



Regional Capability Community Fund (RCCF) Round One Grant Program Guidelines 2022-23

Farm Fire Units

Opening date: Monday 25 July 2022

Closing date: Sunday 21 August 2022

Government entity: South Australian Fire and Emergency Services

Commission (SAFECOM)

Enquiries: If you have any questions, please contact SAFECOM

on (08) 8115 3926 or email: rccf@safecom.sa.gov.au

Type of grant opportunity: Competitive

Guidelines issued: July 2022

Figure 1: Regional Capability Community Fund - Farm Fire Units - grant process flowchart

The grant round opens

CFS publishes the grant guidelines on their website.



Applicants complete and submit an application

Applicants complete the online form, ensuring quotes are attached to the application.



SAFECOM completes preliminary assessment

The SAFECOM Grants Administration Team review the applications for completeness and compliance.



RCCF Assessment Panel

The RCCF Assessment Panel assess all eligible applications against the assessment criteria including an overall consideration of available funding compared to number of applications.



Recommendations to Minister

RCCF Assessment Panel make recommendations to the Minister.



Notification of RCCF Assessment Panel & Minister outcome

Applicants will receive correspondence from the Minister notifying them of the outcome of their application.



Applicants purchase the specified approved equipment

The successful applicant purchases the equipment specified in their approved grant application.



Applicants register their Farm Fire Units

Successful applicants register their FFUs online through the CFS registration portal.



Equipment purchase evidence

Successful applicants submit to SAFECOM copies of their <u>paid</u> invoices/receipts for the approved equipment purchases along with evidence of their successful CFS FFU registration.



SAFECOM verifies CFS FFU registration

SAFECOM liaises with the CFS to confirm the applicant's evidence of FFU registration (where required).



Applicant is established as a vendor in Basware and reimbursement is processed

Once required evidence has been received, SAFECOM processes reimbursement

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The State Budget has provided \$2 million (GST exclusive) over four years to establish a new version of the Regional Capability Community Fund (RCCF) grant program for landowners to purchase equipment to support the safe use of Farm Fire Units (FFU). A previous RCCF program concluded in 2018-19.

The RCCF supports farmers and farming businesses across South Australia to better equip themselves (in line with the CFS FFU Handbook) to safely respond to fire emergencies.

The fund will reimburse approved purchases or a portion of a purchase from \$200 to \$3,000 (plus GST). This will allow for the purchase of smaller items such as good quality first aid kits and UHF radios, but also a significant portion of a new FFU e.g., pump, water tank etc.

The total funding available for 2022-23 (round one) is \$500,000.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

RCCF grant applicants are encouraged to purchase equipment from their local region to support the local community.

Only one application per farmer or farming business will be considered.

Examples of eligible items include:

- Tank with a minimum water capacity of 400L and with fill point for water
- Water pump
- Hose and branch
- Fire rated personal protective clothing (i.e., gloves, jackets, pants, boots and P2 masks)
- First aid kits (specifically with burns kit included)
- Fire blankets
- UHF/CB radios
- Amber rotating beacon
- Heat shields

Ineligible equipment

The following are items considered ineligible:

- Vehicle modifications (i.e., suspension upgrades)
- Equipment that is not part of a CFS registered FFU
- Purchase of a vehicle for the purposes of being an FFU

ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Farmers and farming businesses can apply for this grant as a reimbursement. The application process includes:

- Completion of application form
- Notification of outcome to applicant
- · Proof of equipment purchase if application is approved
- Proof of FFU registration with the CFS
- Reimbursement of agreed cost for agreed purchase

Applications will be assessed by an Assessment Panel on a case-by-case basis, in line with defined selection criteria, such as equipment that will:

- be new, not second-hand
- be fit for purpose and aligned to the Farm Fire Units Handbook (available at the CFS website)
- demonstrate value for money

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Applicants who wish to apply for funding to purchase equipment under this program are encouraged to explain in their application why their proposed item/s are the most suitable and safest equipment for their circumstances.

The Assessment Panel will consist of subject matter experts from CFS and SAFECOM. The decision of the Assessment Panel is final. Applicants will be informed in writing of the outcome and feedback on unsuccessful applications will be available upon request.

The selection process is competitive, and all applications will be assessed relative to other applications received in the same round. There is no guarantee an application will be successful, even if a similar request has been successful in the same or previous rounds.

Once an application is approved, successful applicants must ensure their FFU is registered with the CFS to receive reimbursement.

Equipment must be purchased and successful CFS FFU registration completed by 16 December 2022. Any successful applicants who do not have their equipment purchased and their FFU registered before this date may be ineligible for reimbursement.

PROGRAM DATES

Table 1: 2022-23 (round one) program dates

Activity	Anticipated date
Applications for Round One 2022-23 open	25 July 2022
Applications for Round One close	21 August 2022
Assessments reviewed	By 9 September 2022
Applicants informed of outcomes	By 14 September 2022
Period of equipment purchases and CFS FFU registration	15 September – 15 December 2022
Deadline for equipment purchase and CFS FFU registration	16 December 2022
Last date for 2022-23 grant payments	30 December 2022

HOW TO APPLY

Applications including relevant supporting documentation (equipment quotes, SA Government new vendor creation form) must be submitted prior to the 2022-23 (round one) advertised application close date (as advised in Table 1).

Application preparation

Applications are to be made in the online grant application portal which can be accessed here. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the instructions provided in the portal and be received by SAFECOM by the advertised application closing date. All applications will be registered and acknowledged by email.

If you experience any difficulties in accessing or using the online portal, you can email rccf@safecom.sa.gov.au prior to the application close date to request assistance.

Attachments to the application

The following documents must be included with your application. They can be uploaded as attachments through the application portal.

- a. Evidence of the quote/s received from the supplier for the proposed equipment purchases.
- b. Shared Services SA Vendor Creation Amendment Form (available in the application portal).

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Late applications

Applications that are not received by the published close date will not be accepted. Requests for an extension of time to lodge an application must be made in writing to SAFECOM ahead of the advertised close date via rccf@safecom.sa.gov.au.

Any decision by the Assessment Panel to accept or not accept a late application will be final.

GRANT APPROVAL AND PAYMENT

Once the Assessment Panel has recommended grant applications for approval, the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services will make the final decision and sign and send correspondence to all applicants.

Successful applicants will then be required to purchase and provide proof of their approved equipment and CFS FFU registration prior to grant reimbursement being made. This evidence must be sent to SAFECOM via email at rccf@safecom.sa.gov.au. Grant funding can only be used to reimburse successful applicants for items purchased as agreed through the grant approval process.

Proof of purchase and CFS FFU registration must be received by SAFECOM prior to close of business 16 December 2022.

CONTACT

SAFECOM

Telephone: (08) 8115 3926 Email: rccf@safecom.sa.gov.au

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