



MINISTRY OF MULTI-ETHNIC AFFAIRS & SUGAR INDUSTRY

# New Farmers and Lease Premium Assistance Program Application Form

(This form should be completed in full with all details required)

New Farmer Assistance  Lease Renewal Premium Assistance (Please tick Appropriate)

[On-line applications is also available on the Website and Facebook of Sugar Cane Growers Fund (<https://scgf.com.fj/>) ]

**WARNING: Providing false information to Government is an offence under the False Information Act 2016. If you are found guilty of providing false information to the Government, you may be fined up to \$20,000 or sentenced to imprisonment for up to 10 years.**

Section A: Applicant's Profile						
Name of Applicant(s):	Surname:		First Name:			
Date of birth:		Dependents:				
Gender(√):	Male: <input type="checkbox"/>	Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	Phone/Mobile:			
Postal address:			Residential address:			
Occupation (if any):			Email (if any):			
Main source of income:			Income per year:		\$	
Experience in sugar cane farming:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Years of experience:			
Section B: Lease Detail						
Lease offer details:	File Ref	Land Type	Area	Term	Lease Expiry	Annual rent
Offer Letter Amount:				Actual location of (proposed) agricultural land:		
Section C: New Farmers Assistance (To be filled for New Farmers Assistance)						
Do you currently own any cane farm[s]?	Please tick (√) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		<i>Note: If you have answered yes to owning a cane farm, you are not eligible for a grant under the New Cane Farmers Assistance Programmed.</i>			
Do you hold a current Agricultural lease in your name?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		<i>Note: If you have answered yes to holding a current lease, you are not eligible for a grant under the New Cane Farmers Assistance Programme.</i>			
Section D: Lease Renewal Premium Assistance (To be filled for Growers applying for Renewal of Lease Premium Assistance)						
For Lease Premium Offer Amount:	Last Lease Expiry Date:		Is the Premium Paid: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		What is the status of the Lease: (With TLTB, Documentation)	
			\$.....			

**Section E: Previous Grant Assistance**Have you received any kind of grant from the Government before? *(please tick-√)*Yes No *If yes, please provide the following details:*

What assistance(s) was provided?

Year assisted:

Which government body provided assistance?

Value of assistance provided:

\$

**Section F: Projected Estimate of Cane** *(Please fill out the table below)***Cane Estimate (tonnes) Next 5 years**

2023	2024	2025	2026	2027

**Section G: Declaration**

By signing this section, I declare that:

- (a)  I understand that the provision of false information to the Government for the purposes of receiving a benefit is an offence under the False Information Act 2016 and may result in a requirement to repay the benefit, a fine of up to \$20,000 or an imprisonment term of up to 10 years or any or all of the foregoing; and
- (b)  I give my consent to the Government to enter my farm to conduct inspections and investigations.
- (c)  To the best of my knowledge, no other person has applied for, or is planning to apply for, assistance under the New Farmers and Lease Renewal Assistance in relation to my Lease Offer;
- (d)  The farm purchased or lease renewed under the New Farmers or Lease Renewal Program will not be sold in the next **5** years.

Name (Applicant): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Applicant): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Witness): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Witness cane be Advisory Councillor, Justice of Peace)***OFFICIAL USE ONLY****Assessment by Ministry Official:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Decision by Project Steering Committee:***(please tick-√)*

Status:

Approved Declined Deferred

Name of the Secretariat: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Secretariat: \_\_\_\_\_

Minute Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Ministry of Sugar Industry Stamp:

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**RELEASE OF GRANTS – (To be filled by SCGF)**

Date Released:	Amount: \$ _____	Payee Name – ( If paid by Cheques)
	Any Cost:\$ _____	Cheque No:
	Net Transfer:\$ _____	If paid vide Bank
		Account-Name _____
		Bank Name _____
		Account Number _____

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Stamp: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECKLIST: (Please tick and attach compulsory documentations stated below)**

- Offer Letters - TLTB or Department of Lands or Approved Lender
- Lease Documents (if applicable)
- Supporting documents (valid Photo ID, TIN Registration Letter or Card, Voter ID Card)
- 5 Year Farm Plan
- 1 x Passport size Photo

