



Funding Guidelines – July 2025

Community Recovery and Resilience Grants

Inland River Flood 2025

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1. Introduction

In April 2025, sustained, intense rainfall in Queensland caused rapid rises and major flooding across the Thompson, Barcoo and Cooper Creek catchments, leading to flooding of South Australia's Inland Rivers in the State's north-east.

Communities in the region have been severely impacted by the disaster with floodwaters causing serious disruption through the inundation of community facilities and infrastructure resulting in extended road closures, stranded livestock, critical fodder shortages and displacement of station residents.

The floodwaters will make roads impassable for several months and urgent repairs of critical road networks will be conducted once floodwaters recede to keep communities connected.

The area around Innamincka is economically important due to its large organic cattle stations, oil and gas extraction and is a key township in the provision of remote access to essential services for travellers through the region. This event will also impact supply chains and travel through the region with roads likely to be inundated for up to nine months.

The State and Commonwealth governments are providing support to affected communities and individuals living, working or operating within the affected areas of the Pastoral Unincorporated Area (defined as those areas under the approved Disaster Recover Funding Arrangements for AGRN 1209).

In July 2025, the Federal Minister for Emergency Management and the South Australian Premier announced a \$682,500 Community Recovery and Resilience Fund measure to assist communities affected by the 2025 Inland River Flooding event in South Australia's far north-east (AGRN 1209).

The Community Recovery and Resilience Fund (the Fund) has been approved as a part of the exceptional circumstance package jointly funded by the Australian and South Australian governments (50:50) under Category C of the DRFA.

Funding Program	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)
Funding Package	Category C - Community Recovery and Resilience Fund
Purpose	To provide funding assistance eligible organisations in the Pastoral Unincorporated Area, affected by the Inland Flooding event in April 2025, for immediate and longer-term recovery activities to support community recovery.
Timeframes	Date available: 17 July 2025 Funding is to be allocated across 2025-26 and 2026-27

	Applications to the Fund Close: 27 October 2025 Acquittal required by 15 June 2027
Eligible Disaster Event	Inland Flooding Event (8 April 2025) AGRN 1209
Administered by	Department of the Premier and Cabinet
More Information	staterecoverycoordination@sa.gov.au

2. Objective and outcomes

The Fund objectives are to:

- Enable projects that strengthen local networks, leadership and community participation to rebuild social cohesion.
- Support initiatives for affected tourism and small businesses.

The Fund will be administered by the Recovery Team within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) to provide medium to longer-term support to communities to address immediate needs and community recovery needs as they arise over time.

3. Program delivery / administration

The Fund is a response to the serious disruption to the region through the inundation of community facilities and infrastructure, extended road closures impacting travel through the region, impact on small businesses and tourism and the displacement of station residents.

The Fund will support projects / activities to re-establish and keep communities connected.

4. Eligibility

4.1 Eligible applicants

Applicants must operate within the Pastoral Unincorporated Area as administered under the Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009 (SA):

- Non-profit organisations delivering assistance to affected communities or that own community facilities in the impacted area.
- Community organisations, associations and clubs.
- Progress Associations or regional development associations.
- Enterprises – tourism or small business.

Where the applicant is a non-government organisation that is included on the National Redress scheme's website list of 'Institutions that have not joined or have not signified their intent to join the Scheme' it will be ineligible to apply for the grant. Refer to Australian Government National Redress Scheme (www.nationalredress.gov.au).

4.2 Eligible activities

Grants can be provided to enable activities, initiatives or projects that restore social networks, community functioning and community facilities:

- Assistance for the restoration and repair of community facilities / facilities owned by non-profit organisations. (*Funding level will be determined by the project scope and grant funding available*)
- Grant of up to \$20,000 for a range of community activities (such as community barbeques).
- Grant of up to \$20,000 for initiatives supporting affected tourism and small business businesses.

Expenditure for funded projects can only occur during the grant period, defined by the commencement and end dates included in the grant agreement.

4.3 Ineligible activities

- Expenditure or costs outside of the **grant period**, defined in the grant agreement as grant commencement and end dates.
- Activities or projects where the applicant has successfully received funding or assistance from any other government source, program or donation in relation to the floods, where that funding or assistance has met the relevant costs applied for, with exception of identified ongoing community need.
- Activities or projects for expenses that are claimable under the applicant's insurance.
- Environmental initiatives.
- Activities that would ordinarily be related to disaster response.
- Activities or expenses that are not directly related to delivery of the grant funded project.
 - Core operating costs – eg rent, utilities, insurance, overheads, cost of existing office spaces, vehicles (including leasing, insurance and other on-going costs), staff costs (including staff time for reporting and acquittal of the grant).
 - Purchase of core business capital equipment such as motor vehicles, phones, and office equipment or furnishings.
 - Vehicle expenses not directly related to the delivery of the project.
 - Legal costs.

- New infrastructure
- In-kind contributions.
- Cash prizes or commercial gifts.

The applicant will be responsible for all costs over and above the approved capped funding amount and for all ineligible costs.

5. Application process

The process of administering these grants is designed to be flexible and accessible for community members, while ensuring integrity and accountability in the use of public funds.

The Recovery Team can receive and facilitate community requests for support under the fund and will provide potential applicants with the project brief (Attachment 1) to complete and ask them to obtain and provide relevant supporting documentation (e.g., quotes, receipts, tax invoices, etc.) as needed.

The Recovery Team contact is staterecoverycoordination@sa.gov.au.

A project brief must be completed for all projects, except when there are specific considerations to waive this requirement.

