

YOUR GUIDE TO SMALL CAPITAL WORKS



Football Foundation guidelines for grants up to £25,000

1. Introduction

Here at the Football Foundation, we're all about investing in local facilities that help to transform lives and strengthen communities, but we know that sometimes a really small investment can make a really big difference.

Whilst we make lots of large grant awards into key strategic projects across the country through our Local Football Facility Plans, we make even more small grant awards to help you keep playing the beautiful game. Whether it's new goalposts for one of your junior teams or some maintenance machinery for your ground staff to keep your grass pitches looking pristine, we offer a range of small grants to support the whole grassroots game.

These guidelines will give you all the information you need to develop a successful application for a small grant of up to £25,000, and make improvements such as:

- Improving the quality of playing surfaces, both natural and artificial
- Installing fencing
- Purchasing pitch maintenance machinery
- Replacing or buying new goalposts
- Refurbishing or carrying out essential works to your changing rooms or clubhouse

Once you've read the guidelines relevant to the improvements you want to make at your club or facility, you can go ahead and make your grant application on our [website](#). We know applications can be daunting and time consuming, so we've tried to make our process as quick and simple as possible. All we need from you is a little background information about your organisation and, in some instances, some supporting documents regarding the project that you are seeking funding towards - and that's it. For our smaller grants, an average application may only take 10 minutes to complete.

If you think the application sounds quick and easy, you'll be pleased to hear that a decision is provided pretty quickly too. Our team aim to assess and provide a decision on all small grant applications within just a few weeks of submission and for certain grants, like goalposts, you may receive your grant offer within a matter of days.

Eligible organisations

You don't have to be a football club to apply to the Football Foundation, however grassroots football must be an integral part of your offer.

You **can** apply if you're:

- A not-for-profit football club or voluntary group
- A Local Authority
- A County FA
- A Professional Club Community Organisation
- An educational establishment providing facilities for the community
- A registered charity
- A not-for-profit company
- A community interest company (CIC) or other social enterprise
- A company limited by guarantee

You **can't** apply if you're:

- An individual or sole trader
- A national governing body

- A commercial / for-profit entity
- A club within the Premier League, Football League, National League System (Step 1 to 6), Regional Feeder League (Step 7), Women's Football Pyramid (Tier 1 – 5) or the Cymru Premier League
- Educational establishments providing facilities solely for their students

How often can I apply?

As you can probably imagine, we receive lots of applications each and every day and so in order to make everything as efficient as possible and ensure others get the funding they need, we ask that applicants try and make no more than one application per season. Although we've designed the process to make it as quick and easy as possible, it's still important that you take the time to ensure you've included everything we've asked for. This helps us to make decisions quicker and prevents you from having to submit multiple applications for the same item.

Due to the high demand for our funding, we would ask that applicants try to make no more than one application per season to make the best use of our resources. Therefore, please give careful thought before you apply that you have included everything within your submission that you need in order to prevent multiple applications being made.

2. Changing pavilion or clubhouse refurbishment

2.1 Summary

We'll consider grant applications for minor building works that:

- Enhance facilities,
- Address health and safety issues and improve the financial health of your organisation by reducing operating costs,
- Increase income streams and
- Maintain or increase participation in football

These usually include projects such as refurbishment or modernisation of changing rooms, toilets and clubhouses.

2. What we won't fund

The focus of your project must be for grassroots football. Works to football stadia in the National League System (Step 1-6, or NLS Regional Feeder League, formerly Step 7), Women's Football Pyramid or the Welsh Premier League are ineligible for funding. If these works are required for ground grading, please visit our FSIF page for more information where separate grants are available.

Similarly, grants are not available to support the ongoing running costs of buildings or to carry out routine maintenance works. Temporary structures (such as marquees) are also not eligible.

2.3 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs. Where a grant of over £25,000 is required, you should contact your County FA and / or Foundation Engagement Manager to discuss the project as this will require a much more detailed application to be submitted. Their contact details can be found on our website.

