



The Drought Assistance Fund complements existing measures offered in the NSW Government's \$1.8 billion Emergency Drought Relief Package. The Drought Assistance Fund loan funds; the transport of stock, fodder and water and includes funding for water and fodder infrastructure, as well as the banking of genetic material of livestock, and activities that promote profitability and resilience as a result of the on-farm investment.

Application Process

If your farming business has been negatively impacted by drought conditions you can apply for the NSW Drought Assistance Fund Loan. Primary producers are required to complete an application form before costs are incurred.

The Drought Assistance Fund Guidelines outline what you can apply for. Application forms can be submitted online or printed and submitted by either email, fax or post.

The Guidelines and Application form are available on the RAA website www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Key Points

- » \$50,000 interest-free loan.
- » Seven year loan term, with no repayments required in the first two years.
- » Stock must be transported to the nearest available saleyard or abattoir.
- » Statutory First Charge and registered caveat over the property on which the proposed works are to be carried out.
- » An application form must be submitted before costs are incurred.
- » Can be used for any purpose that can be demonstrated will assist profitability and resilience.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. Can I claim for the transport of fodder/water from interstate?

Yes, the cartage of fodder/water can be from the closest practical available source.

Q2. Can I claim if I am an owner carrier?

Yes, you are eligible. Copies of vehicle registration papers and log book entries are to be provided when claiming for payment after approval has been received.

Q3. Can the fund be used for the purchase of water and/or fodder?

Yes, applications received in the 2019/20 financial year can utilise funding for the purchase of water and fodder.

Q4. Is fencing of a drought lot eligible under the Drought Assistance Fund?

Yes, fencing of a drought lot is eligible to be funded by the Drought Assistance Fund. Fencing off a dam or water supply for animal welfare purposes can also be funded.

Q5. Can weather stations and probes be funded using Drought Assistance Fund?

No, however this is eligible under the Farm Innovation Fund loan.

Q6. Can a mixer and feeder be funded using Drought Assistance Fund?

Yes, purchase of a mixer and feeder is eligible to be funded by the Drought Assistance Fund.

Q7. Am I eligible to apply for the NSW Drought Assistance Fund if I lease the property?

Yes, please provide a copy of your lease agreement with your application. You are required to provide security for your loan, so this could be a property held in your name, a third party's property, or a floating charge registered over your business.

Q8. I have already applied for the Drought Assistance Fund, am I still able to access funds under this new scheme?

Yes, applicants that have received a loan in the 2018/19 financial year can apply for an additional loan of up to \$50,000 in the 2019/20 financial year.

Q9. What genetic material can I bank?

The fund is available for livestock genetic material only.

Q10. Is my super fund eligible to apply for the loan?

No, to be eligible you must be registered with the ATO as a business, partnership or sole trader.



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Further information

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