



Bi-Weekly Club Newsletter

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Football Foundation

What is it?

The facilities scheme provides money to develop new or improve facilities for community benefit. These include changing rooms or clubhouses, grass or artificial pitches and multi-use games areas.

How much can we apply for?

The maximum grant available from the Foundation for each facility project will be £500,000.

Who can apply?

Applications are welcome from football clubs, multi-sport clubs, local authorities, all educational establishments, registered charitable organisations, not for profit companies limited by guarantee, industrial and provident societies and unincorporated not for profit organisations.

They cannot consider your application if you start work or appoint a contractor before they approve a grant for your project. However, if they give you permission in writing beforehand, they may still be able to consider your application.

What is eligible?

They will fund:

- Improvements to facilities for football and other sport in local communities.
- Projects that sustain or increase participation amongst children and adults, regardless of background age, or ability.
- Projects that help children and adults to develop their physical, mental, social and moral capacities through regular participation in sport.

The types of facilities that they give money for include:

- grass pitches drainage/improvements
- pavilions, clubhouses and changing rooms
- artificial turf pitches and multi-use games areas
- fixed floodlights for artificial pitches

The most they can pay is **90% of the project costs**, but they will only award as much as this in exceptional circumstances.

What don't they fund?

- Indoor facilities
- Sites where football is played by adults only

Want to apply?

Before you submit an application, it is strongly recommend you fill in an expression of interest form and discuss your project with your County FA Development Manager and your FA Regional Facilities Manager.

Applications are online at www.footballfoundation.org.uk

All applicants must have security of tenure by means of “the freehold” or by means of an uninterrupted lease. (Security of tenure is a guarantee that you own or will be able to use a site. This can be acquired via a lice, lease or freehold.)

The minimum security of tenure requirements are:

- For grants up to £20,000: 10 years
- For grants up to £250,000: 20 years

- For grants over £250,000: 25 years

How long will it take?

A report on your project is presented to the Foundation grant assessment panel for consideration and approval if appropriate.

As a rough estimate, if you are applying for a grant between £20,001 and £500,000, it will take on average 25 weeks to reach a decision.

What makes a good application?

You will need planning permission for a project before you can submit an application.

They usually decide how much grant to give your project based on all the circumstances of the project. However, you must show you have tried hard to get funding for your project from inside and outside your organisation and that there is no other money available.

Your financial circumstances will be the main thing they consider when deciding how much they can give you. If you have more money available or have more power to create more income, you are likely to get a much smaller grant than organisations which have not.

Technical guidance and required documentation to be submitted are available on the website, in the “Help with your application” section.