



About the grants and scholarships

RASF Community Future Grant

Through the Community Futures grant, RASF provides financial resources to a community-minded individual or group whose activities are satisfying community need and creating positive community outcomes.

RASF Community Kitchen Grant

The RASF Community Kitchen Grant provides communities with a kitchen and appliances, helping them to establish a place where they can come together, connect and foster strong community bonds.

Sydney Royal Wine Assessment Scholarship and Sydney Royal Wine Study Scholarship

The Sydney Royal Wine Assessment Scholarship and Sydney Royal Wine Study Scholarship support rural and regional students with a desire to play an active role in the future of the Australian wine industry to pursue study in their chosen path.

RASF Foundation Rural Scholarship

The Rural Scholarship is provided to rural and regional students with a passion for rural communities, assisting with financial pressures and allowing them to access educational and extra-curricular opportunities as they study.

The JB Fairfax Award for Rural and Regional Journalism

The JB Fairfax Award for Rural and Regional Journalism includes a scholarship and suite of internships to support a university student who is passionate about pursuing a career as a rural or regional journalist upon graduation.

RASF Foundation Vocational Education Training (VET) Scholarships

RASF provides VET scholarships to members of rural and regional communities in NSW who demonstrate a passion for rural life and are ultimately looking to give back to rural and regional areas.



“The scholarship made a big impact on my financial situation, which had a flow on effect to my mental health and academic success.”

Our Impact

The Royal Agricultural Society Foundation of NSW (RASf) provides grants, scholarships and donations to help regional and rural Australians realise their potential through education, make a difference in their communities and achieve their ambitions.

Since 2007, the RASF has issued approximately 40 community grants and 434 educational scholarships and distributed kitchenware and toys to rural communities in partnership with Good360, with total fund of \$4.22m distributed.

The difference we make

Through its scholarships program, RASF helps to relieve financial stress for students from regional and rural communities, better enabling them to manage their immediate economic needs and supporting their mental wellbeing and resilience during their studies.

Regional and rural students are exposed to high levels of stress due to a complex combination of factors that can include cost of living, cost of educational resources, the emotional impact of living away from family and friends for the first time, finding part-time work and balancing work and study. RASF scholarships help students to manage immediate economic needs and alleviate financial stress, giving them more time and 'headspace' to focus on their studies and the opportunity to realise their potential.

The scholarships offered by RASF support students from regional and rural communities to make a meaningful contribution and advocate for those communities over the longer term.

With less financial pressure, students from regional and rural areas are able to focus more on their studies and other extracurricular activities linked to their chosen career path. In doing so, they are afforded greater opportunity to hone their skills and build their networks, such that they are well-positioned and motivated to make a meaningful contribution and advocate for regional and rural communities in the future.

“Having the support and backing of the RASF helped me stay focused and driven when things got hard.”



“Now having completed my teaching degree I am working in a welfare and wellbeing role in a school in rural NSW supporting students in difficult family, educational, financial or social circumstances.”

The RASF community grant program supports regional and rural community members in coming together more regularly, increasing their self-sufficiency, sense of shared vision and community cohesion.

An RASF community grant can be the 'kick-starter' which encourages and enables community members to come together more regularly, strengthening community connectedness and self-sufficiency. As communities strengthen, opportunities for cultural and economic diversity emerge, thereby positively reinforcing the change created.

“The flow on effect is a stronger community which has applied for more grants, improved more infrastructure and run more social events which in turn raise more money.”

The RASF program of scholarships and community grants contributes to a regional and rural community view of RASF as an ally and an overall sense of trust in RAS and RASF.

The RAS and the RASF are highly trusted by regional and rural communities and the RASF grant and scholarship program positively contributes to this overall sense of allegiance and trust. Trust is an important foundation for ability to influence and support regional and rural communities in other ways. Building on success to date and the trust that exists between RASF and regional and rural communities, there exists the potential to promote, enhance and extend the program over time for even greater community impact.

The measurement of outcomes and social return on investment was conducted by Ernst & Young in 2019-20.

\$2.45m

scholarships since 2009



41 RASF Community Futures grants distributed since 2009 with a total value of **\$794,000**



\$5.12m

total RASF funds distributed since 2009*



*includes E3 Grants and Good360 distributions.

\$1

of RASF funds delivers an estimated of community benefit*

\$2.70



*based on average distribution for 2018 and 2019.

Stressed about financial situation



Prior to receiving their scholarship:

86% Of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed they felt stressed about their financial situation

Decreasing to just **20%**

of respondents **after receiving a scholarship**



Manage their immediate economic needs

Prior to receiving their scholarship only **27%** of scholarship recipients felt they could manage their immediate economic needs



Increasing to **88%** **after receiving a scholarship**

Prior to receiving their grant:

51% of recipients felt their community was self-sufficient in responding to issues

increasing to **82%** of recipients **after receiving a scholarship**

