

Advancing Organic Agribusiness Grants Program

Small Grants Guidelines

September 2020

The Program

The TFGA has been designated as the administrative body for this support package and will report directly to AgriGrowth Tasmania who has oversight of this project.

Duration

Applications Open from Wednesday 2nd September through to close of business Wednesday 30th September 2020

Funding Available

The first round of the Organics Small Grants will allocate up to \$65,550 in funding based on applications received in 2020.

Minimum Grant Amount is \$1000

Maximum Grant Amount is \$15,000 (*consideration will be given to larger projects of a collaborative nature*)

Eligible Applicants

Applicants must be

- a) an Organic Primary Producer or Primary Producer moving into Organics; OR
- b) applicant must be able to demonstrate partnership with Organic Primary Producer

Applicants will be required to produce evidence of eligibility with either

- a) certification
- b) application and statutory declaration from an approved certification body
<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/contact/phone/approved-certifying-organisations;>

Or

- c) written assurance from partnered certified producer.

Eligible Activities

Applicants are free to apply for funding for any activity that enhances the Tasmanian Organic Production Industry.

Activities will be required to be completed within 12 months from funding agreement.

Ineligible Activities

- Applicants own labour costs and day to day running costs
- Costs incurred to develop application
- Retrospective Costs for previous activities
- Renewal certification costs
- Fundraising activities

Applications

Applications for funding through the Organics program must be submitted using the designated application form available at <https://tfga.com.au/projects>

The Organics Small Grants are a competitive grant program and applications will be assessed and prioritised as such.

Advancing Organic Agribusiness Grants Program



Applications can be submitted by email or post as follows:

Contact: Nikki Abel
Email: organics@tfga.com.au
By Post: TFGA
Advancing Organic
Agribusiness Small Grants
PO Box 193
Launceston, Tasmania 7250

Enquiries

Please direct enquiries concerning the Advancing Organic Agribusiness Small Grants to:

Advancing Organic Agribusiness Small Grants
Phone: 03 6332 1800
Email: organics@tfga.com.au

Assessment Criteria

The Organics Small Grants are an open competitive grant system.

Preference will be given to

- applications which clearly demonstrate a direct enhancement of the Tasmanian Organic Industry
- are supported with other partnering individuals or organisations

Assessment

Assessment of applications will be completed by an assessment panel consisting of representatives from TFGA, AgriGrowth Tasmania and independent individuals with expertise in organic procedures, business management and governance.

The Assessment panel may request further information from an applicant or associated partner of applicant, to assist in assessing the application and/or to verify information provided in the application. Failure to provide such information may result in the application being rejected. The assessment panel may also approve a project in part and/or recommend changes to the project.

If an applicant is successful, an official agreement will be entered into with Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association and the funds will be paid into the applicants nominated bank account. The grant agreement will state the full amount of funding being provided. Additional funds will not be provided under any circumstances. If additional costs are incurred these must be met by the applicant. Successful applicants may be subject to audit by TFGA in order to verify compliance with the grant agreement. This may also include inspection of project sites. Successful applicants are required to advise the TFGA of any changes which may affect the completion of the agreed activities.

Unsuccessful applicants will be advised in writing.

Other Important Information

TFGA reserve the right to revise these guidelines at any time. Revised guidelines will be clearly marked and published online on the same web page as the guidelines that they replace.

The decision of the assessment panel is final, and no deliberation will be entered into.

If there are unforeseen circumstances that arise prohibiting a project from being completed in the twelve-month time frame it is the responsibility of the applicant to contact TFGA to discuss arrangements around project extensions.

The relevant parties, including the TFGA, AgriGrowth Tasmania and individual(s) on the Grants Assessment Panel, will use and disclose the information provided by applicants for the purposes of discharging their respective functions under the Program Guidelines. Information received in applications and during the performance of the program may be used for reporting and evaluation purposes.

Any information supplied by an applicant that may be considered commercially confidential will be treated as such and will not be disclosed or used for any purpose other than the assessment of the application.

As the funding provider, the Tasmanian Government is accountable for the distribution of those funds. As

Advancing Organic Agribusiness Grants Program



part of the accountability process, the Government or TFGA may publicise the level of financial assistance, the identity of the recipient (with permission), and the purpose of the financial assistance.

The receipt of funding from this program may be treated as income by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

It is recommended that applicants consider seeking independent advice about the possible tax implications for receiving a grant under the Program from a tax advisor, financial advisor and/or the ATO, prior to submitting an application.

Advancing Organic Agribusiness Grants Program

