

+ Queensland Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Rebate Scheme Guidelines

Queensland Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Rebate Scheme

1. About the Scheme

- 1.1. Mandatory individual electronic identification (eID) for sheep and goats is being introduced nationally to strengthen livestock traceability. Sheep and goat eID improves biosecurity and traceability, including accurate and timely tracing to help reduce the duration and industry impact of an emergency animal disease outbreak or residue incident.
- 1.2. The purpose of the Queensland Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Rebate Scheme (the Scheme) is to encourage uptake and compliance with the introduction of mandatory eID of sheep and goats in Queensland by giving *primary producers* and *livestock agents* a rebate to offset up to half the cost of purchasing eligible hardware.

2. Amount of Assistance

- 2.1. The maximum amount of assistance available to *primary producers* is \$1,600 for each *property identification code (PIC)* allocated to a *designated place* at which the *primary producer* keeps sheep or goats.
- 2.2. The maximum amount of assistance available to a *livestock agent* is \$1,600.
- 2.3. The amount of assistance cannot be greater than up to half the cost of the *eligible hardware*.

3. Eligibility Criteria

- 3.1. To be eligible for assistance, the *applicant* must:
 - (a) be a *primary producer* or a *livestock agent*; and
 - (b) have purchased *eligible hardware* on or after 1 January 2023.

4. Meaning of Primary Producer and Livestock Agent

- 4.1. A *primary producer* means a *registered biosecurity entity* who, immediately before making an application under the Scheme:
 - (a) keeps at least 30 sheep or goats (consisting of either sheep, goats, or a combination of both); and
 - (b) keeps the sheep or goats at 1 or more *designated places* for which a *PIC* has been allocated.

4.2. A *livestock agent* means an entity who holds:

- (a) an Australian Business Number (ABN); and
- (b) an *NLIS account* as an agent that, within the 12 months immediately before making an application under the Scheme, recorded the movement of sheep or goats off a *designated place* for which a *PIC* has been allocated.; and
- (c) who carries on a business as a livestock agent in Queensland; and
- (d) whose principal place of business is located in Queensland.

5. Eligible hardware

5.1. For *applicants* who are *primary producers*, *eligible hardware* means:

- (a) an *approved device* for use on a sheep or a goat; or
- (b) an *electronic reader*; or
- (c) a combination of the devices in 5.1 (a) and (b).

5.2. For *applicants* who are *livestock agents*, *eligible hardware* means an *electronic reader*.

6. How to Apply

6.1. To apply for a rebate under the Scheme, complete and submit your application and supporting information via the QRIDA online portal before the Schemes' *closing date*.

6.2. Rebate applications must be submitted to QRIDA accompanied by;

- (a) the *PIC* allocated to the *designated place* where the sheep and/or goats are kept;
- (b) details of the *registered biosecurity entity (RBE)* and if the applicant is a *livestock agent* their *NLIS Account*;
- (c) copies of tax invoice(s), *official receipt(s)* or bank statements of *eligible hardware* that show:
 - i. the date of purchase(s);
 - ii. the name, address and ABN (if applicable) of the entity issuing the receipt;
 - iii. description of each item of *eligible hardware* (e.g. tag name and manufacturer); and
 - iv. evidence of payment for the *eligible hardware*.
- (d) any additional documents stated in the application form.

7. Conditions of Assistance

7.1. Applications for assistance are limited –

- (a) for *livestock agents*, to one application per business address in Queensland.
- (b) for *primary producers*, to one application per *PIC*.

7.2. Rebates will be available until the Scheme's *closing day* on **30 June 2025**, unless Scheme funding is exhausted prior. The Scheme closing day may be extended to a date given by the Minister (the *extension notice*).

7.3. Payment of assistance under the Scheme is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the *applicant* must keep the originals of the documents mentioned in 6.2 (c) for 1 year after the closing day of the Scheme; and

- (b) the *applicant* must enable QRIDA to conduct an audit of the documents mentioned in paragraph 6.2(c) to verify amounts given to the *applicant* under the Scheme are used in accordance with the application for assistance.

- 7.4. In submitting an application to QRIDA, the applicant gives the Chief Executive of the Department of Primary Industries permission to share the applicant's National Livestock Identification System and/or registered biosecurity entity data relevant to the application with QRIDA.
- 7.5. QRIDA may request further information to determine an application.
- 7.6. Upon receiving applications, QRIDA will acknowledge receipt by email and advise if any further information is required to commence assessment of the application.
- 7.7. Incomplete applications will not be assessed until all required information is received.
- 7.8. QRIDA must refuse an application if the funds for the assistance are not sufficient to pay the application.
- 7.9. Approved assistance will be deposited to the applicant's nominated bank account.

8. Conflict of Interest

- 8.1. A conflict of interest may arise due to a business dealing with QRIDA, if your private interests conflict with your obligations under the Scheme. Conflicts of interest could affect your eligibility for conditional approval. A conflict of interest can be:
- real (or actual);
 - apparent (or perceived); or
 - potential.
- 8.2. We will ask you to declare, as part of your application, any business dealings that may be considered an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest. If you later identify that there is an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest or that one might arise in relation to your application, you must inform us in writing immediately.

9. Fraudulent Applications

- 9.1. QRIDA takes fraud and corruption seriously. Suspected fraud will be referred to Queensland Police Services (QPS) and/or the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC).
- 9.2. Fraud and corruption is a criminal offence under Sections 408C, 408D and 87 of the *Criminal Code 1899 (Qld)*. For corporations, directors and company officials, Section 596 and 184 of the *Australian Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)* will also apply.
- 9.3. Providing false or misleading information or documents in the QRIDA application process is an offence. Penalties may apply under Section 41 and 42 of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.
- 9.4. By signing the application form, you acknowledge that the information you provide is true and accurate, and agree to be bound by the Scheme's guidelines and provisions.
- 9.5. QRIDA reserves the right to pursue and recover funding provided under fraudulent and dishonest circumstances.

10. Your privacy

- 10.1. QRIDA's Privacy Policy, available at www.qrida.qld.gov.au/privacy, sets out general information on how QRIDA collects, uses and discloses individuals' personal information

10.2. The application portal for this Scheme contains specific information on how personal information will be collected, used, and disclosed.

11. More information

For more information about the Scheme, contact QRIDA on **Freecall 1800 623 946** or email contact_us@qrda.qld.gov.au

12. Definitions

Applicant means the entity applying for assistance under the Scheme.

Approved device means as per the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, section 174, a tag or other identifying device or mark that –

- i. may be fitted to a special designated animal for use in distinguishing the special designated animal from all other animals; and
- ii. complies with the technical requirements decided by the chief executive as applying to tags or other identifying devices or marks to be fitted to special designated animals.

Closing day means the day stated on QRIDA's website.

Designated place see the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, schedule 4.

Electronic reader means a device that can be used to scan an *approved device* but does not include any software or other equipment or infrastructure used to install or operate the *approved device* (e.g. batteries, cables or stands on which the device may be mounted).

Livestock agent see 4.2.

National Livestock Identification System means the *NLIS* within the meaning of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, Schedule 4.

NLIS account means an account registered under the national livestock identification system.

Official receipt means a receipt that includes –

- i. the name and address of the entity that issued the receipt; and
- ii. if the issuing entity has an Australian Business Number – the Australian Business Number; and
- iii. a description of each item to which the receipt relates.

Primary producer see 4.1.

Property Identification Code (PIC) see the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, section 151(2).

Registered biosecurity entity see the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, Schedule 4.

Scheme means the Scheme set out in Schedule X of the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 2011*.