



July 2026

Plant Exports Reform

Authorised Officers – Recognising industry training under the GSAMS Scheme

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is introducing a new regulatory option for the export of Australian grain.

We have worked with Grain Trade Australia (GTA) to introduce a voluntary industry standard – the Grain Storage Assets and Management Standard (GSAMS) – and GSAMS Scheme, which provide an alternative export compliance pathway for industry participants.

Under the Scheme, industry have the option to train third party Authorised Officers (AO) candidates.

Recognising existing training

In recognition of existing industry training, we will provide industry the option to train their own AO candidates and have the AO training fee waived. Under the Scheme, REs have three options for training AO candidates:

- 1) AO face-to-face training facilitated by the RE (industry-led training).
- 2) AO face-to-face training facilitated by GTA (industry-led training).
For information on AO training facilitated by GTA, [contact GTA directly](#).
- 3) AO face-to-face training facilitated by the department.

Further information on industry-led training options can be found in [the GSAMS Scheme Framework](#).

AO candidates receiving training in options 1 or 2 can apply to have their training fee waived.

Conditions of industry training recognition

To be eligible for industry training recognition, AO candidates must:

- have completed face-to-face training facilitated by the RE or GTA
- be employed or engaged by an RE approved under the Scheme
Evidence of employment or engagement (email from the RE or a payslip) is uploaded into PEMS by the AO candidate during the AO application process.
- apply for one or more applicable job functions.

AO candidates are still required to:

- [submit an AO application](#) online through the Plant Export Management System (PEMS)
- complete the mandatory [eLearning](#) modules facilitated by the department

Authorised Officers – Recognising industry training under the GSAMS Scheme

- undertake an [assessment of competency](#) delivered by the department.

Note: If AO candidates do not demonstrate competency during assessment, industry-led training will not be recognised. They must complete and pay for department-delivered face-to-face training to proceed with AO authorisation.

- be [audited by the department](#).

Further Information about AOs is available on our [website](#).

Who can apply for industry training recognition?

- Individuals applying to become an AO.
- Existing AOs adding an applicable AO job function to their authorisation.

Adoption of this initiative is voluntary. For AO candidates choosing to undertake training delivered by the department, industry training recognition does not apply and nothing changes.

List of applicable AO job functions

- [PGG3001 Export inspection of prescribed grain and plant products](#)
- [GSEP4001 Export inspection of prescribed grain and plant products protocol](#)
- [ECI3001 Export inspection of empty containers](#)

Benefits

Industry can expect to experience a range of benefits, including:

- Reduced government intervention and duplication.
- Increased flexibility to provide on-the-job AO training through current commercial practices.
- Reduced cost and time associated with training individuals to become AOs.

Contact us

If you have questions about the changes, please contact the [Plant Export Reform Program](#).

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

© Commonwealth of Australia 2026

Unless otherwise noted, copyright (and any other intellectual property rights) in this publication is owned by the Commonwealth of Australia (referred to as the Commonwealth).

All material in this publication is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence](#) except content supplied by third parties, logos and the Commonwealth Coat of Arms.

The Australian Government acting through the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.