2.4 Criteria

Due to such a breadth of what the application may include, we ask that you speak to your County FA or Foundation Engagement Manager prior to submission. They will be able to clarify, with the support of the Foundation's Technical team, the level of information and detail that should be submitted with the application. A question within the application form will ask you to confirm that you've been in touch.

Ideally, we require grant applications to be accompanied by an independent condition survey or inspection report of the facility which clearly recommends the works that need to be undertaken. If this isn't available, alternative evidence of the need will be required, such as photographs highlighting the issue, or the condition of the current facilities.

We'll ask you to submit specifications and drawings that clearly detail the scope of the proposed works. They should comply with the Football Foundation minimum design requirements unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Planning permission may be required for your improvement work, so please check with your Local Authority and ensure it is in place before you apply for funding from us. You'll need to provide evidence that planning permission has been obtained or written confirmation from the Local Authority that planning permission is not required. Further guidance regarding planning permission can be found at:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/permission/>

You may also require Building Regulations approval. If so, upon completion of the works, we'll require a final certificate from the Local Building Control Officer (or Approved Inspector) that confirms the works comply with Building Regulations. Further information regarding the Building Regulations can be found at:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk>

The statutory fees payable for securing planning permission and Building Regulations approval may be included in your grant application as an eligible cost of the project. Professional fees for design and management services are also eligible.

Routine maintenance works such as unblocking drains, minor roof repairs, repainting, or replacement floor coverings are not considered eligible for grants as individual projects. However, if these form part of a larger refurbishment project, then they may be considered eligible.

Upon completion, we'll require copies of mechanical and electrical test certificates for electrical, fire alarm, heating and hot water installation works prior to the release of the final 5% of the grant.

We'll also require written confirmation of the landlord's consent to undertake the proposed works, unless you own the facility or the landlord is included as a joint applicant.

2.5 Tenure requirements

We'll ask you to demonstrate that you have the required ownership, by either freehold, or uninterrupted leasehold from the date of grant offer for a varying period, for a length of time dependent on the grant amount:

- Up to £25,000 – 5 years
- £25,001 up to £100,000 – 10 years

2.6 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- Photographs of the existing building or works to be completed
- Condition survey of the existing building (if required)
- Plans and drawings of the existing building configuration and as proposed
- Specification and schedule of works
- A minimum of two like-for-like quotations from experienced contractors, based upon the design details and specification
- Evidence of additional partnership funding
- Evidence of security of tenure in the form of a signed lease or freehold title document
- Planning approval notice
- Landlord's consent to the works

2.7 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll be in contact if they have any queries about your application.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks if all of the required information has been provided. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account.

3. **Fencing**

3.1 Summary

Fencing not only does the important job of keeping your facility safe and secure but it's also essential for keeping your pitch in the best condition possible for play. We provide a range of different fencing options that vary to fit the circumstances of the applicant.

3.2 What we will fund

- Ball retention systems
- Boundary fencing and gates
- Pest control fencing

3.3 What we won't fund

- Pitch perimeter barriers (if these are required for National League System ground grading, please visit our FSIF page for more information)
- Temporary fencing

3.4 Grant limits

The Foundation can provide a grant of up to £25,000 for fencing, provided this doesn't exceed 75% of the total project costs. Where a grant of over £25,000 is required for a major fencing project, the applicant should contact their County FA and / or Football Foundation Engagement Manager to discuss the project in more detail. Their contact details can be found on our website.

3.5 Criteria

We can provide funding for fencing that improves the security or safety of a site. Your reasons for wanting to make these improvements need to be made clear in your application form. We'll ask you for a marked-up drawing or aerial photograph of the site, indicating the location of your proposed fencing improvements.

We'll also ask you to provide a specification and schedule of works that indicates the length (i.e. total metres), height and construction of the proposed fencing, including the size and number of gates.

Planning permission may be required for your improvement work, so please check with your Local Authority, and ensure it is in place before you apply for funding from us. You'll need to provide evidence that planning permission has been obtained, or written confirmation from the Local Authority that planning permission is not required, and planning consent is generally required for fencing over 2m in height. Further guidance regarding planning permission can be found at:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/permission/commonprojects/fenceswallsgates>

The statutory fees payable for securing planning permission may be included as a project cost within your grant application.

