Welcome to the Bunnings Green Shoots Program!

The Bunnings Green Shoots Program was established in 2025 to support our diverse group of greenlife suppliers. In this document you'll find an overview of the grant application process, eligibility criteria and answers to some frequently asked questions. If you have any questions, please contact **GreenShoots@bunnings.com.au**

Program Overview

The Bunnings Green Shoots Program sees Bunnings set aside \$1 million to invest over the next five years to support our Australian and New Zealand greenlife suppliers. Grants of up to \$10,000 (AUD) are available for:

Capability Building

This grant gives you access to confidential business development services from third-party industry experts. We know Greenlife is an incredibly diverse and dynamic industry and there will be several course options available to best suit your business needs. Sessions could cover a range of topics including project management, developing a business case, finance fundamentals, human resourcing, negotiation, business strategy and more.

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Crisis Relief

This grant provides you with short-term financial relief during unforeseen times of crisis that materially and severely impact your business. This includes extreme weather events, bushfires and other natural disasters. This grant is in addition to the usual support we provide during times of crisis and, as always, we encourage you to immediately reach out to your Buyer in these instances.

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Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Bunnings Green Shoots Program, you must:

- Be an active and current supplier of plants and/or bulbs with a unique supplier code and signed Bunnings Trading Terms; and
- Be a registered business in Australia (with a valid ABN or ACN) or New Zealand (with a valid NZBN).

Application Process

- 1. Gather all necessary information, including your business details and a description of how you'd benefit from a grant.
- 2. Visit www.bunnings.com.au/campaign/green-shoots-program
- 3. Select whether you'd like to apply for a either a Capability Building Grant or a Crisis Relief Grant.
- 4. Review the Green Shoots Program Terms & Conditions.
- 5. Fill out the online application form. Please note this will be delivered by a third-party website, SmartyGrants, who we have worked with to set up the application portal. You may need to create a SmartyGrants account to do this we're here to help if you have any trouble with this.
- 6. Submit your application. When you do so, you'll be accepting the Green Shoots Terms & Conditions.
- 7. Your application will then be reviewed by our Fund Review Committee.
- 8. You will be notified of the outcome of your application within approximately 4-6 weeks of the relevant funding round closure date, including any next steps.



Frequently Asked Questions

How much funding can I receive?

You can receive up to \$10,000 (AUD) per grant.

How long does the application assessment process take?

You'll be notified of the outcome of your application within approximately 4-6 weeks from the relevant funding round closure date.

Who reviews the applications?

Applications are reviewed by a dedicated Fund Review Committee which comprises Bunnings team members and independent external delegates. The Committee's primary role is to evaluate grant applications and support a fair decision-making process.

How will the Fund Review Committee assess applications?

The Fund Review Committee will assess applications based on four key principles:

- 1. Merit ensuring the Fund is awarded on a needs-basis
- 2. Equity ensuring the eligibility criteria and due diligence process are applied consistently
- 3. <u>Alignment</u> to the overall purpose of the program
- 4. Wide allocation to support as many suppliers as feasible

What constitutes a 'crisis' for the purposes of a Crisis Funding Grant?

A crisis means unexpected situations or events that are beyond a supplier's control, and that materially and severely impact their business. This includes extreme weather events, bushfires and other natural disasters. Funds provided under this grant must be used for the sole purpose of navigating or overcoming the impacts of the crisis to your business.

Can I apply for a grant if I've been successful or unsuccessful previously?

Yes, both successful and unsuccessful applicants can re-apply for future rounds of the Green Shoots Program. However, any prior award of funding will be a consideration as part of the 'Wide Allocation' assessment principle.

Can I apply for both types of grants?

Yes, you can apply for both Capability Building and Crisis Relief grants, provided you meet the eligibility criteria.

What documents do I need to submit with my application?

You will need to submit your business details and a description of how the grant will be used. You <u>do not</u> need to attach any other documents. Please <u>do not</u> provide bank details or any confidential financial or health records with your application.

Does submitting an application constitute an agreement to the Green Shoots Program Terms & Conditions

Yes, it does. The Terms & Conditions can be found at bunnings.com.au/campaign/green-shoots-program

Will the information I share in my application remain confidential? Who has access to it?

Yes, your information will remain confidential in accordance with the Green Shoots Program Terms and Conditions and the Bunnings Privacy Policy, which can be found on the Bunnings website. As applications are submitted via SmartyGrants, a third-party provider, your information will also be managed in accordance with the Our Community (SmartyGrants) Privacy Policy, which can be found at <u>smartygrants.com/policies</u>

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Who arranges the Capability Building courses if we're successful?

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If you're awarded a Capability Building grant, the relevant third-party provider will work with you to select the most appropriate course and arrange enrollment. Please note that suppliers who receive a Capability Building Grant may be required to sign a separate contract with the third-party provider.

What sort of Capability Building courses can I undertake?

We know Greenlife is an incredibly diverse and dynamic industry and our third-party provider will work with you to ensure the course best suits your business need. Sessions could cover a range of topics including project management, developing a business case, finance fundamentals, human resourcing, negotiation, business strategy and many more.

Will Bunnings sit in on my Capability Building course?

No. The course will be run directly between you and the third-party provider. It's completely confidential and separate to Bunnings.

Can I choose my own Capability Building third-party provider?

No. The third-party providers will be vetted by Bunnings based on their wide selection of online and in-person courses to meet the needs of our Australian and New Zealand-based suppliers.

How will we receive Crisis Relief grant money?

If you're successful for a Crisis Relief grant, we will deposit the funds directly into your nominated bank account.

Is SmartyGrants a safe website to use for applications?

Yes, SmartyGrants is a well-established grants platform used by many businesses. For information on SmartyGrants' Privacy Policy and Terms of Use, visit www.smartygrants.com/policies

Who should I contact if I have any questions?

Contact **GreenShoots@bunnings.com.au** any time, and one of our team members will get back to you as soon as they can.



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