

Weddin Shire Low Earth Orbiting Satellite Internet Subsidy - Application Guidelines - 2024

Background:

The majority of the Weddin Shire, outside of the town of Grenfell, is serviced by the NBN Satellite network. This network limits resident's ability to capitalise on the opportunities that come from reliable high speed internet, including social, health and economic opportunities. This has contributed to a digital divide in our community.

This program has been developed to improve digital connectivity across the Weddin Shire. This will be achieved by supporting access to internet coverage via the existing Low Earth Orbiting (LEO) satellite network, an alternative to the NBN network. The project involves reimbursing residents for costs incurred when connecting to the LEO satellite network. You may be more familiar with this technology by its retail name, Starlink. Eligible connections may include:

- Starlink Residential
- Starlink Business
- Starlink Mobility
- Telstra Satellite Home Internet, powered by Starlink
- Or any other LEO satellite network.

Guidelines:

1. Applicants must complete a Low Earth Orbiting Satellite Internet Subsidy Application Form, and lodge it with Weddin Shire Council for assessment.
2. Applicants who are rental tenants must provide evidence that their rental agent/owner has consented to the installation of a satellite dish. Applicants must use Appendix A of the Application Form.
3. The program will operate by reimbursement of eligible expenses into the Applicant's bank account within 30 days of approval.
4. The program has been developed for Weddin Shire residents who are not eligible for NBN fixed line, as per the NBN rollout map at www.nbnco.com.au/learn/rollout-map
5. The claim for reimbursement includes hardware costs and associated installation costs. Proof of purchase such as a tax invoice and receipt will be required.
6. Hardware costs include the satellite dish, router, adapter, mounts, and/or cables.
7. Associated Installation costs include the cost of a qualified electrical or antenna technician. Applications for 'installation costs only' will not be considered as part of this program.
8. Ongoing monthly usage charges are excluded under the program. This is the responsibility of the Applicant.
9. Ongoing charges related to operation and maintenance of the LEO satellite are excluded under this program (i.e. servicing charges, technical charges or insurances or any other associated operating and maintenance costs). This is the responsibility of the Applicant.
10. The maximum reimbursement is capped at \$1500 per applicant.
11. One application per eligible address.
12. There is a capped budget available for this program. The program will end when the funds are exhausted, or 30 June 2024, whichever comes first. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. In the event of an early close to the program, Weddin Shire Council will review applications in the order the applications were received. An Applicant's lack of knowledge of an early closure of the program will not be grounds for consideration of applications submitted after the program officially ends.

13. Stage One of the program has been developed for new LEO satellite connections made after 8 February 2024. Stage One of the program is not retrospective and expenses incurred before this date are ineligible.
14. Stage Two allows for customers with existing LEO satellite internet to make a retrospective claim for subsidy. Applications for Stage Two open on 1 March 2024. Applicants successful under Stage One are ineligible under Stage Two.
15. Upon submission of a complete application form and all necessary supporting documents, Council will check the compliance of applications with the program guidelines, in order of receipt. Incomplete applications will not enter the assessment queue or be assessed until all required information is provided.
16. Council will endeavor to assess applications and contact the Applicant with either an outcome (approved or not approved), or to request additional information within fourteen (14) days of application receipt.
17. Each application will be considered against assessment criteria. Applications will be approved by Weddin Shire Council's General Manager, in weekly batches commencing February 2024. As per point 3, approved applications will be reimbursed within 30 days of approval.
18. Upon the General Manager's approval of applications, payments will be processed directly into the resident's nominated bank account as per point 3.
19. Weddin Shire Council may request further information from the Applicant or from any business or individual the Applicant engaged, to assist in confirming compliance of the application and to verify any information provided in the application. Failure to provide such information may result in Weddin Shire Council refusing the application.
20. Weddin Shire Council may refuse an application where eligibility criteria are not met, or where the Applicant does not, or cannot, provide sufficient information for Weddin Shire Council to determine if eligibility criteria have been met.
21. Weddin Shire Council is bound by the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act)*. <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1998-133> Council will securely dispose of all personal identity documentation no later than 31 December 2024.
22. These guidelines are correct at the time of publishing. Weddin Shire Council reserves the right to amend, alter or change these guidelines at any time.
23. Weddin Shire Council will evaluate this program with a survey on program completion.
24. Council accepts no liability for where, or how a satellite dish, is mounted or routed in an Applicant's building (house, shed or any other infrastructure).
25. The Applicant indemnifies Weddin Shire Council, its employees and agents against liability in respect of all claims, cost and expenses in relation to all loss, damage, injury or death to persons or property caused by the Applicant's Contractor or product, in connection with the provision of the hardware or associated installation, except to the extent that the Council caused the relevant loss, damage or injury.

