Round 5 - Upskill and Invest Young Farmers Scholarship Application

# Introduction

Please be sure to have read the relevant [Program Guidelines before](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance/young-farmers-scholarship-program) completing the application form.

**Privacy and Commercial Confidentiality**

The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) is collecting your personal information such as your name and contact details to assess your eligibility for grant funding and to contact you about your application. Your information will be held by DJPR and be managed in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Public Records Act 1974. For more information, go to the Department's [Privacy Policy.](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/privacy)

**Data Security and Ownership**

Information in this application is transmitted to the Department's secure environment once you have saved or submitted an application. Your draft form can be seen by Departmental staff but will not be viewed in detail or assessed until you have submitted it.

**Funding Discretionary**

Assessment of this application and any decision to approve funding are matters for the State of Victoria in its absolute discretion acting through its Ministers and the Department.

**State Not Liable for Claims Arising from Application**

The State of Victoria will not be liable for any action or claim arising from or in connection with this application and its assessment.

\* Indicates mandatory field.

# Are you eligible to apply?

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| --- | --- |
| 1. Are you 35 years of age or younger? \*
 | Yes No🗸 |
| 1. Are you working in a farm business in Victoria at least 3 days per week, and have you been doing so for the last 3 months? \*
 | Yes No🗸 |
| 1. Are you an Australian citizen or a permanent resident? \*
 | Yes No🗸 |
| 1. Do you currently reside in Victoria? \*

**Other** | Yes No🗸 |
| 1. What is your highest level of education? \*
 | Certificate |
| 1. Tell us about where you are in your farming journey? Please include your total years of on-farm experience. \*
 |
| *As a 33 year old farm owner, I have worked on farm for nearly 15 years since graduating high school. My father is a meat and wool farmer and I had an opportunity several years ago to purchase my own farm, a neighboring property. I have worked hard all my life to make the most of the farming industry and all opportunities presented to me to grow and expand my skills and my farm. There is a likely opportunity in the future to join my father’s farm with mine and to expand our operation over both properties. I live on the farm with my wife and two children, aged 4 and 2. We are very involved in our local community and are keen to learn from the more experienced farmers and share our new skills with the younger farmers.* |
| 1. Have you, or will you, apply for or receive any other grant, funding or scholarship for the activities specified in this application form? \* If yes please specify
 | Yes No🗸 |

# Applicant Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title | Mr |
| Given Name \* | Jim |
| Surname \* | Smith |
| Phone/Direct \* (Please prefix e.g. + 61 3) | 03 5555 2233 |
| Mobile (Please prefix e.g. + 61)  |  |
| Email \*  | Jim.smith@gmail.com |
| Preferred communication method |  Email Phone Mail🗸 🗸 |

# Home Address

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Street Address | 21 Woolly Drive |
| Suburb/Town | Lanolin Creek |
| State | Victoria |
| Country | Australia |
| Post Code | 3999 |
| Is the Postal Address same as Home Address? | Yes No🗸 |
| How did you find out about the Young Farmers Scholarship? | Newspaper |
| Have you ever applied for the Young Farmers Scholarship before? | Yes No🗸 |

# Employment Details

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| --- | --- |
| Business Name  | J Smith |
| Registered/Trading Name \* | Jumbuck Enterprises |
| Parent Subsidiary or Associated Companies |  |
| Australian Business Number (ABN) | 40 400 400 444 |
| Australian Company Number (ACN) |  |
| Phone Direct |  |
| Email | jim.smith@gmail.com |

# Business Address

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| **Registered Address** |
| Street Address \* | 21 Woolly Lane |
| Suburb/Town \* | Lanolin Creek |
| State \* | Victoria |
| Country \* | Australia |
| Post Code \* | 3999 |
| Local Government Authority (LGA) \* | Indigo Shire |
| Is Postal Address same as Registered Address? \* | Yes No🗸 |
| In which agriculture sector do you work?  | Meat and Wool |
| What is your job title? | Farm Owner |
| Do you wish to apply as an individual or as a business? \*(This question clarifies how payments are processed by the Department. See the Program Guidelines for more information.) | IndividualBusiness (not registered for GST) Business (registered for GST)🗸 |
| Do you own/lease the business? \* | Yes No🗸 |

