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## Essential services safety and reconnection grant

If you're uninsured, or unable to claim insurance, you may be eligible for a grant to help you reconnect essential services that were damaged by a disaster.

There are 2 parts to the grant:

1. Inspection: up to \$200 towards a safety inspection for each essential service needing reconnection (electricity, gas, water and sewerage or septic system)
2. Repair: up to \$4200 towards repair work to enable essential services to be reconnected (for example, electrical rewiring).

### Eligibility

To be eligible, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- live in a disaster affected area where this grant is activated
- be the owner or mortgagee of the home
- be uninsured or unable to claim insurance to replace or repair your essential service/s
- qualify under the income test (below).

### Income test (how much you earn)

Your gross (before tax) weekly income must be less than:

- individual: \$988 (\$51,398 per year)
- couple: \$1,367 (\$71,061 per year)
- sole parent, one child: \$1,368 (\$71,110 per year)
- couple, one child: \$1,694 (\$88,111 per year).

(For each additional child add a further \$327 per week; for each dependent adult add \$378 per week).

### How to apply

Apply online via the [Community Recovery Portal \(https://www.communityrecovery.qld.gov.au/#/\)](https://www.communityrecovery.qld.gov.au/#/).

or by phoning the Community Recovery Hotline on 1800 173 349 where a customer service officer will assist you to complete an online application.

When your application is completed and it is determined that you live in a disaster affected area, your application will be referred to your local Community Recovery Coordination Centre who will contact you by telephone and arrange a visit.

Then you will need to:

1. Complete and sign the Applicant Information Form.
2. Complete and sign the Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Grant Form.
3. Provide a rates notice and driver licence or electricity bill to confirm you own the dwelling and it is your principal place of residence.

## Grant payment

Payments of this grant are divided into two parts (inspection costs and repair costs) and will be made by either cheque or bank deposit direct to you or to the repairer.

Payments can only be made after invoices, receipts, quotes or an inspection report have been provided.

## Helpful resources

- [Utilities \(https://www.qld.gov.au/emergency/emergencies-services/utilities-contact\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/emergency/emergencies-services/utilities-contact)
- [Returning to affected buildings \(https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/recovery-after-disaster/cleaning-up/returning-to-buildings\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/recovery-after-disaster/cleaning-up/returning-to-buildings)

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## Contacts

For assistance with a life threatening situation phone **000** (triple zero) immediately.

For assistance with non-life threatening situations—such as help with a damaged roof, rising flood water, or storm damage—phone the SES on **132 500**.

For information and support phone the Community Recovery Hotline on **1800 173 349**.

Stay up-to-date on Facebook at [@Thrivingcommunitiesqld](https://www.facebook.com/Thrivingcommunitiesqld)

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