

1. Objectives

To provide a subsidy on the transport of fodder and/or water to a property, stock to/from agistment and stock to sale or slaughter.

For applications received from 1 July 2019 the subsidy also includes transporting of farm chemicals, fertiliser and seed to farms.

For applications received from 1 July 2020 the subsidy also includes transport of purchased stock to the farm business.

2. Funding available and possible early closure

The availability of subsidies for this program is subject to funds being available.

No subsidy can be offered beyond the allocated funding.

Closure of the program is at the discretion of the RAA.

RAA will endeavour, but is not obliged, to provide advance notification of an early closure of the program.

An applicant's unawareness of, or lack of notification by RAA, of an early closure of the program will not be grounds for consideration of applications or invoices submitted after the program officially ends.

3. Assistance available

A transport subsidy of up to 50% of the total freight cost is available to eligible primary producers on transport costs to a maximum dollar value of \$7.50 per kilometre dependent on the vehicle type.

ROUND 1

2018-19 financial year for invoices dated 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019, offering \$40,000 per eligible farm business.

Applications closed 30 June 2019.

Claims closed 30 September 2019.

ROUND 2

2019-20 financial year for ROUND 1 approved applicants, invoices dated 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, offering up to \$50,000 per eligible farm business.

2019-20 financial year for new applicants, invoices dated 1 Jan 2018 to 30 June 2020, offering up to \$50,000 per eligible farm business.

Applications closed 30 June 2020.

Claims closed on 30 September 2020.

ROUND 3

2020-21 financial year for invoices dated 1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020, offering up to \$25,000 per eligible farm business, subject to funds being available.

4. Eligibility

To be eligible for assistance you must declare that:

- You are the owner and operator of a farm business in NSW, and
- You operate as a sole trader, partnership, trust

or private company and trade agricultural products, and

- The business is registered with the Australian Taxation Office as a primary producer, and have an Australian Business Number (ABN), and
- The owners and operators of the business earn more than 50% of their gross income from the primary production enterprise under normal seasonal circumstances; or
- You are classified as a "new entrant", meaning you have been operating your farm business for between twelve (12) months to three (3) years and more than 50% of your gross income will be derived from the farm business within three years of the date of the application.
- The business is being negatively impacted by drought conditions, and
- The owners and operators of the business do not have gross off-farm assets exceeding \$5,000,000 (excluding funds in a registered superannuation fund).

5. Eligible Costs

- Transporting of stock to agistment.
- Returning stock from agistment.
- Transport of stock to sale or slaughter.
- Transport of fodder for stock to properties.
- Transport of stock and domestic drinking water.
- Transport of farm chemicals (from 1 July 2019).
- Transport of fertiliser (from 1 July 2019).
- Transport of seed (from 1 July 2019).
- Transport of purchased stock to the farm business (from 1 July 2020).

6. General guidelines

- Subsidy will be paid for transport at a rate of 50% of the total amount paid to the carrier or costs for an owner carrier, to a maximum transport cost of \$5/km (owner carriers are dealt with in 6j). The maximum subsidy amount is \$2.50/km.
- For invoices dated from 1 July 2019 for a B-Double or larger, the transport subsidy will be paid at a rate of 50% of the total amount paid to the carrier, to a maximum of \$7.50/km which equates to a maximum subsidy rate of \$3.75/km.
- For invoices dated from 1 July 2019 for short distance trips (under 80km), the subsidy will be 50% of the amount charged however the RAA reserves the right to limit the subsidy paid where transport costs are considered excessive.

