



ALPA Notice: *Changes to LPA*

6th July 2017

Changes have been made to strengthen the Livestock Production Assurance program and further safeguard Australia's enviable status as a world leader in red meat safety, integrity and traceability.

From 1 October 2017:

1. There will be two new elements 1) on-farm biosecurity and 2) animal welfare practices which will be additional requirements of LPA accreditation.
 2. LPA-accredited producers will need to renew LPA accreditation every three years. As part of this, producers will need to complete an assessment and pay a \$60 (plus GST) fee every three years.
 3. Online learning modules will be available to help producers understand their obligations and complete the assessment for accreditation.
 4. Off-line learning modules and assessments will be available at \$20 (plus GST) to help producers understand their obligations and complete the assessment for accreditation.
 5. FREE electronic LPA National Vendor Declarations (LPA eNVD) will be available.
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What do you need to do?

As an LPA-accredited producer you will need to:

- familiarise yourself with the new biosecurity and animal welfare requirements
- when your accreditation is due, complete the assessment and pay the fee

You are encouraged to complete the learning modules to understand your obligations and prepare for the assessment.

New biosecurity requirements:

You'll need to have a Farm Biosecurity Plan and implement best-practice biosecurity practices on your farm and complete the LPA Learning module to ensure you're meeting requirements. Cattle producers who have developed a Farm Biosecurity Plan as part of their approach to Johne's disease (J-BAS) management will not need to complete another to meet LPA requirements. For a Biosecurity Plan template go to www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Grazing-Manual-Biosecurity-Form.pdf.

New animal welfare requirements:

You'll need to demonstrate that your on-farm handling of livestock is consistent with the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines available at www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au.

Those responsible for livestock management will need to have a copy of the Standards and Guidelines, be familiar with its content, complete the LPA learning module, and advise and oversee others handling livestock.

Electronic NVDs (eNVDs)

The LPA eNVD will be available through the LPA Service Centre and licensed software providers. It is available to be printed but not everyone can receive it electronically yet. Check the list of software providers at www.mla.com.au/envd.

It is not compulsory for producers to change to the eNVD. You can continue using paper LPA NVDs (which will remain at \$40 incl GST per book) or you can print the eNVD free of charge.

More information:

Website: www.mla.com.au/lpa

Helpline: 1800 683 111

Email: lpa@mla.com.au

You'll be contacted approximately two months before your accreditation is due and given instructions for working through the new process online. Producers will remain LPA accredited throughout this process. Your LPA accreditation will only be at risk if you do not complete the assessment and pay the fee when your accreditation is due.