**Applications can be submitted:**

1. Online visit (<https://scgf.com.fj/>)
2. Printed Applications can be posted direct to  
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Multi-Ethnic Affairs & Sugar Industry  
Sugar House,  
Walu Street, Marine Drive  
PO Box 5110,  
Lautoka,  
Marked “New Farmer & Lease Premium Grant” or
3. Can be dropped at any of the offices of Sugar Cane Growers Fund, Sugar Cane Growers Council and Ministry of Sugar office and Fiji Sugar Corporation Sector Offices.

4. The overlapping section will be acknowledged of the application.

### **Criteria and Guideline for Application:**

- (a) Grant will be provided on a first come first serve basis.
- (b) Sugar Research Institute of Fiji (SRIF) assess farms if:
  - i) it's been fallow and nonproductive land,
  - ii) New land that has never been used for sugarcane cultivation.
- (c) The applications will be open on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 and close on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.
- (d) The applicant must submit the completed grant application form with accurate information and all supporting documents as required to the Ministry of Multi-Ethnic Affairs & Sugar Industry.
- (e) The applications will be evaluated as received by the Ministry of Multi-Ethnic Affairs & Sugar Industry.
- (f) Grant Conditions:
  - i. Grant is available to growers for lease renewals. They need to be issued offer letters for lease renewals from *iTaukei* Land Trust Board, Lands Department or any other bona-fide lessor.
  - ii. The grant may apply for the purchase of sugar cane farm (only for new growers that purchase cane farms for the first time);
  - iii. The grant will not apply to the lease transaction between the immediate family members.
  - iv. For new farmers, the applicant should not own any agricultural land or agricultural lease under his\her name;
  - v. Only one applicant shall be assisted per household;
  - vi. The applicant should have the knowledge, experience, crop plan, and succession plan in the management of sugarcane farms;
  - vii. The land purchased should have a total of **3.5 hectares** of sugarcane land for cane planting; and
  - viii. The farm needs to be strategically located.
- (g) The Ministry of Sugar Industry will pay only **30%** of the lease offer cost stated in the lease offer letter or a maximum of **\$7,500**; whichever is lower. The same payment limit is for the purchase of new farms.
- (h) The farm purchased or lease renewed under the New Farmers or Lease Renewal Program should not be sold in the next **5** years. In cases where the land is required to be sold before the end of 5 years, the grant assistance given to the applicant/grower must be paid back to the Ministry of Sugar Industry in full by the grower.
- (i) There will appropriate charge on the farm for the amount and any charges or out-of-pocket expenses will be deducted from the grant amount.
- (j) The farm is to be productive within 18 months from the time COR is issued.
- (k) Any growers that got a sugarcane lease renewed between 2020-2022 and were not assisted under the New Farmers Assistance shall **only** be assisted if any funds are left unutilized from the 2023/2024 allocation. However, those with pending lease renewal will be given first priority.

### **For more information-**

**Interested applicants will obtain NFA Programme grant application forms from the Ministry of Sugar Industry, FSC Sector Office, Sugar Cane Growers Council, and Sugar Cane Growers Fund.**

For further clarifications on the NFA Programme, please contact Grant Analyst Renu Dayal or Executive Officer Grants - Mr. Rusiata Veikoso on 6664724 or 9904703.



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**MINISTRY OF MULTI-ETHIC AFFAIRS &  
SUGAR INDUSTRY**  
**Cane Farmers Grant Assistance Application Form Acknowledgement**

<b>Type of Application (√)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> New Farmer	<input type="checkbox"/> Lease Premium
<b>Name of the Applicant</b>		
<b>Farm Details (If any) Or Lease Details</b>	Sector _____ Farm No _____ Lease Details:	
<b>Acknowledged by Institution</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> SCGF	<input type="checkbox"/> SCGC
<b>District</b>		
<b>Name of Officer &amp; Designation</b>		
<b>Signature of Officer /Date</b>	_____ <b>Date:</b> _____	