

## Household Resilience Program

---

### Information for contractors

The \$21.25 million expansion of the Household Resilience Program is part of the first stage of the state's economic reset, The Queensland Economic Recovery Strategy: *Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs*, to help the State recover from COVID-19. This program is also co-funded with the Australian Government.

Commencing on 1 June 2020, the program assists eligible home owners in coastal parts of Queensland to improve the resilience of their homes against cyclones.

Owner-occupiers who live in a house built before 1984, located within 50km of the coastline from Bundaberg to the Queensland/Northern Territory border, may be eligible to a Queensland Government grant of 75% of the cost of improvements, up to a maximum of \$11,250 including GST.

Building improvements undertaken as part of the program may also help to reduce home insurance premiums.

In the previous phase, this program supported jobs in regional Queensland with 451 businesses engaged to undertake works. This resulted in 95% of contractors being sourced directly from the local community and 99.8% of these being Queensland businesses.

### How does it work?

The Household Resilience Program provides eligible low-income home owners with the opportunity to apply for a grant to engage a QBCC licensed contractor to improve the cyclone resilience of their homes.

Home owners are required to satisfy a two-stage eligibility process and if approved, they can nominate the types of improvement works they wish to undertake on their homes from those in the program.

On the approval of an application by the Household Resilience Program grants team, a qualified assessor will attend the home to assess that the work will improve the cyclone resilience of the structure.

Our assessors will also review the estimated price for the work to form the basis of the grant allocation which will be 75% of the estimated costs, to a maximum of \$11,250 including GST, that will be paid directly to the contractor upon completion of works.

The remaining balance of the outstanding costs for the work not covered by the grant allocation are required to be paid to the contractor by the home owner.

## Improvement options for home owners

A range of specific improvement options for home owners to select from that are covered under the program include:

- roof replacement and roof structure tie-down upgrades (for example, strapping of battens to rafters and rafters to top plates) to AS 1684.3:2010 (refer Note #1 below)
- roof structure tie-down upgrades using an external over-batten system installed to: HB 132.2:1999 Structural upgrading of older houses, Part 2: Cyclone Areas
- replacement of garage doors and frames to withstand wind pressure tests from AS/NZS 4505:2012 Wind rated garage doors
- window protection including cyclone shutters or screens to withstand debris impact tests (AS/NZS 1170.2 and refer Note #2 below) and wind pressure tests to AS 4055 Wind loads for housing
- tie downs of external structures (for example, sheds) to withstand wind loads from AS 4055 Wind loads for housing.
- replacement of external hollow core doors with solid external grade doors to withstand wind loads from AS 4055 Wind loads for housing.
  - Note #1: <https://www.jcu.edu.au/cyclone-testing-station/videos-And-resources>
  - Note #2: [https://www.jcu.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0018/319014/Tech-Note-4-Windborne-Debris-Impact-Testing.pdf](https://www.jcu.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/319014/Tech-Note-4-Windborne-Debris-Impact-Testing.pdf)

## Contracts

Standard Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) contracts are required for all works and include:

- [Level 1 - Renovation, Extension and Repair Contract \(PDF\)](#) for renovations, extensions and routine repairs on existing homes for contracts \$3,301 to \$19,999
- [Level 2 - Renovation, Extension and Repair Contract \(PDF\)](#) for renovations, extensions and routine repairs on existing homes for contracts \$20,000 and over.

Prior to works commencing, the contractor must provide the home owner with evidence of their QBCC Home Warranty Insurance Policy.

## Completion of the improvement works

On completion of the work and prior to the remaining payments being made by any party, the following documentation must be provided by the contractor to the home owner to submit to the Household Resilience Program grants team:

- Form 15 for design compliance provided by engineer or supplier of proprietary products (for example, cyclone shutters)
- Form 16 for the installation of proprietary items, or Form 21, for certification of structural works
- Contractor's invoice.

Once these items have been provided, an assessor will carry out an inspection of the works and our team will arrange for the grant funding to be released to the contractor. The home owner will also be required to pay the balance of their co-contribution to the contractor once they are satisfied that the work has been completed in full.

## More information

**Phone:** 13 QGOV (13 7468)

**Email:** [strongerhomes@hpw.qld.gov.au](mailto:strongerhomes@hpw.qld.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.qld.gov.au/strongerhomes](http://www.qld.gov.au/strongerhomes)

This fact sheet was compiled in partnership with James Cook University Cyclone Testing Station and the Bushfire and Natural Hazard Cooperative Research Centre.