We'll also require written confirmation of the landlord's consent to undertake the proposed works unless you own the facility or the landlord is included as a joint applicant.

We're not able to support any fencing project which would restrict a public right of way. Further guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/right-of-way-open-access-land/public-rights-of-way>

3.6 Tenure requirements

We'll ask you to demonstrate that you have the required ownership, by either freehold, or uninteruptible leasehold from the date of grant offer for a varying period, for a length of time dependent on the grant amount:

- Up to £25,000 – 5 years
- £25,001 up to £100,000 – 10 years.

3.7 Documents required

To ensure your application can be effectively assessed, please include the following documents:

- Photographs of the existing site, indicating where the fencing will be installed
- A marked-up drawing or aerial photograph, indicating the proposed fencing location
- A specification / schedule of works
- Two like-for-like quotations from experienced suppliers, based on the specification
- Evidence of partnership funding
- Evidence of security of tenure
- Planning approval notice
- Landlord's consent to the works

3.8 Assessment timescales

Once you've submitted your application and supporting documentation, we'll send you a confirmation email. Your application will then be assessed by our Grant Management Team, who'll contact you to discuss any questions they might have about your application.

Assessment of your application will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive an email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Foundation account.

4. **Goalposts**

4.1 Summary

The Football Foundation provides grants for the purchase of new or replacement pairs of goalposts for use within community grassroots football.

Projects that are for the exclusive use of educational establishments for their students, or from clubs that play within the National League System (Step 1 to 6, and the Regional NLS Feeder League, formerly Step 7), Women's Football Pyramid or the Welsh Premier League are not eligible.

If the goalposts are for use on a 3rd generation (3G) artificial grass pitch, the pitch should be certified for use and be listed on The FA's 3G Pitch Register.

The FA and British Standards Institution (BSI), in conjunction with manufacturers, have developed standards for goalposts – BSEN 748:2013+A1:2018 and BS EN 16579:2018. Your supplier must ensure that the goalposts you're seeking to purchase meet this standard. You must then ensure they're correctly installed in accordance with manufacturer requirements. Further details on goalpost safety can be found at: <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/goalpost-safety>

We would strongly recommend that for safety and security reasons, all goalposts are safely removed and stored when they are not in use.

4.2 What we will fund

- 11v11, 9v9 and Mini Soccer goalposts
- Goalposts that will be used on a 3G pitch that is on the FA 3G Pitch Register
- Futsal goalposts

4.3 What we won't fund

- Goalposts that have already been purchased or ordered
- Individual goalposts (goalposts must be purchased in pairs)
- Replacement of goalpost parts or nets
- Goalposts that will be used on a 3G pitch that isn't on the FA 3G Pitch Register
- Replacement of goalposts that have previously been purchased with Football Foundation funding
- Other items such as corner flags, football kit, footballs, cones

4.4 Grant limits

If you're seeking a grant to purchase five or more sets of goalposts for a site, your application will be referred to our Engagement Manager so that they can get in touch to discuss your application in more detail.

The maximum grant you can apply for will depend on the size of goalposts you are purchasing:

- 2.44m x 7.32m (Adult 11 v 11) - a maximum grant amount of £1,200 per set of goalposts (or 75% grant up to the maximum grant value) based on a typical average purchase price of £1,600 including carriage, but excluding VAT.
- 2.13m x 6.40m (Youth 11 v 11) - a maximum grant amount of £1,200 per set of goalposts (or 75% grant up to the maximum grant value) based on a typical average purchase price of £1,600 including carriage, but excluding VAT.
- 2.13m x 4.88m (9 v 9) - a maximum grant amount of £900 per set of goalposts (or 75% grant up to the maximum grant value) based on a typical average purchase price of £1,200 including carriage, but excluding VAT.
- 1.83m x 3.66m (7 v 7 / 5 v 5) - a maximum grant amount of £900 per set of goalposts (or 75% grant up to the maximum grant value) based on a recommended purchase price of £1,200 including carriage, but excluding VAT.

