

+ Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme - Stage 2

Former Skipper & Crew Member Guidelines

1. Purpose of Assistance

- 1.1. The purpose of this assistance under the Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme (FSAS) – Stage 2 is to provide a payment to former skippers and crew members whose income has been or will be affected by changes to fisheries in the Great Barrier Reef, Great Sandy or Gulf of Carpentaria regions.

2. Amount of Assistance

- 2.1. The amount of assistance that may be given to a *former skipper* is \$10,000.
- 2.2. The amount of assistance that may be given to a *former crew member* is \$8,000.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Gulf of Carpentaria

Note: The applicant must be able to demonstrate employment for 20 days, however, these days do not need to be consecutive.

3.1. To be eligible for assistance as a **former skipper**:

- (a) the *applicant* must have on the same 20 days between 1 February 2024 and 17 May 2024 (both days inclusive):
- i. been employed to fish at sea on an *authorised boat* for a *primary commercial fishing licence* (PCFL) that had the *fishery symbol* 'N3' written on it; and
 - ii. held a *commercial fishing licence* (CFL).
- (b) the holder of the PCFL on which the authorised boat is identified, must have surrendered under 'Surrender of PCFL and N3 fishery symbol – Gulf Region' of the *Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme – Stage 2*:
- i. the fishery symbol 'N3' that was written on the PCFL; or
 - ii. the PCFL.
- (c) the applicant must have been unemployed for at least 1 day after 17 May 2024; and
- i. provide evidence, such as a termination letter or receipt of government financial assistance for unemployment.
- (d) the applicant must provide evidence of 3.1(a), such as a logbook with the applicants CFL number.

3.2. To be eligible for assistance as a **former crew member**:

- (a) the *applicant* must have on the same 20 days between 1 February 2024 and 17 May 2024 (both days inclusive):
- i. been employed to *fish* at sea on an *authorised boat* for a PCFL that had the *fishery symbol* 'N3' written on it; and
 - ii. provide evidence, such as an employment contract.

- (b) the holder of the *PCFL* must have surrendered under ‘Surrender of *PCFL* and N3 fishery symbol – Gulf Region’ of the *Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme – Stage 2*:
 - i. the *fishery symbol* ‘N3’ that was written on the *PCFL*; or
 - ii. the *PCFL*.
 - (c) the *applicant* must have been unemployed for at least 1 day after 17 May 2024; and
 - i. provide evidence, such as a termination letter from the employer or receipt of government financial assistance for unemployment.
- 3.3. An applicant is not eligible for assistance under 3.2 if applicant is eligible for assistance under 3.1. Also, an applicant is not eligible for assistance under 3.1 and 3.2 if the applicant:
- (a) is the holder of a *PCFL* and is eligible for assistance under another part of this *Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme - Stage 2* or *Stage 1*; or
 - (b) has already received payment for assistance under this part of the Scheme.

Great Barrier Reef and Great Sandy regions

Note: The applicant must be able to demonstrate employment for 20 days, however, these days do not need to be consecutive.

- 3.4. To be eligible for assistance as a **former skipper**:
- (a) the *applicant* must have on the same 20 days between 5 June 2023 to 31 December 2023 (both days inclusive):
 - i. been employed to fish at sea on an *authorised boat* for a *PCFL*; and
 - ii. held a *commercial fishing licence (CFL)*; and
 - (b) the holder of the *PCFL* on which the *authorised boat* is identified, is eligible to receive any of the following assistance under:
 - i. ‘D – Payments for Loss of Income’ in the Great Barrier Reef or Great Sandy region under the *Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme – Stage 1*; or
 - ii. ‘C -- A1 and A2 Licences – Great Sandy region’ or ‘D -- Hammerhead sharks – east coast fisheries’ under this Stage 2 of the Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme; and
 - (c) the *applicant* must have been unemployed at least 1 day after 31 December 2023; and
 - i. provide evidence, such as a termination letter or receipt of government financial assistance for unemployment. .
 - (d) the applicant must provide evidence of 3.4(a), such as a logbook with the applicants *CFL* number.
- 3.5. To be eligible for assistance as a **former crew member**:
- (a) the *applicant* must have on the same 20 days between 5 June 2023 to 31 December 2023 (both days inclusive):
 - i. been employed to fish at sea on an *authorised boat* for a *PCFL*; and
 - ii. provide evidence, such as an employment contract.
 - (b) the holder of the *PCFL* on which the *authorised boat* is identified, is eligible to receive any of the follow assistance under:
 - i. ‘D – Payments for Loss of Income’ in the Great Barrier Reef or Great Sandy region under the *Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme – Stage 1*; or
 - ii. ‘C -- A1 and A2 Licences – Great Sandy region’ or ‘D -- Hammerhead sharks – east coast fisheries’ under this Stage 2 of the Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme; and

- (c) the applicant must have been unemployed for at least 1 day after 31 December 2023; and
 - i. provide evidence, such as a termination letter from the employer in 3.5(a) or receipt of government financial assistance for unemployment.
- 3.6. An applicant is not eligible for assistance under 3.5 if applicant is eligible for assistance under 3.4. Also, an applicant is not eligible for assistance under 3.4 and 3.5 if the applicant:
- (a) is the holder of a PCFL and is eligible for assistance under another part of this *Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme - Stage 2 or Stage 1*; or
 - (b) has already received payment for assistance under this part of the Scheme.