Assistance in completing the brief can be provided by the Recovery Team or other Security, Emergency and Recovery Management (SERM) staff.

The project brief must be completed for all projects using the form included as Attachment 1 and will include:

- A description of the impacts of the flooding event and the proposed project / activity to support community recovery, including photographic evidence.
- Identification of the need for the project / activity and expected outcomes for the community.
- Details of the initiative / project / activity:
 - Description and outputs
 - Governance, Risks, Resources, approvals and insurance
 - Costs and estimated completion date

Payments and reimbursements to individuals, groups, or organisations are deemed eligible at the discretion of the Recovery Team.

6. Assessment and approval process

The scope of the grants is at the discretion of the Recovery Team, with approval by DPC or the Treasurer. Funding support will be guided by the following considerations:

- the criteria outlined in this document
- the principles, concepts and considerations outlined in the State Recovery Framework¹
- the availability of funds in the Community Recovery and Resilience Fund
- the principle of the greatest public good and benefit.

The Recovery Team will review the project brief and supporting documentation and ask for clarification or additional information as needed.

Before an initiative is recommended, the amount remaining for the Grants will be reviewed to ensure sufficient funds are available.

6.1 Approval of grant allocation

The Recovery Team will provide recommended projects for approval to the Director of SERM, the Executive Director of Social Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, or the Treasurer as per appropriate financial delegation authority within the relevant agency.

Approval can be provided through email exchanges where the recipient, purpose, and amount (inclusive/exclusive of GST) are clearly stated, together with relevant quotes, invoices, or other documentation or by approval within the electronic records management workflow.

6.2 Notification of outcome

All (successful and unsuccessful) applicants will receive written notification regarding the outcome of their application and will have 28 days from the date of notification to submit an appeal

6.3 Appeals process

The appeals process is designed to ensure that all applicants have been treated fairly and consistently in applying for these grants.

¹ [State Recovery Framework](#) aims to establish a state level governance framework, and management and coordination of recovery responsibilities.

All requests must be in writing and should be addressed to the Director Security Emergency Recovery Management via staterecoverycoordination@sa.gov.au.

7. Funding

The Community Recovery and Resilience Fund is approved as a capped fund under the exceptional disaster event for allocation over 2025-26 and 2026-27 to eligible applicants. Grants awarded under these Guidelines will be referred to as **Community Recovery and Resilience Grants**.

- The Recovery Team will issue a funding agreement to successful applicants. The funding agreement will outline the conditions specific to the approved funding, including funding amount, key dates and milestones, reporting requirements and acquittal details.
- For projects of \$10,000 or more, a standard grant agreement (Appendix 2) must be completed.
- Low value grants of up to \$10,000 (GST exclusive) do not require a grant agreement, but a letter of agreement is to be completed.
- Grant payments will be issued through the DPC vendor payment process upon recipient of a tax invoice.
 - A recipient that is not registered for GST (even if they have an ABN) will need to invoice the department and provide a copy of their ATO Statement by a supplier form.
 - Payment is usually within 14 days of being entered into the financial system (Basware). The payment request is entered into Basware by SERM or other DPC administrative staff and processed through Shared Services.

As part of the funding agreement, recipients will be provided with an acquittal form, which must be completed and submitted by the due date specified in the funding agreement. All reported expenditure must clearly align with the objectives outlined in the original funding application.

Recipients must meet the eligibility requirements relating to the National Redress Scheme (www.nationalredress.gov.au) at all times during the term of this Agreement.

Recipients need to provide a Tax Invoice (for services), a receipt or other proof of payment.

Where the recipient does not have relevant documentation, they need to provide a statutory declaration stating how funds were used and an explanation for the lack of documentation.

8. Media and communications

All events, ceremonies, announcements, promotional material, publicity, media releases, noticeboards and signage relating to this Inland River Flood Community Recovery and Resilience Fund Grant funding must be described as “Jointly funded by the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements” with the State Government notified prior to these activities.

9. Definitions

Defined disaster area means

- **Inland River Flood event (SA)** which commenced on 8 April 2025 and occurred on the listed pastoral stations in the Guidelines Section 1. About the Program.

Evidence of payment means

- a. tax invoice(s) showing full details of the goods or services provided. The goods and services described on each invoice must be clearly identifiable having been paid by the applicant and being related to damage from the eligible disaster; and
- b. evidence of payment for these tax invoices. A copy must be provided of an applicant's bank transfer(s) and/or bank statement(s) with any relevant official receipt(s) from suppliers or contractors.

Official invoice means an invoice including the name, address and ABN (if applicable) of the entity that issued the invoice and a description of each item to which the invoice relates which is clearly identifiable as being related to approved expenditure for the applicant.

Official receipt means a receipt including the name and address and ABN (if applicable) of the entity that issued the receipt and a description of each item to which the receipt relates.

10. Other matters

Grants under this program may result in financial, taxation, legal or other implications for the recipient. It is strongly recommended applicants seek independent financial advice in regard to these possible impacts. Applicants may also seek advice from the Australian Tax Office on 1800 806 218 if they have further questions about their individual situation.

11. Fraudulent claims

By signing the application form, you are declaring that the information provided in the application form and supporting documentation is true, accurate and not misleading about a material fact.

Providing inaccurate, untrue, or misleading information may result in an offence being committed and serious penalties may apply.

If any information provided in an application or supporting documentation is found to be inaccurate, untrue, or misleading, legal action may be taken against the applicant, including action to recover the funds.

12. Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you, but the Commonwealth and South Australian Government and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

The Commonwealth and South Australian Government reserve the right in their absolute discretion to amend the guidelines without notice or discontinuing the program.