. Chemist/Medical/Dental accounts please supply original accounts, including Biller details, with this application. Payments will be made direct to the biller by BPAY, Direct Debit or Cheque

Please attach **UNPAID** invoice or relevant paperwork

Funds required for/or name of service provider	Due Date	Amount

APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Please return to the State Office of
The Queensland Country Women's Association
ATTENTION STATE PRESIDENT CONFIDENTIAL PRCF
89 – 95 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane Qld 4000
 Ph: 07 3026 1275 email: prcf@qcwa.org.au

As we are a Not for Profit organisation applications may take up to 4 weeks to process.



Drought Relief Application Form

Applicant details

Account name:

Address:

Lot / plan:

Email:

Phone:

Drought declaration type

Please list the relevant shire / council:

Has the shire been drought declared? Yes No*

* If no, please attach a full copy of the Individually Droughted Property (IDP) declaration ensuring all pages are included.

Relief types

Please select all relevant options:

Waiving of fixed components of electricity charges

Please list your account numbers, with their associated NMIs and meter numbers that are used primarily to supply water pumping equipment for farm or irrigation purposes:

Account number	NMI	Meter numbers	Current tariff

Deferral of payments

Please list your account numbers, with their associated NMIs that are primarily used for farming purposes:

Account number	NMI

Change of tariff

You have the option to request a tariff change for the duration of the drought declaration period and return to your current tariff (if available) after the drought declaration has been lifted.

NMI	Pump size	Current tariff	New tariff	Return to current tariff
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Account signatory

This is a mandatory section and you must confirm ALL details requested to apply.
Applications with details missing or a strike through any conditions will be considered invalid.

Where a tariff change is requested, I confirm that:

- I have reviewed Ergon Retail's tariffs and prices at ergon.com.au/businessstariffs and accept the conditions and requirements of the new tariff/s; and
- I understand my tariff change requests will be actioned, and reversed if applicable.

In all cases, I confirm that:

- I am the farmer of a property which is individually drought declared or within a drought declared local government area;
- I have no water available to pump or have severely restricted access to water; and
- The information provided in this form is complete and correct.

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: / /

Date of birth (if residential): / /

Position at company (if business): _____

Completing this application form

- Check all sections of the application form have been completed.
- If your application is for an individually droughted property (IDP) please attached a full copy of your IDP declaration to this application form, ensuring all pages are attached.
- On assessment of this application, Ergon Energy Retail may require you to supply a statutory declaration to confirm that each connection is being used primarily for farm or irrigation purposes.

For help to complete this form, please call us on 1800 185 750 from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Submitting your application

Email: droughtrelief@ergon.com.au

Fax: 07 4932 7310

Mail: Attn: Drought Relief, Ergon Energy Retail, PO Box 308, Rockhampton QLD 4700

Privacy notice

Ergon Energy is collecting your personal information on this form for the purpose of assessing your application for relief from Daily Supply Charges where a Drought Declaration is in force. If you do not provide all of the information requested we may not be able to assess your application. Your personal information will not be passed on to third parties without your consent, unless authorised or required by law. If you wish to access your personal information or make a complaint about a breach of your privacy, please contact the Privacy Officer on 13 10 46, privacy@ergon.com.au or visit our Privacy Statement at ergon.com.au.

Date Applied:

STATE:

AUSSIE HELPERS – REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Property Owner's Christian Names:

Surname:

Property Name:

Property Address (including Road Number)

Postal Address:

Mobile Phone:

Home Phone:

Email address:

Do you or your partner "work off farm" Yes/No

Are you a Primary Producer: Yes/No PIC Number

PROPERTY DETAILS

Area size of property (acres or hectares):

Number of Cattle (dairy or beef)

Number of Sheep

Other Stock

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED

WATER stock / house

Stock Feed: Yes/No

Animal Feed Supplements: Yes/No

Household Goods: Yes/No

Fuel/Grocery Vouchers: Yes/No

Have you received any of the above assistance from any other charity in the past six (6) months: Yes/No.

If so, which charity and what assistance was provided?

Please provide this information to the Admin Cell at Aussie Helpers
admin@aussiehelpers.org.au

CTC Money Management Program

A free, confidential and independent service that assists people experiencing financial stress to manage their financial situation through assistance, education and advocacy.

Individually Droughted Property Declaration (IDP)

An IDP allows access to Queensland Government drought assistance prior to an area drought declaration

Individually Disaster Stricken Property (IDSP)

Where a primary producer is not in an area activated for NDRRA assistance but has suffered significant damage from a natural disaster they are able to apply for an Individual Disaster Stricken Property (IDSP) declaration. You can contact the DAF customer service center for more information on 13 25 23

North Burnett Emergency Management Dashboard

An all in one emergency information dashboard to stay up to date with weather warnings, power outages, fire & much more.

