

Farm Business Grant (FBG)

Window open 1 March 2021 – 9 April 2021

Questions and Answers

1. Can I apply if I have already received £12000 support through FBG?

No. If you have reached the maximum overall grant threshold of £12,000 you will not be eligible to apply for this window.

2. I have been unsuccessful in previous FBG application windows, what chance do I have to be successful in FBG8?

The EOIs will be scored and ranked in order according to the scoring criteria within the guidance and the EOIs selected in ranked order until the funds available in that round have been allocated. There is an increased budget of £5.0m for this window which will enable a higher number of applications to be selected.

3. How can I be sure the item I purchase meets the specification?

Annex A to the FBG guidance document provides information on the specification requirements for each eligible equipment item. All applicants have a responsibility to ensure that they purchase items that meet or exceed the minimum specification. The specification for all items provides sufficient information for applicants to make an informed decision on the items eligibility. You can exceed the stated specification, but the item has to meet the minimum requirements.

4. What happens if suppliers do not deliver the item in time for me to claim within the 120-day deadline?

If you have been advised by the supplier/manufacturer that they cannot deliver the items before the claim date, you will need to contact RPW via “My Messages” in your RPW Online account or by emailing the **FBG mailbox** – FBG.ProcessingTeam@gov.wales – notifying them of the issue in as much detail as you can provide.

You will need to request an extension to the 120-day deadline to claim and provide proof of ordering the item and documentary evidence from the supplier to confirm that they cannot supply the item. This information must be submitted as soon as possible before the original 120-day claim deadline.

5. Can we purchase an item before the application and claim on it because of concern over supply demands?

As with all previous FBG windows, all approved items must be purchased after the FBG contract has been accepted. However, if there are concerns about the delivery of the items, you would need to contact RPW as detailed in question 4.

6. I intend to apply for the Farm Business Grant – Yard Coverings scheme (FBG-YC) in the next application window; if I am successful in FBG8 will this impact my FBG-YC application?

No, the FBG – YC scheme is a separate scheme with a separate allocation of grant funding.

7. Will there be any further windows of FBG?

This is the last planned round of the FBG funded through the Rural Development Programme. At present, we cannot say whether further rounds, using wholly domestic funding, will be available.

8. Why have some items been removed from the eligible item list for this window?

All eligible items, their specifications and standard costs have been reviewed to ensure they meet the programme's objectives and provide value for money. As a result, for this window, some items have been removed. However, new items have also been included which have been identified as meeting the scheme's objectives.

9. Why have the standard costs and grant amounts changed for this window?

As with the review of eligible items, the standard costs were also reviewed to ensure they reflect the actual cost to the industry. As a result, some items have had their standard costs increased while costs for others have decreased.

10. What happens if I submit a claim and the item is deemed not to meet the specification?

All applicants are responsible for ensuring they only claim for eligible equipment which meets the specification. If you claim for an item that does not meet the specification, your claim will be rejected and/or you will incur penalties.

11. Is the funding available for to start ups?

The FBG grant is available to farming businesses that meet the eligibility criteria which is detailed in the guidance.

12.If I was successful in a previous FBG window, but did not purchase the items and submit a claim, would I be able to apply for this FBG window?

If you accepted a contract from a previous FBG window, but did not submit a claim, you can still apply for this window. However, the value of your previous contract will be deducted from the total grant allocation available to you.

13.How are applications scored?

Full details of the scoring system and the selection process is detailed in the guidance.

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/farm-business-grant-general-rules-booklet_1.pdf

14.Having claimed in past FBG windows, but not received the full £12,000, can I apply in this round, even though I have less than £3,000 grant allocation remaining?

If you have applied for the FBG in any previous application windows and your EOI has been selected, but did not reach the £12,000 maximum, you can still apply.

The minimum grant value of your EOI must be £3,000 or more, but the grant contribution will be capped to any amount available to you which is below the £3,000 minimum grant threshold.