**Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme**

This grant helps people who own and live in their home, caravan or boat to reconnect essential services (for example: electricity, gas, water or sewerage) that were damaged by a disaster.

# Available help

This grant is paid in two parts, Part A and Part B. Part A of the grant pays up to:

* $200 for an electrical safety inspection
* $200 for a gas safety inspection
* $200 for a water safety inspection
* $200 for a sewerage/septic system safety inspection.

Part B of the grant pays up to:

$4200 to help with the cost of repairs if the inspector finds that repairs are needed before the service/s can be reconnected.

# Eligibility (Can you get this grant?)

To get this grant, you must:

* + earn less than the amounts listed below
  + live within the activated financial assistance disaster area (the area that can be provided with help/grants after the disaster)
  + be the owner of the home, caravan or boat (you can have a mortgage)
  + be living in the home, caravan or boat at the time of the disaster (it is the main place you live)
  + Not have insurance or be unable to claim insurance for the costs of these inspections and repairs

This grant is not available for repairs to properties that are not your main home, such as holiday houses or rental properties, or caravans and boats that are not the main place you live.

# Income test (how much you earn)

Your gross (before tax) weekly income must be less than:

* individual: $988 ($51,398 per year)

• couple: $1,367 ($71,061 per year)

* sole parent, one child: $1,368 ($71,110 per year)
* couple, one child: $1,694 ($88,111 per year)

(For each additional child add a further $327 per week; for each dependent adult add $378 per week)

# How to apply

If you think you can apply for this grant, and require help straight away, please apply online through the Queensland Government Department of Communities website [https://www.communityr](http://www.communityrecovery.qld.gov.au/)e[covery.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityrecovery.qld.gov.au/)

If you cannot apply online, please phone the Community Recovery Hotline on 1800 173 349 or visit a Community Recovery Hub if open.

A Queensland Government officer will visit your home to talk about your application.

# Grant payment

Payment of this grant is in two parts, (Part A safety inspection costs and Part B repair costs). Payment can be made to you or the tradesperson doing the repairs.

If your application is successful your grant will be paid by one of the following payment methods:

* electronic funds transfer (EFT) into your bank account, or
* cheque payment mailed to your address Payments for inspections and reconnections can

only be made after you provide a receipt for the

service to the Department or the tradesperson provides an invoice directly to the Department.

Payments for repairs can only be made after a quote for repairs by a licensed contractor has been provided to the Department and the grant is approved. It is important to check if you can get this grant before work starts at your property.

# More information

For more information visit

[www.qld.gov.au/communityrecovery](http://www.qld.gov.au/communityrecovery)

or call 1800 173 349