



Drought Resilience Leaders Program

BUILDING LEADERSHIP RESILIENCE FOR THE FUTURE



Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program

WHAT IS THE DROUGHT RESILIENCE LEADERS MENTORING PROGRAM?

As part of the Future Drought Fund, Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring (DRLM) seeks to improve drought and climate resilience in agriculture-dependent communities by helping farmers connect with other farmers and professionals who have demonstrated experience in drought and climate resilience and adaptation.

The DRLM is one of three elements of the Drought Resilience Leaders Program including the Drought Resilience Leadership Development Program and Community Extension Grants.

WHAT IS MENTORING?

Mentoring is a one-to-one relationship based on mutual respect, trust, encouragement, constructive comments, openness, and a willingness to learn and share. Formal mentoring in the context of the Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring Program is a structured activity focusing on issues and opportunities facing mentees as they strive to achieve their leadership goals within the agricultural sector, strengthening their resilience to drought, climate and other challenges.

This mentoring relationship enables a supportive space for the mentee to advance personal and professional goals. It creates an interactive environment for learning where knowledge is shared both ways, and value is added. For this program, mentoring will enable farmers and others with expertise on drought, climate and other related topics to share skills and knowledge with their peers.

DO I HAVE TO RESIDE IN A SPECIFIC AREA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DRLM?

Drought Resilience Leaders Mentoring is open to all, Australia-wide. There are no geographic requirements to be eligible as a mentee or mentor.

HOW DO I APPLY TO BE A MENTOR OR MENTEE?

If you are interested in participating in this program, you can apply by completing an online application when DRLM applications open. For alternative ways to complete your application, please call our team at the ARLF on 02 6281 0680.



WHEN DO APPLICATIONS OPEN?

Applications open nationally in July 2021.

HOW WILL PARTICIPANTS BE CHOSEN?

Entry to the drought resilience leaders mentoring program will be awarded based on the information provided in your application.

WHERE WILL THE MENTORING SESSIONS TAKE PLACE?

The mentor and mentee will agree to a communication method to conduct their mentoring sessions. This can be done over various online video call services such as Zoom or Skype, or a mobile phone app like FaceTime or Facebook Messenger. It is possible that a mentor/mentee pair will be located in different parts of the country, so a reliable internet connection is important for this program.

ARE THERE FACE-TO-FACE ACTIVITIES?

The DRLM will host face-to-face gatherings open to mentors and mentees. Information will be released at a later date.

WHAT TRAINING AND SUPPORT IS OFFERED?

Throughout the course of the program, you will be provided with multiple opportunities for training and support. This includes resources shared on the learning platform; webinars with guest speakers who are experts in the agricultural industry and climate; access to mentoring coaches; and optional webinars to expand mentoring practice.

HOW LONG IS THE PROGRAM?

Program induction will begin in October, with official mentoring to take place from January 2022 – June 2022. During this period, mentees are required to meet with their mentor at least six times. The scheduling of these meetings is agreed to by the mentoring pair. Mentoring is an ongoing practice and some pairs will find they will continue to have sessions long after the official program has concluded.

HOW IS MY PARTICIPATION FUNDED?

The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment has provided funding for the mentoring program through the Future Drought Fund. This funding provides assistance in bringing learning and development tools and coaches to the program and provides valuable skills and training for participants to take back to their enterprise and community.

MENTEES: WHO IS A MENTEE?

A mentee is someone who has identified a personal or professional goal and believes the guidance and support from a mentor can help achieve their goals.

WHO CAN APPLY?

To be eligible to be a mentee applicants will need to be:

- Someone who identifies as a farmer
- Reside in or have links to an agriculture-based community
- Able to access reliable internet services

WHO IS CONSIDERED A FARMER? (IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS PROGRAM)

Someone who receives their income from an agricultural business, and/or have proprietorial





Australian Government
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interest in a farm enterprise, are in a farm partnership or a corporate entity with a proprietary interest in a farming enterprise, or a person employed in the management of a farm enterprise.

MENTORS: WHO IS A MENTOR?

A mentor is someone who is willing to invest their time to help the mentee achieve personal growth and professional development by sharing knowledge, expertise and/or lived experience.

WHO CAN APPLY?

To be eligible to be a mentor applicants will need to be:

- A farmer, drought or climate specialist or other industry stakeholder
- Passionate about minimising the impacts of drought
- Willing to share their knowledge and support other farmers
- Able to access reliable internet services

To recognise the valuable contribution of a mentor's time, an amount of up to \$500.00 is payable for the entire program. This is based on mentors completing program requirements.



The Drought Resilience Leaders Program is proudly supported by the following partners: Australian Rural Leadership Foundation; Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal; Rural Economies Centre of Excellence; Australian Resilience Centre; Centre for Applied Climate Sciences - University of Southern Queensland; Charles Sturt University and the National Farmers Federation.