



## Farm Household Allowance

FHA helps eligible farmers and their partners experiencing financial hardship to improve their long-term financial situation, by providing fortnightly income support, plus a Health Care Card, for up to four cumulative years. It is delivered by the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS, formerly known as Centrelink).

Our Rural Financial Counsellors are experts in the FHA, and are available to check your eligibility and assist you right through the application process.

### Eligibility

You must be a farmer (or a farmer's partner), meet an income and assets test, meet residence requirements, and be willing to engage in compulsory activities that are aimed at improving your circumstances.

### Assets & Income Tests

At 1/7/18 Non-farm assets limits are;

Family Situation	Homeowners	Non-Homeowners
Single	\$258,000	\$465,500
Couple combined	\$387,500	\$594,500

The total net farm assets limit has been temporarily increased to \$5 million until 30 June 2019. Claims submitted on or after 1 July 2019 will be subject to a total net farm asset of \$2.6375 million. Up to \$1.1 million of water may be exempt from the farm assets test. Income tests apply and some off-farm income may be set aside in some specific circumstances.

### Compulsory Activities

The Farm Financial Assessment (FFA) examines the farmer's overall financial position. The government provides up to \$1,500 for a prescribed advisor to complete the FFA. (e.g. Accountant). The Financial Improvement Agreement (FIA) is a plan developed for farmers and their partners to improve their capacity for self-reliance. Up to \$3,000 per person is available over four years to undertake approved activities and an additional \$1,000 may be available in the final year.

**We urge you not to self-assess.** Please contact one of our Rural Financial Counsellors to find out more, establish eligibility and assist you to apply.

Contact us today to make an appointment

**1300 769 489**