



Rural Financial Counselling Service Program in Western Australia

This fact sheet provides background information on the Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) Program in Western Australia (WA) for organisations interested in submitting an application for the 2021 to 2024 grant round on the Community Grants Hub.

About the RFCS Program

The RFCS Program is an Australian Government initiative that provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship.

The RFCS Program has been in operation since 1986. The vision for the 2021 to 2024 RFCS Program is to improve financial wellbeing and resilience at the farm level to build a more sustainable and profitable primary production sector.

WA RFCS Program region

There are 12 predefined RFCS regions across Australia. WA has one RFCS region. A detailed map of the WA RFCS region and associated Local Government Areas can be found [here](#).

Farm businesses in WA

The number of farm businesses and land area in WA is displayed in the table below.

Region	Kilometres of land area	Number of farm businesses*
WA	2,526,951 km ²	12,351

*Businesses with an annual turnover of more than \$50,000. Source: ABS 8165.0 (2019) and ABS.STAT (Dataset: Regional Statistics by LGA 2019, 2011-2019).

The main types of primary production businesses in WA are:

- grain-sheep or grain-beef cattle farming (3,205 businesses)
- other grain growing (1,734 businesses)
- beef cattle farming (1,300 businesses)
- sheep farming (887 businesses)
- forestry (683 businesses)
- sheep-beef cattle farming (541 businesses)
- vegetable growing (436 businesses)
- fishing (379 businesses)
- grape growing (359 businesses)
- aquaculture (283 businesses).