**Farm Household Allowance video transcripts**

What is Farm Household Allowance?

Farm Household Allowance is a payment for farmers and the partners of farmers who are in financial hardship. It's the same as the maximum rate of JobSeeker Payment or Youth Allowance, depending on your age. It can be paid for up to a maximum 4 years in a 10-year period.

When you get Farm Household Allowance, you'll work with a Farm Household Case Officer. They'll guide and support you while you're on the payment. They'll work with you on your Financial Improvement Agreement.

There's also $10,000 which you can use to pay for activities in your agreement. It can be used for professional advice, training or upskilling to increase your income. This can be about improving your farm operation, diversifying, developing off-farm skills or moving out of farming if you decide that's a better option.

For more information, call the farmer assistance hotline on 132 316 or visit our website.

How to claim

The quickest and easiest way to apply for Farm Household Allowance is online. If you've claimed it before, your previous information will pre-populate when claiming online. You just need to verify the information we already have and update what needs to change.

If you and your partner both want to claim FHA, you may be able to submit a combined claim online. This saves you time as you won't have to make separate claims.

To claim, you'll need a Centrelink online account linked to myGov. If you don't have an online account yet, you can create one by going to my.gov.au

As you progress through the claim, there'll be information to help you understand what to do. If you can't claim online, you can print and complete our claim form from our website. But claiming online is easier for us to process which means you get the outcome sooner.

Roseanne’s story

NARRATOR: For many Australian farmers, working the land can be a long and lonely road.

ROSEANNE: Certainly we were facing bankruptcy several times, and we just kept on ploughing on.

NARRATOR: As do most farmers. But then Roseanne came across an Australian Government program called Farm Household Allowance—and it changed their lives.

ROSEANNE: It provided financial support, which was great. But it also provided a caseworker and a training element, educational element.

NARRATOR: Roseanne says life on the farm is particularly hard on the women. And that’s where being able to talk with the caseworker was vital for her.

ROSEANNE: You can’t see anything happening, you can’t see the weather breaking, you can’t see the financial side of things improving. Stresses and strains increase—there’s a point where you just close up.

NARRATOR: But that changed over time after being able to talk things through, usually over the phone, with the caseworker.

ROSEANNE: Who was professional, who was confidential, and knowledgeable, and was willing to listen. And just to be able to say, ‘look, I feel awful, I feel this or that, or we’re facing bankruptcy, what are we going to do. I’ve no idea. What other options have we got?’

NARRATOR: The Farm Household Allowance provides fortnightly financial support. But just as important is the advice, guidance and opportunities for training to help farmers decide what they can do next.

NARRATOR: They may decide to work off farm, diversify, or change the way they farm.

ROSEANNE: We’re actually in a better position now. We can not only see a future in farming, the way we’re doing it, but it is a joyful thing for the people involved.