- d) Subsidy applies to the loaded portion of the journey only.
- e) Invoices submitted with the application can not be used to secure funding under any other NSW Government Scheme.
- f) Subsidy applies on the cartage of fodder/water from the closest practical available source.
- g) The amount to be paid is the GST exclusive amount.
- h) Subsidy is not to be used for the transport of stock that are not fit to travel. Stock owners must always comply with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979.
- i) Maximum distance claimable was 1,500 km. There is no maximum distance claimable from 1 July 2019.
- j) There are restrictions on the amount that owner carriers can claim per kilometre per transportation per the following ruling rate schedule:

Gross vehicle mass (T) and/ or Gross combined vehicle mass (T)	Amount per kilometre
< 2.5	\$1.00
< 4.5	\$1.40
< 6.5	\$1.80
< 8.5	\$2.00
< 10.5	\$2.20
< 12.5	\$2.35
< 14.5	\$2.55
< 15.5	\$2.65
< 22.5	\$3.00
< 27.5	\$3.40
< 42.5	\$4.00
> 42.5	\$5.00

Owner carriers will be assessed on a case by case basis. Distance rates for owner carriers are indicative rates based on commercial transport costs but are calculated not to include the cost of the applicant's time, labour or margin for profit.

7. Stock to and from agistment

- a) Subsidy is available for the loaded forward and return journeys.

- b) Subsidy is also available for transport of stock from one area of agistment to another.
- c) If the owner is forced to move stock off the agistment property additional claims will be considered on a case by case basis.
- d) The stockowner must have no prior arrangement/agreement or contract to sell or otherwise dispose of the stock to the owner of the agistment property.
- e) Stock consigned to a custom or commercial feedlot on maintenance rations may be eligible for transport subsidies to and from the feedlot.
- f) The minimum load must be equivalent to 70 dry sheep equivalents (DSE). Loads of less than 70 DSE will be assessed on a case by case basis (e.g. transporting bulls).
- g) Commercial feedlots are not eligible for the rebate.

8. Stock to sale or slaughter and restocking

- a) Subsidy is available for the transport of stock from the home or agisted property, to sale or slaughter.
- b) Subsidy is available for restocking – where purchased stock are transported to the farm business.
- c) Commercial feedlots are not eligible for the rebate.

9. Fodder, Chemicals, Fertiliser, Seed

- a) Subsidy is payable on transport costs related to movement of fodder, chemicals, fertiliser or seed. The movement must be to a landholder's property, a travelling stock reserve, leased or agisted property.
- b) Subsidy is payable for genuine smaller vehicle movements within a property, where the initial vehicle transporting the fodder to the property is too large to transport the fodder to the appropriate storage location on the property. In these situations, the owner must sign a statutory declaration to this effect.
- c) Minimum load of fodder, fertiliser or seed is 1 tonne. Loads of less than 1 tonne may be assessed on a case by case basis if eligible.
- d) Minimum load for chemicals is 100 litres.
- e) Subsidy is available for loaded forward journeys.
- e) Transport of fodder for stock consigned to a commercial feedlot on maintenance rations may be eligible for rebates.

- f) Producers who purchase fodder from a commercial feed supplier or processor are eligible to claim 50% of the transport cost for feed ingredients as well as transport of the feed from the supplier to the holding.
- g) Commercial feedlots, where stock are purchased, fattened and sold; and backgrounding, where stock are fattened prior to moving into a feedlot, are ineligible.
- h) Commercial feed processors are not eligible for transport subsidies.

10. Stock and domestic drinking water

- a) Subsidy for the transport of water is available if the water is carted from the nearest practicable source.
- b) Transport of water within a holding is eligible for a subsidy.
- c) Transport subsidies will not be paid for the transport of water for irrigation.
- d) Minimum movement (all other stock): \geq 1,000L per transportation.
- e) Water cartage to stock on a travelling stock reserve or agistment property is eligible for subsidy.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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) Applications submitted may be subject to audit by RAA or its agents in order to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.
- d) Your claiming must relate to farmed animals that appear on your most recent Land & Stock Return.
- e) The RAA will assess applications from earliest rounds first.

14. Applications

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 online, by email, post, or fax. Applications and claim forms that have been emailed can be tracked most efficiently.

Online: <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/transport-subsidy-emergency-drought-relief>

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

Language services (interpreting and translating) are available by contacting Multicultural NSW on 1300 651 500 or by visiting languageservices@multicultural.nsw.gov.au

Post: Locked Bag 23, Orange NSW 2800

Fax: (02) 6391 3098

In Person: 161 Kite St, Orange NSW 2800.