



2026-27 Show Societies Grant Program

Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country. We recognise the ongoing spiritual and cultural connection Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have with land, water, sea and sky. We pay our deep respects to their Elders past and present, support future leaders and acknowledge First Nations People's right to self-determination.

This publication has been compiled by Scott Hayden of the Grants and Program Management team, Department of Local Government.

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1. Introduction

Annual agricultural shows play a vital role in Queensland's culture, social, and economic landscape. These events foster community engagement, showcase local industries, and support regional economies. In recognition of their significant contribution, the Queensland Government provides financial assistance to Queensland Agricultural Show Societies across the state to support the successful delivery of these shows.

The 2026-27 Show Societies Grant Program (the Grant Program) is a non-competitive, allocation-based program providing \$2.5 million in funding to eligible recipients during 2026-27 financial year.

An agricultural show is defined as a vibrant, inclusive annual event that celebrates the state's rich agricultural heritage, expertise, and innovation. It brings together rural and urban communities to engage with the agricultural sector through a diverse mix of events and attractions.

2. The Grant Program

2.1 Program aim

The Grant Program aims to financially support organisations throughout Queensland to contribute to the ongoing viability of agricultural shows for future generations.

2.2 Program objective

The objective of the Grant Program is to provide organisations with financial support to:

- Meet the operational costs (excluding salary and wages related costs) associated with the conduct of annual agricultural shows, and
- Invest in new or upgrade infrastructure to showground facilities essential to the operations of the annual agriculture show.

2.3 Funding details

The funding period is from the 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

2.4 Eligible grant recipients

Eligible grant recipients are not required to submit an application under the Grant Program. These recipients are listed in **Appendix A** and include the following:

- a. Recipients must conduct an annual agricultural show and be either:
 - a Queensland agricultural show society affiliated with Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Societies Inc. (QCAS)
 - a local government of Queensland, or
 - an agricultural show society or other organisation not affiliated with QCAS but deemed eligible at the discretion of the Minister for Local Government.
- b. Where the Minister approves funding for an organisation that is not a local government or a member of QCAS, the organisation will be required to:

- be incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 or the Associations Incorporation Act 1981
- provide evidence of appropriate insurance cover for their agricultural shows
- report gate attendance/takings each year and costs from their most recent annual agricultural show
- report other information as requested by the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers (the Department).

2.5 Ineligible grant recipients

Ineligible organisations or community groups that do not qualify for the Grant Program include any entity responsible for:

- a fair day, or market day
- a single category competition event
- a festival, day/s of celebration or event otherwise unrelated to primary production, including music festivals, plays, concerts and films.

2.6 Eligible costs

Approved funding may only be applied towards “eligible costs” and must be consistent with the aim and objectives of the Grant Program. Eligible costs include:

- a. agricultural show-related purchases (including show ribbons, trophies)
- b. operational costs (including advertising and promotion, equipment hire/lease, health and safety, telephone and internet charges, sundry expenses)
- c. entertainment
- d. utilities (including water, gas and electricity costs)
- e. upgrade and maintenance to existing showground facilities essential to the operation of the annual agricultural show (including repairs, pest control, cleaning and plumbing costs)
- f. insurance costs (including general, public liability and volunteers)
- g. new infrastructure works essential to the operation of the annual agricultural show that meet the program objectives. This may include demolition of buildings in disrepair and building new infrastructure (i.e. toilet blocks, grandstands, halls or stables).

2.7 Ineligible costs

Ineligible costs are costs not directly associated with the conduct of an agricultural show and/or do not support the aim or objective of the Grant Program. Ineligible costs include:

- a. wages and salaries of staff engaged by the Organisation
- b. prize money
- c. donations
- d. payment of judges (including payment of airfares, food and accommodation costs)
- e. costs associated with hiring staff from state government agencies (i.e. hiring police officers, ambulance officers and/or security guards).

The above list identifies the most common examples of ineligible costs and is not intended to be comprehensive. If there is any doubt as to the eligibility of any costs, please contact the Department.

3. General funding conditions for Approved Funding

3.1 Head Funding Agreement

The Head Funding Agreement (HFA) was signed by all eligible recipients and the Department on behalf of the State of Queensland under the 2022-25 SSGP, which contains the main terms governing funding arrangements and will remain effective on an ongoing basis.

The Department will write to all eligible recipients with further details regarding funding conditions.

3.2 Funding approval

On 10 September 2026, the Honourable Ann Leahy MP, Minister for Local Government, Water and Volunteers wrote to eligible organisations approving funding under the 2026-27 Grant Program.

3.3 Approved funding payment

3.3.1 The Department will make a payment according to the following schedule:

Payment schedule	Milestone
2026-27 SSGP First and Final Payment (100% of approved funding)	The Department will make the first and final payment to the Organisation as soon as practicable after 1 July 2026 following: a. Ministerial approval of the 2026-27 SSGP grant allocation; and b. A signed Head Funding Agreement (not required if HFA already executed between State of Queensland and the organisations)

3.3.2 The Grant Program funding period is for the 2026-27 financial year. Grant recipients must expend their annual grant allocation within the relevant financial year. Grant allocations cannot carry over to another financial year.

