



**Australian Government** 

# AgMove fact sheet - relocation assistance to take up short term agricultural work

# What is AgMove?

AgMove is a reimbursement of costs for eligible people who relocate to take up **short-term agricultural work**, including harvest work.

If you move away from home to take up **short-term agricultural work**, you may be able to get financial help to cover the costs of your move.

# Am I eligible for AgMove?

From 1 November 2020, relocation assistance is available to people who are at least 18 years of age who relocate to a regional, remote, or harvest area to take up **short-term agricultural work**.

From 5 May 2021, 17-year-old job seekers who have graduated from Year 12 can also access AgMove.

This includes Australian job seekers; Australians who are not receiving income support such as 'grey nomads'; and those with the right to work in Australia such as working holiday makers and international students.

Seasonal workers who are in Australia under the Seasonal Worker Programme or Pacific Labour Scheme are not eligible for AgMove.

## How much money can I receive?

If you have relocated and started a short-term agricultural job between **1 November 2020 and 4 May 2021**, you need to complete at least 120 hours of work over at least 6 weeks to be eligible for reimbursement up to:

- \$6,000 if you are an Australian worker
- \$2,000 if you are a temporary visa holder with a general right to work in Australia.

If you relocate to start a short-term agricultural job between **5 May and 31 December 2021**, you need to complete at least 40 hours of work over 2 weeks to be eligible for reimbursement up to:

- \$2,000 if you are an Australian worker
- \$650 if you are a temporary visa holder with a general right to work in Australia.

If you continue to work for at least a total of 4 weeks and complete 120 hours of short-term agricultural work, you could be eligible to be reimbursed up to a total of:

- \$6,000 if you are an Australian worker
- \$2,000 if you are a temporary visa holder with a general right to work in Australia.

The maximum amount of AgMove assistance is \$6,000 for Australian workers and \$2,000 for temporary visa holders with a general right to work in Australia.

## Where can I move to?

When you relocate to take up **short-term agricultural work**, your new location in Australia must:

- be at least 90 minutes away from where you currently live, based on your normal mode of transport
- be in one of the 16 Harvest Areas (serviced by Harvest Trail Services providers) or a regional or remote area
- not be within the same capital city or in a metropolitan area.

## Who do I contact to apply for AgMove?

- If you have any general inquiries about AgMove, call the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260.
- People looking for work who are interested in Harvest work can find job opportunities at <u>https://jobsearch.gov.au/harvest/search</u>.
- Jobs advertised with a Harvest Trail Services logo include contact details for the relevant <u>Harvest Trail</u> <u>Services provider</u> who will be able to help you apply for relocation assistance.
- People looking for non harvest jobs in agriculture (such as work with livestock or on dairy farms) or for harvest jobs outside Harvest Areas, can call the Harvest Trail Information Service on 1800 062 332 for assistance.

#### How will I receive AgMove assistance?

- You will have to pay for your relocation costs, and you will be reimbursed by your Harvest Trail Services or Harvest Trail Information Service provider.
- If you are in financial hardship and cannot afford to relocate to start a short-term agricultural work, your <u>Harvest Trail Services provider</u> or Harvest Trail Information Service provider may be able to pay your relocation costs upfront.

#### What can I use AgMove for?

AgMove relocation assistance is flexible and can be used for a range of items, including:

- Accommodation costs such as rent, motel, caravan, or campsite fees
- Travel costs such as fares, petrol, car hire
- Some employment-related expenses such as safety clothing, uniforms, and work boots.

A Harvest Trail Services provider or the Harvest Trail Information Service provider will consider if you can receive assistance as a reimbursement, payment directly to the supplier or where financial hardship is assessed, an upfront payment to cover basic costs.

AgMove is a reimbursement of costs to eligible people who move to take up a **short-term agricultural job**. It is not a grant or an entitlement and cannot be used for non-work related or luxury items, such as travel costs for a holiday, or for the purchase of designer sunglasses, hats or sneakers.

## What is short-term agricultural work?

You can get AgMove if you relocate to take up **short-term agricultural work**, including:

#### Harvest Work

- Production of harvest crops, including picking and pollinating
- Planting and preparation for planting of harvest crops
- Propagation of harvest crops, including growing new plants from seeds
- Processing and packing operations for harvest crops and packing shed operations
- Local storage and transportation of harvest crops

#### Livestock and Dairy Work

- Manufacturing dairy produce from raw material
- Immediate processing of animal products, including shearing, butchery, packing and tanning
- Livestock laboring: feeding, breeding, and raising livestock

#### What are my responsibilities?

You must have:

- received and accepted an offer of employment for agricultural work, including harvest work, (with a confirmed job start date and pay and conditions); or
- commenced agricultural work, including harvest work, after 1 November 2020; and
- entered into an AgMove Agreement with your Harvest Trail Services provider.

To receive relocation assistance, you will be required to give the following to your Harvest Trail Services provider:

- invoices, receipts, or other evidence of valid relocation costs to be reimbursed to you or directly to a supplier
- any other additional evidence, including quotes if requested
- if you are not placed into a job by your Harvest Trail Services provider, a copy of the offer of employment with full contact details of your employer, such as ABN, address, and contact telephone number.

## How can I find agricultural work?

• You can check the Harvest Trail Jobs Board to find available jobs in the horticulture industry in harvest areas across Australia at

https://jobsearch.gov.au/harvest/search.

 You can contact your local <u>Harvest Trail Services</u> provider or the Harvest Trail Information Service on 1800 062 332\*.

#### Want more information?

- Go to
  <u>www.jobsearch.gov.au/harvest/workers/rel</u>
  <u>ocation-assistance</u>
- Call the Harvest Trail Information Service on 1800 062 332\*
- Call the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260\*

## Do you need help with this fact sheet?

If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450\* and ask for the Employment Services Information Line on 13 62 68\* or the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260\*.

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, you can use the National Relay Service. For more information, visit www.relayservice.gov.au.

\* Note that call charges apply for calls to '13' and '1800' numbers from mobile phones.