4. Conditions of Assistance

- 4.1. Assistance is limited to one per applicant.
- 4.2. The applicant must, before receiving assistance, give to QRIDA, the boat mark of the *authorised boat* on which the applicant was employed to fish.
- 4.3. If the applicant is a *former skipper*, the applicant must give consent for the chief executive of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to give QRIDA a copy of part of the authorities register to the extent it is relevant to the application.
- 4.4. An application for assistance under the Scheme must be given to the authority before 31 July 2024.
- 4.5. QRIDA may request further information to determine an application.
- 4.6. Penalties apply for providing false and misleading information in accordance with the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

5. How to Apply

- 5.1. To be considered for assistance under the Scheme, please submit a completed application form or submit an application through the QRIDA portal at <https://applyonline.qrida.qld.gov.au/>, accompanied by the relevant documentation stated on the application form.
- 5.2. Application forms and related information can be accessed at www.qrida.qld.gov.au.
- 5.3. Complete applications are assessed in order of receipt, and QRIDA may request further information to help assess an application.

6. How applications will be assessed and decided

- 6.1. Upon receiving applications, QRIDA will acknowledge receipt by email and advise if any further information is required to commence assessment of the application.
- 6.2. QRIDA will assess applications in order of receipt. Incomplete applications will not be assessed until all required information is received.
- 6.3. QRIDA must refuse an application if the funds for the assistance are not sufficient to pay the application.
- 6.4. Approved assistance will be deposited to your nominated bank account.

7. Conflict of Interest

- 7.1. A conflict of interest may arise due to a business dealing with QRIDA, if your private interests conflict with your obligations under the Scheme. Conflicts of interest could affect your eligibility for conditional approval. A conflict of interest can be;
 - real (or actual);
 - apparent (or perceived); or
 - potential.

- 7.2. We will ask you to declare, as part of your application, any business dealings that may be considered an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest. If you later identify that there is an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest or that one might arise in relation to your application, you must inform us in writing immediately.

8. Fraudulent Applications

- 8.1. QRIDA takes fraud and corruption seriously. Suspected fraud will be referred to Queensland Police Services (QPS) and/or the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC).
- 8.2. Fraud and corruption is a criminal offence under Sections 408C, 408D and 87 of the *Criminal Code 1899 (Qld)*. For corporations, directors and company officials, Section 596 and 184 of the *Australian Corporations Act 2001 (Clth)* will also apply.
- 8.3. Providing false or misleading information or documents in the QRIDA application process is an offence. Penalties may apply under Section 41 and 42 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.
- 8.4. By signing the application form, you acknowledge that the information you provide is true and accurate, and agree to be bound by the Scheme's guidelines and provisions.
- 8.5. QRIDA reserves the right to pursue and recover funding provided under fraudulent and dishonest circumstances.

9. Your privacy

- 9.1. QRIDA's Privacy Policy, available at www.qrida.qld.gov.au/privacy, sets out general information on how QRIDA collects, uses and discloses individuals' personal information
- 9.2. The application portal for this Scheme contains specific information on how personal information will be collected, used, and disclosed.

10. More information

For more information on the Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme, contact QRIDA on **Freecall 1800 623 946** or email contact_us@qrida.qld.gov.au

11. Definitions

Applicant means an entity applying for assistance under the Scheme.

Authorised boat, for primary commercial fishing licence, see the *Fisheries (Commercial Fisheries) Regulation 2019*, Schedule 11.

Commercial fishing licence (CFL) means the *commercial fishing licence* issued under the *Fisheries Act 1994*.

Former crew member means an applicant who is eligible for assistance under section 3.2 or 3.5.

Former skipper means an applicant who is eligible for assistance under section 3.1 or 3.4.

Great Barrier Reef region means the east coast inshore management regions 1 to 4 under the *Fisheries (Commercial Fisheries) Regulation 2019*.

Hold, in relation to a *primary commercial fishing licence*, includes holding a suspended *primary commercial fishing licence*.

Holder, of a *primary commercial fishing licence*, means the person to whom the licence is issued or transferred, other than temporarily transferred, under the *Fisheries Act 1994*.

Primary commercial fishing licence means a primary commercial fishing licence issued under the *Fisheries Act 1994*.

Surrender, for a fishery symbol written on a PCFL means request the Chief Executive to amend the licence to remove the fishery symbol, or for a PCFL, means surrender under the *Fisheries Act 1994*.