Further Information:


More information about this program is available from Weddin Shire Council's Economic Development Officer.





Please contact: Economic Development Officer
Phone: 02 6343 1864
Email: auburn@weddin.nsw.gov.au

Weddin Shire Low Earth Orbiting Satellite Internet Subsidy - Application Form - 2024

This form must be completed by all applicants who wish to obtain reimbursement funding for their Low Earth Orbiting satellite internet expenses.

1. Applicant name and address	
Applicant name	
ABN (if applicable)	
ACN (if applicable)	
GST Registered	<i>Please click either 'Yes' or 'No' box in each set below:</i> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Street address of applicant	
One application per eligible address.	

2. Project eligibility	
Are you a resident of Weddin Shire?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Using the NBN fixed line rollout map at www.nbnco.com.au/learn/rollout-map is your address in the NBN fixed line footprint?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Stage One Applicant Have you purchased a new LEO satellite internet connection and/or hardware since 8 February 2024? Hardware costs include the satellite dish, router, adapter, mounts and cables.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Stage Two Applicant Have you purchased a LEO satellite connection and / or hardware prior to 8 February 2024? Hardware costs include the satellite dish, router, adapter, mounts, and cables.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you attached a copy of personal identification, such as a driver's licence, that confirms your residential address? Weddin Shire Council is bound by the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> 

(PIIP Act). https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1998-133	
Do you own the home at this address? If yes, please attached a current rates notice. If no, please complete and attach the form at Appendix A signed by your rental agent / or owner confirming consent for installation of hardware.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> 
Please attach eligible paid tax invoices for expenses incurred for purchase of LEO Satellite hardware. Hardware costs include the satellite dish, router, adapter, mounts, cables etc.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> 
Please attach eligible paid tax invoices for expenses incurred for associated installation of eligible LEO Satellite hardware. Installation costs include the cost of a qualified electrical or antenna technician.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> 
Please provide proof of payment. Copy of statement showing the transactions for the relevant tax invoices. Name on the statement must match the applicant. The transactions to be reimbursed must be visible, however for privacy reasons applicants are encouraged to blank out other transactions.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> 

3. Project funding	
Total reimbursement for hardware requested	\$
Total reimbursement for associated installation requested	\$
Total reimbursement requested The maximum reimbursement is capped at \$1500 per applicant.	\$

4. Bank account details	
Name on bank account Name must match applicant	
BSB	
Account number	

5. Applicant's details <i>Council will correspond with this person</i>	
Name	
Postal address	
Phone number (daytime)	
Mobile phone number	
Email address	

6. Applicant's declaration	
I confirm that all the information provided in this project application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
I have completed all the questions in this project application form	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
I have attached all requested documents	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
I agree to participate in a short survey to evaluate the subsidy program	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Weddin Shire Council is not liable for any damages incurred from the installation and use of the satellite dish or hardware, including router, adapter, mounts or cables referenced under this program. Applicants who did not use a professional installer, do so at their own risk.	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Signature	
Date	

Do you need assistance in completing this form or would you like more information?

Please contact: Economic Development Officer
Phone: 02 6343 1864
Email: auburn@weddin.nsw.gov.au

Submitting your application

Email your completed application form, and supporting documents, to: mail@weddin.nsw.gov.au

OR

Post your completed application form, and supporting documents, to:
 Weddin Shire Council
 PO Box 125
 GRENFELL NSW 2810

Appendix A

Weddin Shire Low Earth Satellite Internet Subsidy - Rental Tenant Consent Form

1. Applicant name and address	
Applicant name	
Residential address of applicant	

2. Property Manager/ Property Owner	
Name	
Business Name	
Business address	
Phone number (daytime)	
Mobile phone number	
Email address	
I confirm that the tenant at this address secured property managers prior consent, to mount a satellite dish at this home.	<i>Please check either 'Yes' or 'No' box:</i> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Signature	
Date	