- 2m x 3m (Futsal) - a maximum grant amount of £600 per set of goalposts (or 75% grant up to the maximum grant value) based on a recommended purchase price of £800 including carriage, but excluding VAT.

If you're not able to reclaim the VAT, this should be included in your total project cost. The grant amount will be adjusted accordingly. Here are some examples:

Example 1

A club needs a new set (this is one pair of goalposts) of 11 v 11 goalposts and sees some online that are priced at £1,920 including VAT. The club enters this price on the application form and applies to the Foundation for a grant of £1,440 as 75% of the total project cost. The club contributes £480 (25%).

4.5 Tenure requirements

There are no tenure requirements for the purchase of goalposts.

4.6 Suppliers

You'll need to identify the size of goalposts you wish to purchase and submit the online application form detailing the preferred chosen supplier, number of pairs (not individual goals), size, price, VAT (if applicable) and quantity.

To help your search, below is a list of companies that can supply you with suitable goalposts.

B G Sports (SAMBA) - www.sambasports.co.uk

Broxap Ltd - www.stadia-sports.co.uk

Goalfix – www.goalfixsports.com

Harrod UK - www.harrod.uk.com

Huck Nets (Edwards) - www.edsports.co.uk

Itsagoal - www.itsagoal.net

Mark Harrod - www.markharrod.com

MH Goals Ltd - www.mhgoals.com

PMF Products Ltd (Live4soccer) - www.live4soccer.co.uk

Net World Sports - www.networldsports.com

This is not a 'closed' list and you can purchase your goalposts from other suppliers.

It is important your chosen goalposts meet British Standards (BSEN 748:2013+A1:2018 and BS EN 16579:2018). You may be asked to evidence this when claiming your grant.

4.7 Documents required

No other documents are required for your application to be assessed. You will have to confirm as part of the application form that you're able to provide the balance of partnership funding. You may be asked to provide a copy of the delivery note and final invoice as part of the claims process.

4.8 Assessment timescales

When you've submitted your application and supporting documentation, we'll send you a confirmation email. It will then be checked by our Grant Management Team to confirm all the information provided is correct. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account, typically within five working days.

The goalposts should not be ordered or purchased until the grant has been accepted. Any goalposts that have already been ordered or purchased prior to the grant being accepted, are ineligible for funding.

Please note that you must order the same quantity and type of goalposts that were outlined in your application. For example, if you have been offered funding towards one set of 11v11 goalposts, you cannot use the funding to then purchase two sets of Mini Soccer goals instead.

If you wish to change your goalpost type, you must get approval for this, prior to placing any orders/making purchases.

5. Grass Pitch Drainage

5.1 Summary

Providing a suitable playing surface is essential to sustain and increase participation in grassroots football, so the Football Foundation is able to provide funding for works to improve the drainage of natural turf pitches.

5.2 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs. Where a grant of over £25,000 is required, you should contact your County FA and / or Foundation Engagement Manager to discuss the project in more detail. Their contact details can be found on our web site.

5.3 Criteria

As a pre-requisite to applying for funding, we ask that you first engage with a GMA Regional Pitch Advisor (RPA), complete a PitchPower assessment and seek advice on how to improve your pitch. Please contact your County FA for information on how to seek advice from the RPA. You can find contact details on The FA website:

<http://www.thefa.com/about-football-association/who-we-are/county-fas>

We can accept a grant application from you if their report suggests that capital works are required to improve the condition of your pitch, and other options (such as improved maintenance) have been exhausted.

Where the works involve the installation of a piped drainage system, we require a Register of Independent Professional Turfgrass Agronomists (RIPTA) qualified professional or sports turf consultant to design, specify and oversee the works.

Where a piped drainage installation is discharging into a ditch or other watercourse, permission from the Environment Agency or your local authority may be required. If so, this must be in place before your application is submitted.

We'll also require written confirmation of the landlord's consent to undertake the proposed works, unless you own the facility or the landlord is included as a joint applicant.

We're not able to fund works deemed as 'routine maintenance' such as grass cutting or line marking. For enhanced maintenance works, separate grants are available and subject to their own guidance notes.

As a result of the works, it'll be expected that grass pitches will be maintained to the GMA 'Good' standard or above.

