

FACT SHEET 8 – RECOVERY GRANT

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

The Recovery and Resilience Grants Program offers two types of grants, up to a total of \$20,000, to help insured homeowners impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja.

This fact sheet provides information about the Recovery Grant to help you understand what clean-up and repair works can be undertaken and what costs are eligible for reimbursement.

What is the Recovery Grant?

The Recovery Grant reimburses homeowners who incurred costs because their insurance policy did not cover the total cost of clean-up or repair works. Costs are reimbursed up to a maximum of \$20,000.

What does the grant reimburse?

The following works can be undertaken and are eligible for reimbursement:

- Building repair works to the residence.
- Clean-up and restoration works including to sheds, patios and carports if they are covered in the insurance policy.

Who is eligible for this grant?

Grant applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Property must be located within one of these Local Government Areas: Carnamah, Carnarvon, Chapman Valley, Coorow, Dandaragan, Dalwallinu, Greater Geraldton, Irwin, Koorda, Mingenew, Morawa, Mount Marshall, Northampton, Perenjori, Shark Bay, Three Springs.
- Property has been damaged or destroyed by Cyclone Seroja.
- The property had building insurance at the time of impact by Cyclone Seroja.
- Property must be a place of residence or associated with a place of residence:
- The residence was a free-standing or attached (side by side) building (Class 1A) or a small boarding house or guest house operated by someone whose place of residence is the building (Class 1B).
- Grant applicant must own or be the mortgagor of the property.
- Grant applicant has made an insurance claim or is in the process of making an insurance claim.

Who can do the work?

Works can be undertaken by your insurer, or you can arrange them yourself. All works must be undertaken by a registered business with some works requiring a registered builder – see <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/publications/helpful-checks-when-choosing-building-service-provider>.

What costs are eligible?

- The engagement of contractors, builders, or service operators to undertake clean-up and/or restoration activities.
- Hiring or leasing of equipment or materials essential to clean the property.
- Removal and disposal of debris, including damaged goods and household materials.
- Tradespeople to conduct safety inspections.
- Payment to insurance companies undertaking the clean-up and restoration activities where insurance is insufficient to cover the full cost.
- Other costs, for example some inspections, may be considered. Please consult with DFES.

What is not eligible for reimbursement?

- In-kind costs or own labour costs.
- Costs covered by your insurer and the payment of insurance excess.
- Replacement of household items such as televisions, computers, kitchen appliances.
- Costs that are disproportionate or unreasonable upon review by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services Recovery and Resilience Grants Team.
- Clean-up and restoration of fencing, cyclone damaged vehicles, swimming pools, sea containers, driveways, sheds/garages/carports (unless associated with a place of residence), stables, mobile homes/caravans (unless considered a residence or dwelling).
- Repair works that increase the overall size and number of rooms of the home.
- Works on commercial buildings, operated as a business and which are not a person's principal place of residence.

What evidence is required?

The following evidence may be requested to support your application for a Recovery Grant. Other evidence will also be required including evidence of completed works.

- Documentation from your insurer indicating the financial gap between the costs covered by insurance and the costs incurred by the property owner to clean up or repair.
- Documentation stating building works have been or will be undertaken by a registered builder or registered business.
- Evidence showing sheds, patios and carports are covered in the insurance policy if clean-up or repair works have been or will be undertaken on these structures.

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.