South Burnett Disaster Dashboard

An all in one emergency information dashboard to stay up to date with weather warnings, power outages, fire & much more.

Department of Human Services

A range of information about services and payments for individuals and families in rural & remote Australia (including Farm Household Allowance)

Farm & Rural Legal Service via LegalAid QLD

The service is free for Queensland producers and rural businesses.

South Burnett CTC Inc Youth & Family Services
Phone: (07) 4162 7788

www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/environment/drought/assistance-programs/guidelines-and-forms/idp-application-guidelines

www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/environment/natural-disaster-assistance-and-resources2/disaster-assistance-forms-and-guidelines

emergency.northburnett.qld.gov.au

dashboard.southburnett.qld.gov.au

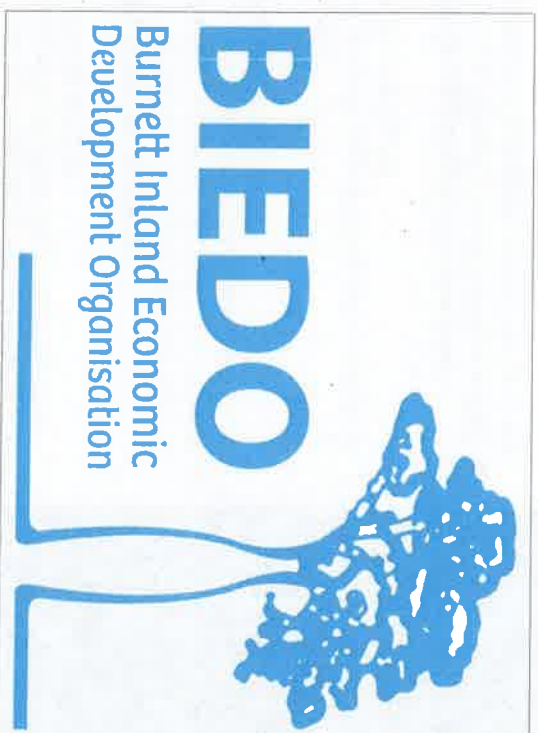
www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/rural-and-remote-australians
Farmer Assistance Hotline 13 23 16

www.legalaid.qld.gov.au/get-legal-help/Our-services/Farm-and-rural-legal-service

PH: 0400 695 456

E: community@biedo.org.au

Hand Up



**INFORMATION & RESOURCES
FOR BURNETT INLAND
COMMUNITIES**

Australian Taxation Office Drought Assistance

Help is available for drought-affected taxpayers across regional, rural and metropolitan areas to manage their tax.

Wide Bay Hospital & Health Service

Floods, Drought & Adversity – Mental Health Support

Flying Doctor –

Drought Wellbeing Service

This program offers counseling & support to people living and working in areas affected by drought.

BUPA

Helping Australian farmers impacted by the drought by providing up to six months relief in paying their premiums. This offer is open to all existing Bupa Health Insurance customers who have approval to receive the Australian Government's Farm Household Allowance.

QLD Farmers Federation (QFF)

Comprehensive page providing details about assistance & support services available for farmers affected by drought & also details on how we can support Australia's drought-affected farmers.

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Links to Queensland Government & Australian Government drought assistance programs.

Aussie Helpers

Support for primary producers, also accept donations from the public.

Buy a Bale/Rural Aid

If you're a farming family in need of help or know a farming family that needs help, tell them about this campaign or even register them here & a team member will respectfully contact them & offer Buy a Bale/Rural Aid resources.

Also accepts donations

www.ato.gov.au/general/financial-hardship/in-detail/help-for-drought-affected-taxpayers/

1300 64 22 55
(1300 MH Call)

www.flyingdoctor.org.au/qld/our-services/primary-health-care/drought-wellbeing-service/

www.bupa.com.au/campaigns/farmers-relief

www.qff.org.au/blog/support-farmers-rural-communities/

www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/environment/drought/assistance-programs

www.assiehelpers.org.au/aussie-helpers-farm-aid

www.buyabale.com.au/can-we-help-you/

Drought Angels

Support consist of providing Stock feed, Financial support via Pre-paid visas & local produce vouchers from within the communities, moral support through personal face to face or phone contact & referrals to other support networks as needed.

QCWA Public Crisis Fund

This fund not only supports families suffering from drought, flood or fire but is for all families experiencing any type of crisis. Up to \$3000 for eligible applications.