# Selection Criteria

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| **Part 1: UPSKILL – Demonstrated interest in building skills and boosting career prospects** |
| What are you looking to study? \*Provide a clear detailed study plan and timeline. This must include:• The education institution/training organisation name;• The course/subject name and code (if applicable);• A description of the course/subject;• Course commencement date;• Total course duration (units/hours); and• Exact cost of tuition. |
| *Institution: Rural Training Services**Course Name: Certificate IV in Wool Classing**Description: Some of the topics covered are: work place practices and procedures; wool preparation for classing; wool characteristics; new technologies in clip preparation; managing shearing operations; industry supervision and documentation.* *Commencement Date: 20th March 2020 – duration up to 24 months part-time.**Course Cost: $6200 + GST* |
| Describe what you hope to learn by undertaking study in selected area(s). \* |
| *I will gain the professional skills and knowledge from the wool classing certificate and use these to enhance the profitability of my current farming business. When I am qualified, I will no longer need to employ the services of a wool classer, saving the business money. I will also be able to offer my services to other local farmers, creating another income source for our business.* *.*  |

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| **Part 2: INVEST – Desire to implement learnings from study or training** |
| Please outline your proposal for expenditure of the Invest funds. \*If your application is successful, this can be revised following completion of study/training. Clearly identify proposed activity/purchase; total cost (if Invest funds will not cover total cost, specify how shortfall will be covered); timeframe for investment. Please note: INVEST funds cannot be accessed until after completion of the UPSKILL part of the Scholarship. |
| *With the invest funds, I plant to engage with Australian Wool Consultants to advise on improving our breeding program for wool quality. A one day workshop with the consultant is $850. This includes overall breeding enterprise performance, including anatomy, physiology, spermatogenesis, metabolic demands, health, disease and biosecurity.* *I intend to then follow-up with 8 two hour sessions one-on-one with the consultant over the following breeding season. Each of these two hour session is $240, so the total invest funds I hope to be provided is $2770.*  |
| Explain how the Invest funds will support you to implement your learnings from your chosen study or training. \* If you are a farm employee, ensure your response notes how you will primarily benefit from the Invest funds.  |
| *I believe the Certificate IV in Wool Classing will give me the technical knowledge of wool characteristics to assist in classing suitable ewes and rams for a more sophisticated breeding program. This, combined with consultant advice from a respected industry consultant, will greatly improve the genetics of our flock for wool production and improve our business productivity.*  |

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| **Part 3: YOUR CAREER – Commitment to build a productive and profitable career in agriculture** |
| Explain how the scholarship funds will help you build a productive and profitable career in agriculture. \* |
| *The scholarship funds will allow me to upskill and invest in an area of farming that I am passionate about. Cashflow will also be improved by not having to employ a wool classer and by providing wool classing services for other local farmers. I want to build a sustainable agricultural career and to be able to make better decisions in the management, growth and breeding program of my flock. This program will allow me to have the confidence and commitment to continue that process.* |
| **If you are working in an animal-based farm business please also answer the following question:** How does animal welfare contribute to a sustainable farming business, and what does this mean for you in your work? |
| *Careful and strategic management of the flock regarding weather patterns and timing of shearing is essential to animal welfare. We have recently invested in all weather stock yards for up to 600 sheep at the time of shearing. By minimising the exposure of the sheep to the elements we are reducing stock losses, maximising wool quality and helping to maintain our farming business.*  |

Supporting Documentation

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| --- | --- |
| Proof of your age and residency in Victoria \*(e.g. a copy of your birth certificate, drivers licence or passport) | Please tick if attached 🗸 |
| Proof of nationality or status as a permanent resident \*(e.g. a copy of your birth certificate, passport) | Please tick if attached 🗸 |
| Proof of employment or business ownership \*(e.g. a letter from your employer, provision of employer contact details and/or Business Activity Statement (BAS), evidence of purchase of business) | Please tick if attached 🗸 |
| Letter of support from employer | Please tick if attached  |
| Change of name (where appropriate) | Please tick if attached  |

Acknowledgement and Lodgement

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| I confirm that I have read and understood the relevant [Program Guidelines and](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance/young-farmers-scholarship-program) requirements | Agree🗸 |
| **Or Authorised Representative** |
| I declare that I am authorised for and on behalf of the Applicant/Business nominated in this application to provide this declaration and to submit this application, and the information provided in this application (including attachments) is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. | Agree🗸 |
| Name \* | Jim Smith |
| Position/Role \* | Farm Owner |