

FACT SHEET 5 – WINDOW PROTECTION UPGRADES

CYCLONE SEROJA RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE GRANTS PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR INSURED PROPERTY OWNERS

The Resilience Grant, of up to \$20,000, helps residents impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja to improve the resilience of their insured residential property for future cyclonic events.

This fact sheet provides information to help you understand the benefits of installing cyclone rated window screens or shutters. Installing permanent window protections is an eligible reimbursement activity through the Resilience Grant.

What is the Resilience Grant?

The Resilience Grant reimburses eligible homeowners for specific building works that improve the resilience of their residential property against future cyclones. These works include the installation of cyclone rated debris screens and cyclone rated roller shutters undertaken by a registered business.

Why is it a good idea to upgrade my windows?

Building investigations following cyclonic events have shown that broken windows can result in further damage to the building. In part due to rain and wind entering the house, but also due to increased wind pressure on the roof, which can result in roof failure.

Resisting the wind pressure requires strong connections in the roof and walls and stronger doors and windows. Installing cyclone rated screens or shutters is one activity you can undertake to help resist these pressures and increase the resilience to your property against future cyclones.

How do I upgrade my window protections?

To make your windows stronger you can install two types of window protections that are eligible for reimbursement through the Resilience Grant.

Cyclone rated debris screens

Permanently mounted external screens that are rated to protect windows from debris loading as defined for wind region C in AS/NZS 1170.2:2011 or AS/NZS 1170.2:2021.

Cyclone rated roller shutters

Non-porous shutters that are tested to resist cyclone wind pressures to AS4040.3.

Who can organise the work?

Works can be undertaken by your insurer, or you can arrange them yourself.

Works through insurers

Insurers are aware of the Resilience Grant and can arrange the works using their contractors. The property owner must discuss this with their insurer. Insurers will need to provide a breakdown of the additional cost involved and evidence of the work.



Works arranged by the owner

Property owners can organise the works through a registered business. Property owners will need to request the following documents from the business:

- itemised quote for the roof works stating the labour and material cost breakdown; and
- structural drawings with reference to the wind classification and required tie-downs.

The business will need to read the relevant *Technical Specifications* prior to quoting the works.

How do I apply?

- Go to dfes.wa.gov.au/recoveryandresiliencegrants and click on apply now.
- Start your application which requires information about you and your damaged property.
- Submit your application and receive a confirmation email it has been received.
- A grants officer will contact you to discuss your application and confirm your eligibility.
- A grants officer will liaise with you while your works are under way and the required evidence is collected.

If you need help submitting your application or are unable to complete it online, please contact the Recovery and Resilience Grants Team on 1800 490 678 or visit your Community Recovery Hub.

What evidence is required to apply for the grant?

As your application progresses, you will be asked to provide evidence of the window protection upgrade. This includes:

- Receipt, label or Tech Data Sheet detailing the window protection meets the relevant standards.
- Quote from a registered business outlining the works to be undertaken.
- Completed *Resilience Works Completion Form* signed by the installer.
- Photos of the installed window protection screens or shutters.
- Evidence of payment, tax invoice and receipt.

A member of the Recovery and Resilience Grants Team may also inspect the work.

Grants Closing Date

The Recovery and Resilience Grants Program closes on 31 March 2023.

Further information

Read about the Recovery and Resilience Grants Program at dfes.wa.gov.au/recoveryandresiliencegrants

Contact

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The Recovery and Resilience Grants Program is being administered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and is jointly funded through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.