

RIC Farm Loans

Fast facts



RIC (Regional Investment Corporation) is an Australian Government specialist lender committed to strengthening Australian agriculture and building thriving regional communities, by providing low interest loans to farm businesses and farm-related small businesses.

Our loans can be used to prepare for, manage through, and recover from unforeseen severe business disruption due to drought, natural disasters, biosecurity issues or other significant market events. They can also support first generation farmers to establish farm businesses or succession planning for next generation farmers.

After more than 6 years in operation, our RIC loan portfolio now exceeds 3300 loans, with more than \$3.5 billion in settled funds providing direct on-farm benefit.

RIC loans have a valuable impact beyond on-farm investment alone. The flow-on effect of RIC loans creates economic activity in regional areas, benefiting regional community growth and the wider Australian economy. Loans repaid to the Australian Government can then be reallocated to fund other programs.

What do you need to know about RIC loans

RIC offers low-interest loans to strengthen Australia's farming future

About two-thirds of RIC loans support sheep, beef cattle and grains farming. These industries contribute more than 50% of all agriculture, fisheries and forestry value of production.

RIC loans are helping to grow the Australian agricultural industry and build regional communities

89% of customers agree their RIC loan has given them greater confidence in the future of their farm, while 62% of customers say their RIC loan facilitated the implementation of sustainable agriculture practices, which they see as a priority to improve long-term business viability and minimise future risk.

RIC adds value to individual farms and farm-related businesses by accelerating recovery and building future-ready farms

Our farm business and farm-related small business loans:

- Support eligible businesses as they manage through downturns, recover, rebuild and prepare – Farm Investment, Drought, AgBiz Drought loans
- Help get businesses off to a good start, grow and keep farmers in farming – AgriStarter Loan for first generation farmers and succession planning

RIC is different to a bank

We are proud to work alongside the Australian agricultural sector and the financial services industry but we are not a bank.

RIC provides loans, not overdraft or transactional accounts.

The Australian Government does not make a profit from RIC loans. RIC offers low-interest, long-term loans with no ongoing account-keeping fees and no penalty fees for early repayment.

RIC loans need to be repaid

Unlike government grants, RIC loans are paid back. Responsible lending and eligibility criteria apply, including adequate security and the ability to service the loan by making repayments.

RIC interest rate terms are concessional

RIC loan interest rates allow customers to plan and manage cash flow in advance.

- The 10-year loan term includes 5 years' interest only and 5 years' principal and interest repayments.
- Interest rates are variable but are only reviewed twice a year.
- Interest rates are reviewed in consideration of any changes to the Commonwealth Government 10-year Bond rate.

Not all Australian farm and farm-related businesses are eligible for a RIC loan

RIC loans are for businesses in financial need who meet specific eligibility criteria: Complete our quick quiz at ric.gov.au/resources to find out if a RIC loan could be an option for you. Read the loan eligibility criteria and document checklist. Talk to a trusted adviser before you apply. Information on eligible farm industries is available at ric.gov.au/eligible-industries

Loan terms designed to support farmers in financial need

A 10-year loan term with options:

- Repay early or refinance back to a commercial lender at end of the loan term
- Nominate a repayment cycle to best suit individual needs, such as monthly, quarterly or half-yearly

Our assessment team provides individual support from draft application through to settlement

RIC loan applications can be submitted online or in hardcopy. Our team of professional Agri lending specialist can support you from initial enquiry to access your eligibility, through application, settlement and beyond. If you need help with your application, please call 1800 875 675 or email info@ric.gov.au

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RIC (Regional Investment Corporation)
ABN 99 528 049 038 Published: May 2025

