

MEDIA RELEASE 3th June 2020

Changes to Farm Household Allowance make it more accessible for Primary Producers.

A Queensland rural financial counselling service is urging primary producers who have been unable to access government support payments because of off farm assets to relook at their eligibility.

After a lengthy review process of the Farm Household Allowance the Australian Government passed legislation which changes some key eligibility criteria.

The Rural Financial Counselling Service North Queensland understands changes have been made to off-farm asset limits and now a single asset threshold of \$5.5 million net assets exists.

“Any primary producer who has been knocked back for this payment in the past based on their off-farm assets should consider looking at their eligibility again,” said Rural Financial Counsellor Rachel Bock.

“Older farmers who are over the age pension age, who couldn’t access FHA in the past due to the value of their superannuation should also test their eligibility,” she said.

The Activity Supplement which funds training, upskilling and professional advice has been increased from \$4 000 to \$10 000. This supplement will now extend to cover travel and accommodation incurred in undertaking training.

These changes come into effect on the 11th of June 2020 but you can apply now in readiness for new criteria.

Rural Financial Counsellors can assist in applying for Farm Household Allowance.

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