



Professional Advice and Planning Grant

The Australian Government recognises that there are Exceptional Circumstances such as, drought, which are beyond farmers control. The Professional Advice and Planning Grant is available to farmers in Exceptional Circumstances declared areas. The Professional Advice and Planning Grant allows farm businesses to access professional advice and planning assistance to aid in managing the effects of drought, reduced water allocations and other associated risks of climatic variability. Farm businesses can get advice from any suitably qualified professional of their choice. The aim of the grant is to assist farmers with planning and decision making.

Are you eligible to receive Professional Advice and Planning Grant?

Professional Advice and Planning Grants of up to \$5 500 (GST inclusive) are available to eligible farm business located in all Exceptional Circumstances declared areas, irrespective of the length of the declaration. Once approved, farm businesses can use these grants for up to 12 months after the Exceptional Circumstances declaration has expired or until 30 June 2010 (whichever comes first).

The grants can be used for the development of all risk management and business plans for a farm, not just drought management plans.

Grants may also be used to undertake a farm-business viability assessment and to obtain financial and agronomic advice about what changes maybe necessary to ensure the farm business recovers from drought during this difficult time.

Further information

For more information on Exceptional Circumstances support and other Australian Government drought assistance measures call the Drought Assistance Hotline on **13 23 16** or visit www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist