



*Working in partnership
with researchers and industry*

Key Funding List November 2012

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	2
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry.....	2
Grower Group Alliance.....	5
Grains and Research Development Corporation	6
Lotterywest.....	7
Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA).....	8
Australian Wool Education Trust	8
The Norman Wettenhall Foundation	8
Nuffield Australia	9
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation.....	9
The University of Western Australia.....	10
Woolworths Agricultural Business Scholarship	11

NB: Unless otherwise stated, all listed key funding opportunities are current. However, ensure you check the website for the most up-to-date information concerning each of the opportunities below.



[Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation \(CSIRO\)](#)

[CSIRO Flagship Collaboration Fund Postgraduate Scholarships](#)

The Flagships offer [full](#) and [top-up](#) Flagship Postgraduate Scholarships to high quality students who are enrolled in a PhD at an Australian university, and who will be working on a project which is directly relevant to a Flagship:

- Biosecurity
- Energy Transformed
- Preventative Health
- Food Futures
- Water for a Healthy Country
- Digital Productivity
- Wealth from Oceans
- Climate Adaptation
- Minerals Down Under
- Future Manufacturing
- Sustainable Agriculture

Top-up scholarships are the norm. Valued at \$7, 000 per annum, they are available to PhD students who have gained (or expect to gain) an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) or equivalent scholarship.

In some circumstances full scholarships will be available. These offer a stipend of the equivalent of an APA plus CSIRO's top-up amount of \$7, 000 per annum for three years (total of up to \$26, 000).

Applications for Postgraduate Scholarships beginning in 2013 close 30 November 2012.

[Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry](#)

RURAL AUSTRALIA

[Drought Assistance](#)

The Australian Government is supporting drought affected farmers, rural communities and agriculture-dependent small businesses through income support, interest rate subsidies and free counselling. These measures recognise the impact of severe drought on rural and regional communities, the environment and the broader Australian economy. The types of financial, personal and business assistance measures provided by the Australian Government and other organisations are listed below. Follow the links below for further information on any of the measures below.

[Household Income Support](#)

ECRP is paid at a rate equivalent to the Newstart Allowance and is subject to an assets and income test similar to that for Newstart, with a \$20, 000 off-farm salary and wages exemption. Assets, including the farm, that are essential to the running of the business are not included in the assets



test - see [Income and Asset Test Questions](#). The payments are delivered by Centrelink on behalf of the Australian Government and are taxable.

[Disaster Assistance](#)

The Australian Government Disaster Assist website has been set up to give individuals and families better access to information about recovery assistance following a disaster. This website will have up to date public information messages, relevant free call numbers, information on Australian Government Assistance Packages offered and links to other relevant websites and information. The Australian Government is monitoring disaster-declared areas and working with the state governments to provide assistance to communities affected by floods.

For further information, including current Western Australian disasters, please visit

www.disasterassist.gov.au.

[Carbon Farming Futures Program](#)

The Carbon Farming Futures program is part of the Land Sector Package under the Australian Governments' Clean Energy Future plan. Under Carbon Farming Futures, the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry will administer programs that will fund research, on-farm demonstration, and extension and outreach activities to help farmers and land managers benefit from carbon farming.

[Filling the Research Gap](#)

Filling the Research Gap will invest \$201 million to support research into emerging abatement technologies, strategies and innovative management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector, sequester carbon and enhance sustainable agricultural practices.

This program builds on research undertaken through the Climate Change Research Program, with projects targeting current research gaps around abatement technologies and practices. Research priorities are reducing methane emissions, reducing nitrous oxide emissions, sequestering carbon and improving modelling capability.

Round one applications for the Filling the Research Gap were announced in May 2012. Round two applications are set to open early 2013, however the current research strategy is available to view now; [click here](#).

[Action on the Ground](#)

Action on the Ground is a component of Carbon Farming Futures and will invest up to \$99 million of grant funding in on-farm projects over six years. Action on the Ground is designed to enable on-farm trial and demonstration of practices and abatement technologies to reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and/or increase carbon sequestered in soil.

The Action on the Ground program runs from 2011 to July 2017. Round One has been announced in May 2012. There will be future rounds of funding under the Action on the Ground program. At this time we anticipate that the second funding round of Action on the Ground will commence during the first half of 2013. Further updates will be posted on the website and advertised nationally once the round opens.



[Extension and Outreach](#)

The Extension and Outreach program is a component of Carbon Farming Futures and will invest \$64 million over six years to support coordinated communication activities to provide technical information and support for farmers and other land managers to participate in the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) and benefit from carbon farming.

Extension and outreach activities will motivate landholders to explore opportunities to participate in the CFI carbon offsets market, by providing technical information and support about integrating carbon management into farm planning; new research and farm techniques for the property and farm business; and enhancing productivity and environmental sustainability.

[Transitional Farm Family Payments](#)

The Australian Government has announced the continuation of household support payments under the Transitional Farm Family Payment until 30 June 2014. It has allocated \$22.8 million to the program and applications open on 11 May 2012.

The Transitional Farm Family Payment assists farm families who are experiencing financial difficulty to manage the impacts of climate variability and market fluctuations regardless of location. The payment is available to eligible farmers and provides up to 12 months assistance. It is paid at a fortnightly rate equivalent to the Newstart Allowance.

[The Carbon Farming Initiative \(CFI\)](#)

The Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) is the \$45.6 million Australian Government scheme to help farmers, forest growers and land managers earn income from reducing emissions like nitrous oxide and methane through changes to agricultural and land management practices. Under CFI the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry will administer two programs that will fund research and demonstration of how biochar can be used in Australia to mitigate green house gas emissions, and provide farmers, land managers and their key influencers with credible, clear and consistent information on the CFI.

[Young People in Primary Industries](#)

The website has been developed to enable young people from rural, regional and remote Australia to access information about issues that may affect them. There are also links to relevant funding opportunities.

For further information, please call the Australia's Farming Future hotline on 1800 638 746, email [Youth](#), or visit the [website](#).

NATURAL RESOURCES

[Caring for our Country](#)

Caring for our Country is an ongoing Australian Government initiative that seeks to achieve an environment that is healthier, better protected, well managed, resilient and provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate. It integrates delivery of the Commonwealth's previous natural resource management programs, the Natural Heritage Trust, the National Landcare Program, the Environmental Stewardship Program and the Working on Country Indigenous land and environmental program. In its initial five years, Caring for our Country provides around \$2 billion in funding for natural resource management.



[Community Action Grants](#)

Community Action Grants are a small grants component of the Australian Government's Caring for our Country initiative that aims to help local community groups take action to conserve and protect their natural environment. The grants are targeted towards established local community-based organisations that are successfully delivering projects to support sustainable farming and/or protect and enhance the natural environment.

The 2012-13 Community Action Grants have been announced, for more information on the successful projects [click here](#)

ABARE

[Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry](#)

The Australian Agricultural Industries Young Innovators and Scientists Awards supports young people to pursue their innovative scientific ideas that will develop long term benefits to Australia's rural industries.

There are twelve Award categories open for applications: cotton, dairy, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry, grains, viticulture and oenology, animal welfare, red meat processing, pork, new and emerging rural industries, meat and livestock and horticulture. Young Australians aged between 18 and 35 working or studying in rural industries can apply for grants for up to \$22,000 each. One of the winners will also receive the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Award, gaining an additional \$30,000 to advance their research outcomes and career.

Funding can be used for a research project, an industry visit, and further study into a specific area or attending conferences. Applications for 2013 will open midyear.

[Grower Group Alliance](#)

GGA Fourth Year Honours Scholarship

The Grower Group Alliance (GGA) scholarships are open to students studying agricultural science or related degrees and undertaking an honours project in 2013.

Two scholarships are available to students who wish to undertake their honours project in conjunction with one of the 42 grower groups in the GGA network. Each scholarship is worth \$2000, with \$1000 for the student and \$1000 to cover field research expenses.

The aim of the scholarship is three-fold: to encourage new partnerships between grower groups, students and researchers; develop projects with increased relevance and application to farming systems; and create improved employment opportunities for students.

Applications close 22nd March 2013; however funding is available on an annual basis.



[Grains and Research Development Corporation](#)

[GRDC Investment Plan 2013-2014](#)

The GRDC's Investment Plan 2012-13 (Open and Multi-stage Tenders) is now closed. Results for the tenders listed in the Plan will be available in December 2012.

It should be noted that there may be additional Open and Multi-stage Tenders advertised throughout the year. The GRDC advises that research partners check the GRDC website on a regular basis.

[GRDC Industry Development Awards \(IDAs\)](#)

The GRDC Industry Development Awards (IDAs) are specifically targeted at Australian grain growers or groups working directly with growers for study tours, travel or other forms of training approved by the GRDC. The aim is to develop new skills, build relationships and acquire new information that will contribute to building a sustainable and profitable grains industry. Support will be for up to six months and will not exceed \$15,000 (exc. GST) per award.

The GRDC invites and assesses Industry Development Awards twice a year. Application closing dates are the first Wednesday of April and the last Wednesday of October in each calendar year. The final closing date for the 2012-13 year is the 3rd April 2013.

Applicants will be notified of the decision within six weeks of the application closing date. Further information to assist in the preparation of applications is available on the [website](#). Any questions or concerns can be directed to Tom McCue, P: (02) 6166 4500, E: t.mccue@grdc.com.au.

[Travel Awards](#)

RDC Travel Awards are available to individuals or groups within the Australian grains industry wishing to attend a conference or undertake travel that aligns with the GRDC's corporate objectives and demonstrates benefit to the Australian grains industry. Applicants should highlight both the professional development benefit and the mechanism for dissemination of knowledge to industry.

The GRDC invites and assesses Travel Awards twice a year. Application closing dates are the first Wednesday of April and the last Wednesday of October in each calendar year. The final closing date for the 2012-13 year is the 3rd April 2012.

Applicants will be notified of the decision within six weeks of the application closing date. Further information to assist in the preparation of applications is available on the [website](#). Any questions or concerns can be directed to Merrilyn Baulman, P: (02) 6166 4500, E: capacitybuilding@grdc.com.au.

[Training Awards](#)

GRDC Agricultural Training Awards (ATAs) are a one year scholarship valued at \$3,000 (exc. GST) and are available to students undertaking full time study at a recognised vocational education and training provider. Further information can be received by contacting Merrilyn Baulman, P: (02) 6166 4500, E: capacitybuilding@grdc.com.au. Application forms are available from the [website](#).



[Grains Industry Research Scholarships](#)

The GRDC provides support for Grains Industry Research Scholarships (GRS) to encourage post graduate training in disciplines that contribute to the research, development and extension priorities of the GRDC and the Australian grains industry.

Scholarships are available for three years and are awarded on the basis of academic excellence, the topic of the proposed research program and the likelihood of the applicant's ongoing involvement in the grains industry. To be eligible for a GRS, applicants must secure a base scholarship such as an Australian Postgraduate Awards or equivalent i.e. a University Scholarship. The GRDC will provide successful applicants with a tax free top-up of \$17,145 for the annual stipend rate. In addition, the GRDC will also provide a full annual operating budget up to \$10,000 (exc. GST).

The GRDC invites and assesses GRS applications once a year. The application closing date is the last Wednesday in October each calendar year, for full time study commencing in Semester 1 of the following year. Scholarship applications will be assessed in November with applicants to be notified by mid December.

Further information can be received by contacting Merrilyn Baulman, P: (02) 6166 4500, E: capacitybuilding@grdc.com.au.

[Grains Industry Undergraduate Honours Scholarships](#)

The GRDC invites and assess UHS applications once a year. The application closing date for full time study commencing in Semester 1, 2013 is Wednesday, 31st October. Scholarship applications will be assessed in November with applicants to be notified by mid December.

Scholarships are for one year and comprise a tax-free stipend of \$9,000. In addition the GRDC will also provide \$1,000 (exc. GST) for project operating expenses.

[Lotterywest](#)

Lotterywest provides grants for organisations ranging from small unincorporated groups to large multi-functional organisations that are either a not-for-profit organisations or local government authorities. Applications from \$1,000 are accepted, with a combined total of up to \$15,000 for each financial year for unincorporated groups and organisations not GST registered.

Applications for most grants can be submitted at any time, and are considered in the order they are received. Grants types that may be relevant include:

- [Community events](#)
- [Emergency relief](#) (organisations, not individuals). Applications close 18th June 2012.
- [Heritage and conservation](#)
- [Information technology and web](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Research](#)

For further information on information about Lotterywest grants, please contact the grants team, P: 08 9340 5270 or 1800 655 270, E: grants@lotterywest.wa.gov.au.



[Meat and Livestock Australia \(MLA\)](#)

MLA supports industry by providing funding opportunities for red meat producers, processors and other key stakeholders to encourage skill-building capabilities that accelerate the adoption of R&D outputs and promotes sustainability and competitiveness in the red meat sector.

Specifically these funding opportunities aim to increase:

- On-farm and local industry sustainability and profitability.
- Adoption and adaption of key research findings to commercial implementation.
- Collaboration and coordination between producers and support agencies through shared goals.
- Knowledge and best practice.

Funding opportunities are currently closed, but are usually available on a regular basis for:

- [Producers](#)
- [Processors](#)
- [Industry/researchers](#)
- [Students](#)

[Australian Wool Education Trust](#)

[AWET Undergraduate Project Scholarships](#)

The Trust supports 15 Undergraduate Project Scholarships per year (available to suitable applicants from any University), each of which is valued at \$6,000 - with \$3000 being allocated to the student and the balance to the University to fund its support for the student. These scholarships are available to Honours or other appropriate undergraduate students undertaking a one year research project relevant to sheep and wool.

Applications for 2013 scholarships close on 30th November 2012.

[The Norman Wettenhall Foundation](#)

The NWF has funded projects ranging from supporting local communities to maintain or restore habitat; to the production of education kits; and the publication and widespread dissemination of research information essential to species preservation.

Projects that involve collaboration with a number of partners across a region are of special interest. These multi-stakeholder projects are the ones we believe are most likely to have a long term effect and to most widely spread knowledge and understanding.

There are four grant rounds each year – March (money in May), June (money in August), September (money in November), December (money in February).

The [Small Environmental Grants Scheme](#) are to support Australian biodiversity projects that are concerned with one or more of the following:

- monitoring and recording data
- community education



- community capacity building (training)
- research and science

Expressions of interest close on the following dates for 2012:

- 6 December for February grant round

Nuffield Australia

Nuffield Australia awards Scholarships each year to farmers in Australia. The objective is to increase practical farming knowledge and management skills and techniques generally. These scholarships give Australian citizens the opportunity to study farming practices in New Zealand, Europe, Asia and the Americas and those countries best suited to the Scholar. They will also promote a closer understanding between farmers in the countries visited.

Upon returning to Australia it is expected that Scholars will be able to actively spread the knowledge and understanding they have gained among their fellow farmers and others.

Nuffield Farming Scholarships give a unique opportunity to stand back from your day-to-day occupation, and to study a subject of interest to you. You do not need academic qualifications, but you will need to persuade the Selectors that you have the qualities to make the best use of an opportunity that is only given to a few.

Applications for 2013 are now closed. Applications for 2014 scholarships will open 1st April 2013.

Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation

RIRDC is a statutory authority established by the Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989 (PIERD Act). The Corporation was established by the Australian Government to work with industry to invest in research and development for a more profitable, sustainable and dynamic rural sector.

Specifically, RIRDC's mandate from government is to achieve results from research and development investments in three areas:

- New and emerging industries
- Specific established rural industries
- National rural issues

Applications for 2013-14 closed 21st September 2012.

RIRDC Rural Women's Award

The RIRDC Rural Women's Award is Australia's pre-eminent Award for rural women. The Award identifies and supports emerging leaders and change agents who have the capability and resources to drive innovation, productivity and sustainability within primary industries, and build economic and social development within rural communities. The Award is open to all women involved in primary industries and natural resource management.

The \$10,000 bursary is the major prize for each State and Territory winner to provide the resources to develop their vision into a project or initiative that will benefit primary industries and rural Australia.



The bursary can be used for formal training in leadership and business management; overseas study tours; establishing business plans or pilot programs; developing educational or promotional campaigns; networking at forums and conferences to grow your knowledge of industries and markets; developing training programs; testing information technology initiatives and publishing books.

Nominations open in August and close on World Rural Women's Day in October.

[The University of Western Australia](#)

[Australian Council of Agricultural Societies Regional Scholarship Programme](#)

The Australian Council of Agricultural Societies (ACAS) and Coca-Cola Amatil have been supporting Australian students studying in agriculture related fields for the past 5 years. Since 2005, the scholarship program has assisted almost 200 talented young people, from all over Australia, to develop careers in agriculture.

Each year up to 35 young people are awarded scholarships to the value of \$2,000 to pursue further education in an agriculture related field at University or TAFE.

In previous years recipients of the ACAS/Coca-Cola scholarship fund have also been offered opportunities to travel overseas to attend the international conference of the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth to expand their agricultural knowledge and meet other people from rural areas who are changing the face of modern farming practices.

The purpose of these scholarships is to support rural youth to complete their tertiary studies in courses that will benefit regional Australia.

Applications for the 2013 Scholarship Program close on the 22th March for NSW applicants, and the 30th June for all other states.

[Churchill Fellowships](#)

The Churchill Trust was established in 1965 to honour the memory of Sir Winston Churchill by awarding overseas research Fellowships valued at \$25, 000.

Since its inception The Churchill Trust has awarded Churchill Fellowships to over 3,400 Australians who, like Churchill, are innovative, filled with a spirit of determination and possess a strong desire to benefit their community.

Churchill Fellowships allow you to design your own research project, travel the world and further your knowledge in your chosen field, before returning to make a real contribution to Australian society.

Applications close on the 20 February 2013, and are applicable for travel between Sept 2013 – Aug 2014.

[Water Corporation Scholarship](#)

The Water Corporation donates \$1500 annually to provide a scholarship to encourage mature age students who have not previously enrolled at The University of Western Australia Albany Centre



(UWA Albany) to commence studies towards an undergraduate degree at UWA Albany or to continue studies at UWA Albany towards an undergraduate degree commenced elsewhere.

To qualify as a mature age student applicants must be 20 years or over by 1 March (semester one entry) or 1 August (semester two entry) in the year in which they wish to commence their course.

[Sir Eric Smart Scholarship](#)

Sir Eric Smart was a pioneer cereal producer in light land areas around Mingenew and was once the world's largest individual wheat grower. Upon his death in 1973, Sir Eric showed his appreciation of science by endowing substantial funds to UWA and this was later supplemented by a gift from his son Peter.

The Sir Eric Smart Scholarship for Agricultural Research is available to encourage student research into ways of improving the productivity and profitability of wheat, barley, lupins or canola growing in the light soil types of WA

The award is available annually, with applications closing in October for study in the following year.

[Woolworths Agricultural Business Scholarship](#)

Each year Woolworths offers 30 young Australians the opportunity to participate in our Agricultural Business Scholarship program.

During the fully-funded 12-day course, participants gain a broad academic perspective on the business of agriculture from key academics, Woolworths business leaders and other industry experts.

The course is practical as well as theoretical, and covers topics such as:

- Business strategy and planning
- Agricultural value chain
- Successful business leadership
- Business finance
- Logistics and supply chain management
- The role of government
- Doing business with retailers
- Sustainability and environmental issues

The application period for the 2012 course is now closed, but will open again in April 2013.