AgForce

List of drought support measures producers might be eligible for.

Ergon Energy, Support for Farmers

Range of initiatives to assist farmers including drought relief & payment extension options.

Telstra, Adversity and Financial Hardship

A range of payment & service options to help you stay connected

Graham House, South Burnett

Hardship support available. Graham House can also accept donations.

Rural Financial Counselling Services

Counsellors provide financial options & support to help farmers make the right decision for their business.

Qld Regional and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA)

Is a specialist administrator of government financial assistance programs including loans, grants, rebates & subsidies.

South Burnett CTC

Providing many services including an Emergency Relief program. Is the South Burnett's local provider of the QLD Family and Child Support Service

www.droughtangels.cor.au/apply-for-assistance/

1300 64 22 55
(1300 MH Call)

www.qcwa.org.au/what-we-do/public-rural-crisis-fund/

www.agforceqld.org.au/current-drought-support

www.ergon.com.au/retail/business/support-for-farmers

www.telstra.com.au/aboutus/community-environment/community-programs/adversity-financial-hardship

Please contact Manager on 0458 555 742 to discuss options

www.rfcssq.org.au/services/
Kim Corfield (NB)
0427 296 848
Belinda Clair (SB)
0448 999 742

www.qrida.qld.gov.au
Mark Barrett (NB)
0417 775 547
Cynthia Godden (SB & NB)
0417 778 317

www.sbtcc.com.au/youth-and-family/

Checklist for claiming Farm Household Allowance



centrelink

Farm Household Allowance helps farmers and their partners who are experiencing financial hardship.

Farmers and their partners may be eligible. Both partners must submit a separate claim.

Every claim needs supporting information and documents. Use this checklist to help you gather the documents you need to submit.

To be paid from the earliest possible date, submit all your paperwork when you claim. If you have these documents electronically you can upload them to your online claim.

If you can't claim online, you can use a paper claim form. You can get help to complete a claim form at our service centres, Agents or Mobile Service Centre.

You can also get help from the Rural Financial Counselling Service—call **1800 686 175**.

For more information, call the Farmer Assistance Hotline on **132 316**.

Read more and claim at
humanservices.gov.au/farmhouseholdallowance

Supporting documents you may need to supply

Identity

- birth certificate, visa or citizenship certificate
- a primary document such as an Australian driver licence
- a secondary document such as a bank ATM card
- your Centrelink Reference Number (CRN)—visit a service centre or Agent with your proof of identity documents if you don't know your CRN.



You must provide an income and assets form* with your claim.

Property and real estate

- shire or council rates notice of each property owned
- title details of each property owned
- copy of your signed lease or tenancy agreement if you're renting
- real estate details form* if your home has more than one title, or is on a block of land larger than two hectares or is used to produce an income.

Assets and liabilities

- details of all bank accounts including the balance of each account at the date of claim
- list of assets e.g. land, major plant and equipment, livestock, shares, cash in bank
- water rights documents (including the value) for all water assets held
- all shares and investments and their statements. This includes shares required to be held by your farm enterprise
- list of liabilities, e.g. all loans, hire purchase, money owed
- loan statements.

Income and financials

- latest tax returns—business and personal (yours and your partner's)
- latest balance sheets for all businesses
- evidence of off-farm income, such as payslips from the date of claim
- current financial year profit and loss statements e.g. contracting, agistment. Farm profit and loss is assessed separately from contracting
- private trust form* and trust tax return if the farm enterprise is a trust
- private company form* and company tax return if the farm enterprise is a company
- confirmation of your leave entitlements or redundancy payments over the past 12 months—if you've been employed and taken leave or a redundancy
- details of any compensation received.

*To find these forms go to humanservices.gov.au/forms



An overview of Farm Household Allowance



centrelink

Your Farm Household Case Officer (FHCO) will contact you when you start getting Farm Household Allowance (FHA). They'll guide and support you through your time on payment.

YEAR 1

Starting on FHA

You'll need to complete a **Farm Financial Assessment (FFA)**. This is due 28 days after you get a letter from us about it or your FHA payment may stop. Talk to your FHCO as soon as possible if you need more time.

After completing your FFA you need to meet with your FHCO. They'll help you to work out your **Financial Improvement Agreement (FIA)**. This agreement sets out your goals and activities over the next 4 years. You have 28 days to enter into an agreement or your FHA payment may stop. Talk to your FHCO as soon as possible if you need more time.