5.4 Tenure requirements

We'll ask you to demonstrate that you have the required ownership, by either freehold, or uninterrupted leasehold from the date of grant offer for a varying period, for a length of time dependent on the grant amount:

- Up to £25,000 – 5 years
- £25,001 up to £100,000 – 10 years

5.5 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- Photographs of the pitches, indicating the problem to be resolved via the proposed works
- Grass pitch assessment report from GMA RPA
- Where a piped drainage installation is being proposed, a feasibility study and specification of works from a qualified agronomist or sports pitch consultant
- Plans / drawings / specification / schedule of works
- Two like-for-like quotations from an experienced contractor, based upon the specification
- Evidence of partnership funding.
- Environment Agency / local authority approval (if applicable)
- Landlord consent to the works

5.6 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll contact you to discuss your application if they have any queries.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account.

7. Grass Pitch Maintenance Machinery and Equipment

7.1 Summary

Effective machinery and equipment are essential for maintaining quality natural turf playing surfaces. The Football Foundation is able to provide grants that help with the purchase of new and previously owned pitch maintenance equipment recommended through your PitchPower Grass Pitch Assessment Report from the Regional Pitch Advisor (RPA), to help improve the quality of your pitch to an GMA 'Good' Standard (or above).

Whereas we expect the vast majority of applications to be made by voluntary Clubs and organisations, the Foundation may consider a request from a Local Authority where a specific piece of machinery or equipment has been recommended by the RPA. Whilst the Foundation would not consider funding any equipment to carry out routine maintenance works on behalf of the Local Authority, where a strategic investment could be made to enhance pitch quality across a number of key sites across the area that have been identified through the LFFP, a grant may be considered.

7.2 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs. Where a grant of over £25,000 is required, the applicant should contact their County FA and / or Foundation Engagement Manager to discuss the project in more detail. Their contact details can be found on our web site.

7.3 Criteria

To apply for a grant towards pitch maintenance machinery and equipment, you must agree to join our Grass Pitch Improvement Strategy and complete an assessment of all the pitches that will be improved using the machinery using our PitchPower App, and then provide ongoing twice-yearly reports on the condition of your pitches.

Pitch assessment data must be submitted at least twice per year using the app, with one assessment completed between the 1st November and the 31 March, and one further assessment between either the 1st April and 30th June, or the 1st July and 31st October.

Further details on the programme are available at <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/pitchpower> or please speak to your County FA.

You can find contact details on The FA website:

<http://www.thefa.com/about-football-association/who-we-are/county-fas>

If successful with your application, we expect your equipment to be covered by suitable insurance and securely stored when not in use. It should be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and we would request that it is only be used by suitably trained operators. You will be requested to complete a short online course (the Grounds Management Association Level 1 Football Groundsmanship course) and provide evidence of completion to the Foundation, before any funds are released, unless you already hold a suitable, valid qualification.

7.4 Tenure requirements

There are no security of tenure requirements for the purchase of pitch maintenance machinery, but the applicant will be liable for the machinery for the length of the clawback period.

7.5 Suppliers

The Foundation doesn't currently have a preferred suppliers list. Applicants should source quotes for pitch maintenance equipment from a reputable dealer.

7.6 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- Grass Pitch Assessment Report from the GMA RPA
- Two like-for-like quotations for each item of equipment from different suppliers
- Evidence of partnership funding
- If previously owned pitch maintenance equipment is to be purchased, 12 months warranty from a reputable dealer is required
- Photos of existing equipment being replaced and where new equipment will be stored

7.7 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll contact you to discuss your application if they have any queries.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account. The equipment should not be purchased until the grant terms and conditions have been accepted.

8. Improvements to playing surfaces (NEW!)

8.1 Summary

Providing a suitable playing surface is essential to sustain and increase participation in grassroots football, or to encourage recreational football to take place. The Football Foundation can provide grants to build or improve the condition of small-sided pitches and Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGA) that have been identified as a priority for investment within the Local Football Facilities Plans. The Foundation will also in some instances consider making improvements to natural turf playing surfaces - such as levelling, repairing or extending grass pitches.

