

1. Objectives

To provide funding assistance to community organisations who coordinate the transport of donated fodder to a central location within NSW for the benefit of three or more primary producers with livestock, in the event of identified need, relating to drought or following a natural disaster.

2. Assistance available

From 1 July 2020 the scheme will pay for the costs of transporting donated fodder up to a maximum of \$2.50 per kilometre (plus GST) to a maximum eligible distance of 1,500 kilometres.

Funding for this scheme is limited. The scheme will close when available funding is exhausted.

3. Eligibility

- a) The subsidy on transport of donated fodder is available to community groups who coordinate the transport of donated fodder for the benefit of three or more primary producers, whose property is in an area of identified need, whether as a result of a natural disaster, or a drought.
- b) Pre-approval for the transport of the donated fodder must be obtained from the NSW Rural Assistance Authority (RAA) by the organising community group and the transport operator, with both the organising group and the transport operator agreeing on the amount of fodder to be transported, the number of trips to be completed and the total distance to be travelled.
- c) The subsidy is payable to the transport operators who transport the donated fodder to a central location within NSW on behalf of the organising community group.
- d) The central location receiving donated fodder must be in an area of NSW that is classified Intense Drought or Drought in accordance with the Combined Drought Indicator or following an declared natural disaster.
- e) Community organisations can request to deliver fodder to areas other than that identified in d) above. This will be considered on a case by case basis taking into account advice provided the Regional Assistance Advisory Committee and Local Land Services.
- f) Payment of any assistance can only occur upon production of tax invoices for expenses incurred. If an ABN is not supplied by the transport operator, the rebate will be reduced

by an amount equivalent to the highest tax rate, which is subsequently forwarded to the Australian Taxation Office.

- g) Payment of any assistance can only occur upon the provision of evidence that any promotional material or public statement has acknowledged the contribution by the NSW Government.
- h) Claims must be made within three months of the RAA's approval to the transport of the donated fodder.
- i) As part of the application process, the applicant must agree to relevant details from the proposed application being provided to the regional Rural Financial Counsellor so as to promote coordination of effort.

4. Exclusions

- a) Small volumes of fodder (i.e. under one tonne per load).
- b) Poor quality fodder.
- c) Transport of donated fodder from donors to individual farmers.
- d) Transport of donated fodder to commercial feedlots and/or feed processors.

5. To apply

- a) Prior to arranging transport of donated fodder the coordinating community group and the transport operator must obtain approval from the RAA. The Approval Request form can be found at: <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/donatedfodder-transport-subsidy>
- b) The transport operator is to claim the cost of transporting the fodder directly from the RAA, following completion of the movements. Claim forms can be found at: <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/donatedfodder-transport-subsidy> and must be submitted to the RAA together with tax invoices and/or receipts for the cartage of the fodder.

6. Fraudulent claims

- a) By signing the claim form, you are declaring that the information provided in the application form and supporting documentation is true and accurate.

- b) Providing inaccurate, untrue or misleading information may be a breach of criminal law for which serious penalties may apply.
- c) 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 recover the funds.

7. Important Information

- a) Guidelines are correct at the time of publishing.
- b) RAA reserves the right to amend, alter or change these guidelines at any time, and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they check the relevant website prior to application.
- c) The guidelines that apply to your application will be the guidelines that are current at the time your application is received by RAA.
- d) While RAA has taken all care in preparing these guidelines, RAA will not be liable in any way for any errors, omissions or variation to information in these guidelines or for not advising an applicant of any errors, omissions or variations to information in these guidelines.

8. Assessment

- a) Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria. RAA reserves the right to request further information from you or from any business or individual you have engaged, to assist in assessing your application and to verify any information provided in your application.
- b) Failure to provide such information may result in RAA refusing your application.
- c) RAA also reserves the right to refuse an application, at its discretion, for any reason or for no reason irrespective of whether the eligibility criteria have been met.
- d) Applications submitted may be subject to audit by RAA or its agents in order to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.

9. Applications

Funding for this scheme is limited. The scheme will close when available funding is exhausted. RAA is not obliged to provide advance notice of either the exhaustion of funding or the closure of the scheme.

Applications for assistance under the program must be made on RAA's application form and be accompanied by the documentation stated in the application form.

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

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

Before applying for financial assistance under this program or making any decision, applicants should seek advice from their legal, business and financial advisers to determine their eligibility for and the terms of the financial assistance.

Applications and claim forms can be submitted by email, post, or in person. Applications and claim forms that have been emailed can be tracked most efficiently.

Email: rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au

Post: Locked Bag 23, Orange NSW 2800

In Person: 161 Kite St, Orange NSW 2800