



# Frequently Asked Questions Producer Technology Uptake Program



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# About

The Producer Technology Uptake Program is intended to provide funding for groups of producers (farmers, fishers and foresters) to develop a technology adoption program to support greater technology uptake on-farm and on-boat. Successful recipients will work with individual producers within their group to deliver activities that arm them with the information and knowledge they need to overcome technology adoption barriers e.g. digital literacy.

A wide variety of activities are eligible for funding under this program. Respondents need to demonstrate how proposed activities will contribute to the technology uptake for producers and/or overcome known barriers.

This is a national program with projects to be completed over a twelve-month period. AgriFutures Australia will work closely with successful groups to support the roll out of program activities. A key part of the program is to leverage learnings across groups and ensure there is peer-to-peer learning across producers.

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## Who can apply?

- Existing groups that currently deliver capacity building and on-farm extension activities, e.g. farming systems groups, grower groups etc.
- Agribusinesses who have formed groups around their client base and can deliver technology adoption activities, e.g. agronomists, benchmarking groups.
- Landcare groups that deliver on-ground producer training and extension opportunities with an interest in producer technology adoption.
- An industry group/association/organisation with a pre-existing extension arm that undertakes research and extension activities with producers.

Groups will also be required to demonstrate their experience and capacity to deliver their proposed program. If you have any questions about your group's eligibility for this program please contact [programs@agrifutures.com.au](mailto:programs@agrifutures.com.au)

## What if I'm not a part of a pre-existing group as defined above?

This grant is intended to fund groups to undertake technology adoption activities. If you are not a member of an existing group, we would suggest reaching out to your local agronomist/agribusiness consultant to understand potential pre-existing group opportunities in your area or industry. Applicants are required to demonstrate previous experience in the delivery of similar activities.

## Does my group need an ABN to apply?

Yes, an ABN is required to make the grant payment. If your group does not have an ABN, you could consider approaching your local agronomist or agribusiness consultant who could apply on the groups behalf.

## Does my group need to be registered for GST?

No, the group does not need to be registered for GST. If your group is not registered for GST, grant payments will not include a GST component.

## If my application is successful, when will my group receive the grant payment?

Grant payments are split into two (2) payments. An initial payment covering 60% of the grant value will be paid on the execution of the grant agreement. The remaining 40% will be paid upon the submission and approval of an activity progress report, at an agreed date. This is usually half way through the project, but will be negotiated with each successful group.

## Do I need to provide receipts and other expenditure documentation at the end of the project?

A final financial statement will be required at the completion of the project detailing grant fund expenditure. Receipts should be submitted where possible, however receipts may not be available for some aspects of the project costs e.g. administrative and project management costs.

## What if the group does not spend all the grant funds?

At the completion of the project, all granted funds are to be reconciled against the final financial statement. Any unspent funds will be recovered at the end of the project by AgriFutures Australia.

## Is there a minimum number of group members required?

Yes, a minimum of 10 group members are required to participate in the program. This ensures grant funding is maximised at the grass roots level for a broader impact.

## If our group has previously received funding under AgriFutures Australias Producer Technology Uptake Program, can we apply again?

No, for this round, additional grants will not be awarded to groups who have previously participated in the program. This is to ensure funding is reaching as many groups as possible to support on-ground technology adoption.

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## What types of activities can groups apply for?

Groups can apply to undertake activities that clearly demonstrate how they seek to address identified barriers. Examples of activities include:

- Delivery of a field/demo day
- Delivery of capacity building workshops and resources for specific technology e.g autonomous irrigation
- Trialling on-farm or on boat technology amongst your group e.g. soil moisture probes and weather stations, apps that support production activities etc

## Can we use the grant to purchase technology and equipment?

Yes, however you will need to clearly demonstrate in your application how the purchasing of technology or equipment will support technology adoption and/or address barriers for your group members. Your application should also detail how many members will directly/indirectly benefit from this.

## How long can the project run for?

Projects can run for up to 12 months.

## My group has members over a large geographical area, can we apply for more than one grant?

No, whilst we appreciate that some groups have large member bases, sometimes across states, groups are only able to apply for one grant.

## Can any expenses incurred prior to the commencement of the project be claimed during the project?

No, only expenses incurred after the execution of the Funding Agreement are eligible to be covered by the grant.

## Can this project funding be used in conjunction with any other grant funding?

Yes, however your group needs to have already received the other funding or demonstrate that the project can still be effectively delivered should the other grant funds not be received.

## What does the included workshop cover?

The workshop is designed to build producer capacity and confidence around agtech and how it can support business operations. The workshops are designed to be technology agnostic, rather focussing on building core skills such as understanding data and your rights, connectivity considerations and building a farm tech plan.

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# Am I Eligible?

If you answer “yes” to the following criteria, then you are eligible to apply\*.

Applications are subject to a merit assessment made by AgriFutures Australia. All decisions related to successful grant recipients by AgriFutures Australia will be final.

- Is your group or school based in Australia?
- Does your group\* represent producer members (farmers, fishers, or foresters)?
- Are you currently registered with an ABN?
- Does your group or school have at least 10 producers or students committed to participating in the program?
- Does your group or school have experience in managing grants, including financial and reporting systems?
- Would participation in the program genuinely benefit producers or students in your group?

\*As defined under ‘what is a producer group’. If you have any questions about your groups’ eligibility, please reach out to us at [programs@agrifutures.com.au](mailto:programs@agrifutures.com.au)

To ensure funding reaches as many groups as possible to support on-ground technology adoption, producer groups that have previously received funding under AgriFutures Australia’s Producer Technology Uptake Program will not be eligible to apply for future rounds at this point in time.

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