8.2 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs. Where a grant of over £25,000 is required, the applicant should contact their County FA and / or Foundation Engagement Manager to discuss the project in more detail. Their contact details can be found on our web site.

8.3 Criteria

Whether you're proposing to improve an existing artificial grass pitch, MUGA or grass pitch, we ask that you speak with your Football Foundation Technical Project Manager before proceeding with a grant application.

We'll require a condition survey or inspection report recommending the scope of works to be undertaken, or in the case of a grass pitch, for a PitchPower Grass Pitch Assessment Report to have been completed. If this isn't available, other justification for the works will be required, such as photographic evidence.

We'll require specifications and drawings, clearly detailing the scope of the proposed works. Works should comply with the Foundation's minimum design requirements, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Planning permission may or may not be required for the works and confirmation of which applies is required from the local planning authority. Further information regarding planning permission can be found at:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/permission/>

Planning permission must be in place before your application is submitted.

8.4 Tenure requirements

We'll ask you to demonstrate that you have the required ownership, by either freehold, or uninterruptable leasehold from the date of grant offer for a varying period, for a length of time dependent on the grant amount:

- Up to £25,000 – 5 years
- £25,001 up to £100,000 – 10 years.

8.5 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- Plans and drawings of the existing configuration and as proposed

- Specification and schedule of works
- A minimum of two like-for-like quotations from experienced contractors, based upon the design details and specification
- Evidence of partnership funding
- Evidence of security of tenure
- Planning approval notice
- Landlord's consent to the works
- A copy of a typical weekly programme of use for the facility

8.6 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll contact you to discuss your application if they have any queries.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account.

9. **Portable floodlights**

9.1 Summary

Portable floodlights can be a cost-effective way for you to use your facilities during the hours of darkness. The Football Foundation will accept applications for both new and previously owned portable floodlights for use on artificial or natural turf training areas. Funding will not, however, be provided to provide portable (or fixed) floodlights on grass pitches that are used for matchplay, due to potential overuse during the winter months which would be detrimental to their playing quality.

If your organisation is a partner on an existing or proposed Football Foundation 3G FTP, we would require evidence on why these portable floodlights were required. If we have made a significant investment in to a 3G FTP on the basis of your organisation being a key partner, we would require assurance that by leaving the site, it is not to the detriment to their Site Development or Business Plan.

9.2 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs.

9.3 Criteria

To apply for a grant, you will need to provide an explanation for why you're proposing to purchase portable floodlights and demonstrate your training area can cope with additional use (e.g. how usage will be rotated to ensure one area isn't over-used). As previously advised, funding will not be provided to purchase floodlights on grass pitches that are used for matchplay.

If successful with your application, we ask that:

- Floodlights are covered by suitable insurance and securely stored when not in use
 - The floodlights should be stored securely at the applicant's site as named in the grant application. Purchasing and storing equipment at a personal residence is not eligible.
- Floodlights are only used by suitably trained personnel, over the age of 18
- Floodlights will be operated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

- If they're previously owned, the equipment should be purchased from a reputable dealer, with a minimum 12-month warranty.

9.4 Tenure requirements

There are no tenure requirements for the purchase of portable floodlights, but the applicant will be liable for the floodlights for the length of the clawback period.

9.5 Suppliers

The Foundation doesn't currently have a preferred suppliers list. Applicants should source their quotes from a reputable dealer.

9.6 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- Two like-for-like quotations for appropriate portable floodlights from different suppliers
- Evidence of partnership funding
- Photos of where the portable floodlights will be stored
- If previously owned portable floodlights are to be purchased, a copy of the warranty from a reputable dealer.

9.7 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll contact you to discuss your application if they have any queries.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account.

10. **Storage containers**

10.1 Summary

The provision of secure storage such as containers or sheds is a simple cost-effective way of increasing your capacity for equipment and freeing up space within your site for better use.

10.2 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs.

10.3 Criteria

To apply for a grant to invest in secure storage, we'll need you to explain why you require the additional capacity on your site.