Your FHCO can refer you to a **Rural Financial Counsellor**. These counsellors can help you work out your financial and business options. They can prepare you for meetings with your lenders and go along for support. You can work with a Rural Financial Counsellor at any stage before, during or after getting FHA.

YEAR 2

Making the most of FHA

The activities in your FIA will help you to improve your financial situation. You might get an initial **Activity Supplement** worth \$3,000. Check with your FHCO before you start an activity.

Your FHCO will contact you every 3 months to check how you're going with your activities.

To make sure we pay you the right amount, you need to update your estimate of your farm business income when it changes. We'll send you a reminder about this each June.

You need to tell us about any off-farm income, even if you don't earn any. People with regular income need to report every 2 weeks. Everybody else needs to report every 6 weeks. We'll tell you how often you need to report when we approve your claim. The easiest way to report your income is online or by calling **133 276**.

Talk to your FHCO if your circumstances change or if you want to change your agreed activities.

Each year you'll need to send us your personal and business tax returns so we can do a **farm business income reconciliation**. That lets us work out if we've paid you the right amount.

Let us know as soon as possible if your financial situation improves. That way, you won't get overpaid and have to pay us back.

YEAR 3

Preparing to come off FHA

If you stop getting FHA before 4 years are up, you can always claim again later if you need to.

There's an additional **Activity Supplement** of up to \$1,000 you can use in your third or fourth year. This is for activities to help you improve your financial situation fast.

When you're close to the end of 4 years on FHA your FHCO will help you to exit the program.



Australian Government
Department of Human Services

humanservices.gov.au

Farm Household Allowance

This is a fortnightly payment for farmers or their partners who are in financial hardship. FHA can be paid for a maximum of 1460 days—4 years. You can go on and off FHA as you need it. The amount of FHA you get depends on your income and assets. From 1 July 2019, the farm assets test increased permanently to \$5 million. Let us know if your income or assets go up or down so we pay you the right amount.

Farm Household Case Officer

We'll assign you an FHCO when you get FHA. They'll make sure you're doing what you need to do to keep getting FHA. You'll usually have at least 2 face-to-face meetings with your FHCO over the 4 years. They'll also check in with you every 3 months. If you have questions about FHA, call your FHCO.

Farm Financial Assessment

This is a report about your personal and farm finances you and your prescribed adviser need to complete online. It helps you to see how you can improve your farm business. You get up to \$1,500 to pay for the assessment. You need to finish this within 28 days of getting the letter. You do the first part of the assessment, and the prescribed adviser does the rest.

Prescribed adviser

Your accountant or financial adviser may qualify to be your prescribed adviser if they:

- have relevant financial qualifications
- belong to a professional organisation that provides financial advice
- aren't a family member
- don't have any kind of relationship with you that can compromise their ability to provide their services
- have internet access.

Financial Improvement Agreement

This agreement sets out your goals and activities over the next 4 years. It helps you to improve your financial position. For some people, their goal may be to improve productivity. For others, their goal may be to find work away from the farm.

The agreement can include study or training to help you improve your financial position on or off the farm.

Your FHCO will develop this agreement with you. You'll need to sign it. You can change your agreement if your circumstances change. If you can't complete an activity as agreed, talk to your FHCO as soon as possible or your FHA payment may stop.

Activity Supplement

You can get an Activity Supplement to help pay for your FIA activities. It's worth \$3,000. You can use the supplement for financial, legal or professional advice, study, training, or counselling.

You can get an additional Activity Supplement worth \$1,000 in your third or fourth year. When you find an activity you want to do, check with your FHCO that it qualifies for the supplement.

Farm business income reconciliation

We need to check we're paying you the right amount of FHA. Send us your tax returns and supporting financials each financial year. We'll let you know if you've been paid the right amount. If you've been paid too much you may owe us money. If you haven't been paid enough, you'll get a top-up payment.

Rural Financial Counselling Service

This service gives financial counselling to farmers in hardship, at no cost to you. You can meet a Rural Financial Counsellor on your farm or at another convenient location. They'll look at your current financial position to give you options for the future. They can also help with debt mediation and succession planning. Find a counsellor at agriculture.gov.au/rfcs

Contact us for more information and help

- Call your Farm Household Case Officer
➔ Michelle Newton - 0741640126
- Call the Farmer Assistance Hotline on **132 316, Monday–Friday, 8am–8pm**
- Speak to your Financial Advisor or Rural Financial Counsellor
- Go to humanservices.gov.au/farmhouseholdallowance

The information contained in this publication is intended only as a guide to payments and services. It's your responsibility to decide if you wish to apply for a payment and to make an application, with regard to your particular circumstances.