



Australian Government

**Community
Grants Hub**
Improving your grant experience



Fishing Business Assistance Grant Opportunity

Questions and Answers

1. What is the closing time and date for accepting the letter of grant offer?

The acceptance form must be submitted by **11.00pm AEST on Tuesday, 7 May 2019**. It is recommended that you submit your acceptance form **well before the closing time and date**.

2. If I am not able to submit my acceptance by the due time and date, can I be granted an extension?

Appendix E of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines stipulates the exceptional circumstances where late acceptances may be submitted. A delegate in the agency will determine whether a late acceptance will be considered and accepted. The decision of the delegate will be final and not be subject to a review or appeals process.

3. Why am I being offered a Fishing Business Assistance Grant?

Catch records held by fisheries management agencies indicate you previously fished in parts of Australian Marine Parks using fishing gear that is no longer allowed. The Australian Government is providing financial assistance, based on your catch history, to help your business to adjust to the new management arrangements.

4. When will my payment be made?

You should receive payment within six weeks of lodging your online acceptance. If the payment does not arrive in this timeframe please contact the Grants Hub at support@communitygrants.gov.au or 1800 020 283.

5. How can I submit the acceptance form to accept the letter of offer?

The form is an online acceptance that must be submitted electronically as per the instructions in your letter of offer. The Community Grants Hub is not able to accept acceptance forms by fax, email or through Australia Post. To submit the online acceptance form that accepts your letter of offer you will need the first page of your letter of offer (with the Unique ID), your ABN and your bank account details.

6. How do I know that my acceptance has been received?

You will receive an automated notification acknowledging the receipt of your acceptance via your nominated email contact address.



7. How was my grant amount calculated?

Your grant amount was calculated by a formula using the catch information you've previously provided to your fisheries management agency. Section 2 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines explains the formula used for grant calculations, and the attachment to your letter of offer applies this formula based on your particular fishing authorisation.

8. What attachments do I need to include in my acceptance?

You must include a copy of the front page of your letter of offer with your acceptance form. You can scan it or take a photo of it. There is a 4MB limit for each attachment.

9. Why have I received more than one letter of offer?

State/Northern Territory Fisheries

You will receive a separate letter of offer for each relevant commercial fishing authorisation that you hold. You must complete and submit a separate online acceptance using the Unique ID reference provided in each letter you receive.

Commonwealth Fisheries

You will receive a separate letter of offer if you also have eligible state or territory commercial fishing authorisations. You must complete and submit a separate online acceptance using the Unique ID reference provided in each letter you receive.

10. What are the tax implications of receiving a grant?

We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the [Australian Taxation Office](#). We do not provide advice on your particular taxation circumstances.

11. What if I lose my letter of offer?

State/Northern Territory Fisheries

If you lose your letter you will need to contact your fisheries management agency by 30 April 2019.

Commonwealth Fisheries

If you lose your letter you will need to contact Parks Australia at AMPfisheriesassistance@environment.gov.au by 30 April 2019.



12. How was my fishing data accessed?

Because your fishing data is confidential, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) has calculated your grant offer using de-identified data provided by you to your fisheries management agency. When you accept your grant you will need to agree to the release of your details. This will allow us to progress your payment.

13. How did the Australian Government come up with the approach to the Fishing Business Assistance Program?

Parks Australia consulted closely with key commercial fishing representatives to design this grants program, including through a position paper released on our website in August 2018. Industry feedback led to changes that have increased the payment amount for each grant. Further details about these changes are available in the consultation report, which is available on the [Parks Australia website](#).

14. What if I don't agree with the grant amount?

Parks Australia worked closely with the fishing industry to design a grant program that delivers assistance to the fishers most affected by the Australian Government's new Australian Marine Park management arrangements. Grant amounts were calculated using catch information supplied by you to your fisheries management agency, entered into a formula applied consistently across all affected fisheries. This formula is set out in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

15. What if I don't accept by the closing date of 11.00pm AEST 7 May 2019?

This grant offer is valid until 11.00pm AEST on 7 May 2019. If you miss the deadline you might miss out! Late acceptances will be made only in exceptional circumstances. Section 5.2 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines provides more information.

16. What if I have questions about the acceptance process?

You can contact the Community Grants Hub on 1800 020 283 or support@communitygrants.gov.au with any questions about the acceptance process. Answers to questions will be posted on GrantConnect and the Community Grants Hub website after five working days. The question period will close on 30 April 2019. After this time only questions relating to using and/or submitting the acceptance form will be answered.

17. If I haven't received a letter of offer, can I still apply?

Section 3.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines describes the eligibility requirements for the Fishing Business Assistance grants.



18. How do I submit complaints?

This is outlined in section 9.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. Complaints about the program must be lodged in writing to the Department of the Environment and Energy via email to AMPFisheriesAssistance@environment.gov.au.

Complaints about the grants administration process should be made through the Community Grants Hub's website or on 1800 634 035 or in writing to Complaints, GPO Box 9820, Canberra ACT 2601.

If you do not agree with the way the Department of the Environment and Energy or the Community Grants Hub has handled your complaint, you may complain to the Commonwealth Ombudsman on (toll free) 1300 362 072 or email ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au.

19. What if I need help or have questions?

Parks Australia worked closely with the fishing industry to design a grant program that delivers assistance to the fishers most affected by the Australian Marine Park management arrangements. If you have any questions about the program please contact AMPFisheriesAssistance@environment.gov.au.

Please email your enquiries about completing the acceptance form to support@communitygrants.gov.au or call 1800 020 283.