We will only fund the purchase of new or fully refurbished storage containers with a minimum 12-month warranty. We are unable to fund the cost of rented or leased storage containers, but grants

can be used for the replacement of existing storage containers that have reached the end of their useful life, subject to justification of the need.

Planning permission may be required for the works from the Local Authority before your application is submitted. Where planning consent has not been secured, your application will be processed but no funding will be released until confirmation of planning consent is provided, which may take around eight weeks. If you believe planning consent is not required, we will require written consent of this to be provided from the Local Authority. Planning Permission for temporary siting is not considered eligible. Permission needs to be for at least the length of the clawback period. Further information regarding planning permission can be found at:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/permission/>

The statutory fees payable for securing planning permission may be included within your application as a project cost.

If required, we'll require you to provide written confirmation of the landlord's consent to undertake the proposed works. We'll also ask for written confirmation that the storage container and its contents will be fully insured.

10.4 Tenure requirements

There are no tenure requirements for the purchase of storage containers, but the applicant will be liable for the container for the length of the clawback period.

10.5 Suppliers

The Foundation doesn't currently have a preferred suppliers list. Applicants should source their quotes from a reputable dealer.

10.6 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- Two like-for-like quotations for appropriate storage containers from different suppliers – if they are pre-owned/refurbished, they must come with 12 months warranty.
- Evidence of partnership funding
- A marked-up drawing or aerial photograph of the site, indicating the location of the proposed storage container(s)
- Planning approval notice
- Landlord's consent to the works

10.7 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll contact you to discuss your application if they have any queries.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account.

Please note that if you don't have planning permission for your storage container, you should not place the order until this is confirmed, and no funding will be released until this is in place.

11. 3G Pitch Maintenance Machinery and Equipment (NEW!)

11.1 Summary

Effective machinery and equipment are essential for correctly maintaining 3G pitches and keeping them on The FA 3G Pitch Register to allow for affiliated match play. The Football Foundation is able to provide grants that help with the purchase of pitch maintenance equipment that has been recommended by either your pitch manufacturer, installer or specialist pitch consultant where we haven't already previously invested in machinery at your site.

11.2 Grant limits

The Foundation will award a maximum grant of £25,000 that does not exceed 75% of the total project costs.

11.3 Criteria

To apply for a grant towards 3G pitch maintenance machinery and equipment, you must first agree to keep your facility on The FA 3G Pitch Register for the duration of the terms and condition of the award. The 3G pitch should be tested, and then tested again every three years for grassroots football or every year for football in the National League System. This will enable the 3G to be used for affiliated league matches and therefore help the 3G pitch to be used to its maximum potential by programming matches at peak times.

The machinery should be purchased in line with the recommendation of your pitch manufacturer, pitch installer or specialist pitch consultant.

If successful with your application, we expect your equipment to be covered by suitable insurance and securely stored when not in use. It should be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and we would request that it is only be used by suitably trained operators.

If your pitch was delivered with a grant from the Football Foundation and maintenance machinery was provided as part of the project, replacement machinery should be funded from the sinking fund and not through an additional grant from the Foundation.

11.4 Tenure requirements

There are no security of tenure requirements for the purchase of pitch maintenance machinery, but the applicant will be liable for the length of the terms and conditions of the award.

11.5 Suppliers

The Foundation doesn't currently have a preferred suppliers list. Applicants should source quotes for and previously owned pitch maintenance equipment from a reputable dealer.

11.6 Documents required

To ensure your application is processed you should include the following documents:

- 3G Pitch Test Certificate, or agreement to add your pitch to The FA 3G Pitch Register
- Two like-for-like quotations for each item of equipment from different suppliers
- Evidence of partnership funding
- If previously owned pitch maintenance equipment is to be purchased, 12 months warranty from a reputable dealer is required
- Photos of existing equipment being replaced and where new equipment will be stored.

11.7 Assessment timescales

Once your application and supporting documentation have been submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email. Your application will be assessed by our Grant Management Team who'll contact you to discuss your application if they have any queries.

Assessment will typically take around two weeks. You'll then receive a notification by email that your decision letter (and any associated terms and conditions) is available for download from your Football Foundation account.

