

Community Drought Support 2019-20

Fact Sheet

The Queensland Government is providing support to drought-declared local government areas in Queensland with the Community Drought Support Package. Community Drought Support aims to strengthen the resilience of drought-affected Queenslanders.

This is an opportunity for local and regional organisations to play a role in supporting individuals and communities to thrive.

Community Drought Support provides non-government organisations, community groups and local governments with the opportunity to apply for and deliver the following:

- **Flexible Financial Hardship payments** to assist individuals, households and families in hardship with cost of living expenses.
- **Community events and activities** aimed at enhancing community connectedness.

Organisations are encouraged to deliver the package in ways that meet the specific needs of their communities.

Funds available

Funds available for delivery in 37 fully and partially drought-declared local government areas* of Queensland are based on a rating system that takes into account the length of time in drought and other relevant indicators.

Funding amounts range from \$18,000 to \$244,000 per drought-affected local government area.

Please refer to the Funding Information Paper for funds available for delivery in each local government area.

What can be funded?

Organisations can apply to deliver one or both of:

1. Flexible Financial Hardship Payments:

To alleviate hardship and provide assistance with cost of living pressures to individuals, households and families who are impacted by the drought. Support is to be extended to non-farming small business operators such as tradespeople and retailers that are impacted by the drought.

Examples of assistance (but not limited to):

- Fuel vouchers
- Children's sports club membership
- Debit cards
- Parent and Citizen Associations for the purchase of school uniforms, stationery, text books, replacement of minor tuckshop equipment such as toasters, blenders, fridge/freezers, excursions or camp fees.
- Third party payments (medical, rates, electricity, etc.)
- Vouchers for local shops and businesses
- Pamper packs

2. Events and activities:

Local, community and family programs, activities, events, sporting and social support initiatives that enhance community connectedness can be delivered.

Examples of events and activities (but not limited to):

- Movie nights
- Barbecues
- Pamper days
- Comedy nights
- Outback ball
- Fishing trips/golf days
- Community cricket match or fun run
- Arts performances
- Camp draft and horse sports days
- Family fun day
- Race days

*As declared by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries at www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/drought/drought-declarations/ at 1 September 2019.

Who is eligible to apply?

Community groups, not-for-profit organisations, local councils, neighbourhood centres, emergency relief providers, and school P&Cs are encouraged to apply for the grants.

Organisations must have governance mechanisms in place (i.e. processes and approvals for distributing funds), capacity to assess people's needs and be accountable for the distribution of money, goods, and vouchers to community members adversely affected by drought.

Please refer to the funding information paper for further details.

How to Apply

A completed SmartyGrants online application form must be received by the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors by **5.00PM Friday, 13 December 2019.**

To access the online application form, go to:

<https://communities.smartygrants.com.au/CDSP2019-20>

Further Information

For more information refer to www.communities.qld.gov.au/funding.