3.3.3 Payments will be processed by electronic transfer. Payment is subject to the organisations' bank account details being current on the Department's finance system.

3.3.4 The Department must be notified when an organisation changes their bank account or GST status details. It is a requirement for this request to in writing with supporting evidence such as a current bank statement or GST status matching the new details provided on the organisation's letterhead.

3.3.5 Where a show is cancelled for any reason, the organisation must immediately notify the Department detailing the reasons for cancellation.

3.3.6 Where an organisation is unable to conduct its annual agricultural show due to the direct impact of a pandemic or severe weather events, the organisation must notify the Department in writing and request to use its grant against any incurred eligible costs. Any unspent funds that cannot be used for eligible purposes (including site maintenance) must be returned to the Department.

3.3.7 The organisation agrees to return any unspent funding for the financial year, or an agreed proportion of the Approved Funding, to the Department if the conditions outlined in HFA are not met to the satisfaction of the Department.

3.4 Periodic auditing

- 3.4.1 Under an executed Head Funding Agreement between the State of Queensland and the organisation, the Department reserves the right to undertake periodic audits under Clause 12(b)(i)-(iv). Should the organisation be subject to an audit, the Department may request evidence of expenditure including, but not limited to, invoices, remittance advices and transaction listings detailing eligible expenditure totalling the grant allocation.

4. Communications

4.1 Acknowledgement requirements

- 4.1.1 The organisation agrees to acknowledge the Department's funding contribution in accordance with the Department's Funding Acknowledgement Guidelines, provided on the Department's website at <https://www.localgovernment.qld.gov.au/for-councils/grants/acknowledgement-requirements>.
- 4.1.2 Examples of where organisations acknowledge State Government funding may include show day announcements, show flyers, social media, show society websites, through speeches and media releases.

Organisations may use the following example acknowledgement statement; *"The [insert name] show is proudly supported by the Queensland Government through the Show Societies Grants Program"*.

NOTE: Organisations must include the coat of arms and wordmark (i.e. delivering for Queensland) next to this statement. To obtain a copy of the logo please email lgdgrants@dlgqv.qld.gov.au.

4.2 Communications with the media

To provide the Queensland Government sufficient time to participate in project/event announcements, timely advice in advance of any media releases, social media posts, media opportunities and events must be emailed to the media team at media@dlgqv.qld.gov.au.

The Queensland Government Minister for Local Government must be formally invited to officiate at any opening ceremony or other official celebration. The Minister may nominate another Minister or representative to attend. Formal invitations must be sent directly to the Minister with a minimum 28 days' notice of the planned activity.

Email formal invitations to lgwv@ministerial.qld.gov.au

4.3 Signage on new infrastructure

Additional acknowledgement requirements are required if an organisation spends their Approved Funding on new showground infrastructure.

Organisations must refer to the signage requirements detailed on the Department's Funding Acknowledgement Guidelines. To ensure signage meets the funding acknowledgement

guidelines requirements, it is recommended that endorsement of signage artwork is approved by the Department.

5. Enquiries and contact details

Organisations may contact the Department in relation to general questions, requests for clarification and requests for further information.

Please contact the **Grants and Program Management** team at lgdgrants@dlgww.qld.gov.au

The 2026–27 SSGP guidelines can be downloaded from the Department’s website at <https://www.localgovernment.qld.gov.au/for-councils/grants/current-programs>.

6. Glossary

Department	the State Government Department responsible for administering the local government portfolio, unless otherwise explicitly stated. At the time of publishing the guidelines this is the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers.
Minister	means the Queensland Government Minister responsible for the Local Government portfolio.
Organisation	means the Eligible grant recipient in receipt of Approved Funding.
SSGP	Show Societies Grants Program (SSGP).
Grant Program	2026-27 Show Societies Grants Program, being the subject of these Guidelines.
Head Funding Agreement	means the agreement entered into between the State of Queensland and the Recipient that sets out the terms and conditions under which the State of Queensland will enter into project specific arrangements to provide funding for specific projects (Project Funding) to the Recipient.

A-1 Appendix A - Recipients

Recipient Show Societies for the 2026-27 SSGP are:

Allora Show Society Inc.
Alpha Show Society Inc.
Atherton Tableland Agricultural Society Inc.
Ayr Pastoral Agricultural & Industrial Association Inc.
Baralaba Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc.
Barcaldine Pastoral, Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc.
Barcoo Pastoral Society
Beaudesert Show Society
Beenleigh Show Society
Bell Show Society Inc.
Biggenden & District Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc.
Blackbutt Agricultural Show Society Inc.
Boonah Show Society Inc.
Bowen Pastoral Agricultural Association Inc.
Brookfield Show Society Inc.
Bundaberg Agricultural Pastoral & Industrial Society Inc.
Caboolture & District Pastoral, Agricultural & Industrial Association Ltd.
Callide Valley Agricultural & Pastoral Society
Canungra & District Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Capella & District Show Society Inc.
Charleville & South West Qld Show Society Inc.
Chinchilla Agricultural & Pastoral Association Inc.
Clermont Rodeo & Show Society Inc.
Clifton Show Society Inc.
Cloncurry & District Show Society Inc.
Comet Sporting and Agricultural Show Society Inc.
Cooyar Agricultural Society Inc.
Crows Nest Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society
Cunnamulla & District Show Society Inc.
Dalby & District Show Society Inc.
Dayboro Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Association Inc.
Dirranbandi Pastoral & Agricultural Association Inc.
Eidsvold Show Society Inc.
Emerald Show Society Inc.
Esk Pastoral, Agricultural & Industrial Association Inc.
Eumundi Parks Recreation & Showgrounds Association Inc.
Fraser Coast Agriculture Show Society Inc.
Gatton Show Society Inc.
Gayndah Show Society Inc.
Gin Gin Agricultural, Pastoral & Industrial Society Inc.

Giru Show and School of Arts Inc formerly the Giru Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Gold Coast Show Society Inc.
Goombungee-Haden Agricultural, Horticultural & Pastoral Society Inc.
Goomeri & District Show Society Inc.
Goondiwindi Pastoral & Agricultural Society
Gympie District Show Society Inc.
Herbert River Pastoral & Agricultural Association Inc.
Hughenden Show Society Inc.
Inglewood Show Society Inc.
Innisfail & District Show Society Inc.
Ipswich Show Society
Isis District Pastoral, Agricultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Isisford Sheep & Wool Show Inc.
Jandowae & District Show Society Inc.
Kalbar & District Agricultural & Pastoral, Sport & Recreation Association Inc.
Kenilworth Hall, Show & Recreation Ground Association Inc.
Kilcoy Pastoral, Agricultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Killarney Show & Rodeo Society Inc.
Laidley Agricultural & Industrial Society
Muttaborra Stock Show Society Inc. (formerly the Landsborough Flock Ewe Show Society Inc.)
Longreach Show Society Inc.
Lowood Show Society Inc.
Mackay & District Agricultural, Pastoral & Industrial Association Inc.
Malanda Show Society Inc.
Maleny Show Society Inc.
Marburg & District Agricultural & Industrial Association Inc.
Mareeba District Rodeo Association Inc.
Marlborough Agricultural Show Association Inc.
Mary Valley Show Society Inc.
Miles & District Show Society Inc.
Millmerran Show Society Inc.
Mitchell Show Society Inc.
Monto & District Show Society Inc.
Mossman & District Show Society Inc.
Mount Isa Agricultural Show Society Inc.
Mount Larcom & District Show Society Inc.
Mt Gravatt Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society
Mt Perry Show Society Inc.
Mudgeeraba Show Society Inc.
Mundubbera Show Society Inc.
Murgon Pastoral, Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc.
Nanango Agricultural Pastoral & Mining Society Inc

Noosa Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Oakey Agricultural, Pastoral & Rodeo Society Inc.
Pioneer Valley Agricultural Show Society Inc.
Pittsworth Show Society Inc.
Proserpine Agricultural, Pastoral & Industrial Association Inc.
Proston Pastoral, Agricultural & Horticultural Association Inc.
Quilpie & District Show Society Inc.
Redcliffe Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Ridgeland & District Sporting & Agricultural Show Association Inc.
Rocklea Agricultural & Industrial Association Inc.
Rockhampton Regional Council
Roma Show Society Inc.
Rosewood Agricultural & Horticultural Association Inc.
Royal Agricultural Society of Qld
Samford & District Show Society Inc.
Sarina Show Society Inc.
South Burnett National Show Society (Kingaroy) Inc
Springsure Pastoral & Agricultural Society Inc.
St George Pastoral & Agricultural Association Inc.
Stanthorpe Agricultural Society
Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show Society Inc.
Tambo Stock Show Inc.
Tamborine Mountain Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Society Inc.
Tara Pastoral, Agricultural & Horticultural Show Society Inc.
Taroom Show Society Inc.
Texas Show Society
The Cairns Agricultural, Pastoral & Mining Association
The Caves Progress & Agricultural Society Inc.
The Gladstone Show Society Inc.
The Pine Rivers Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Association
The Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Societies Inc.
The Royal National Agricultural & Industrial Association of Queensland
The Teebar Show And Sports Association Inc.
Theodore Show Society Inc.
Toogoolawah Dairying, Agricultural & Industrial Association Inc.
Towers Pastoral, Agricultural & Mining Association Inc.
Townsville Pastoral, Agricultural & Industrial Association
Tully & District Show Society Inc.
Wallumbilla Agricultural & Pastoral Association Inc.
Wandoan Show Society Inc.
Warwick Show & Rodeo Society Inc.
Winton Pastoral & Agricultural Show Society Inc.
Wondai Agricultural, Pastoral & Industrial Society Inc.

Woodford Agricultural and Pastoral and Industrial Association Inc.
Wowan Agricultural Society Inc.
Yeppoon & District Show Society Inc.

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