

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. When does the grant scheme close?

A. 12 noon Friday 30th July 2021

(Late applications will not be accepted as the grant manager system will cut off at this point)

Q. How much grant can I get?

A. Total grant awarded will range from £500 - £4,999 (Grant will be 50% of the cost of each item requested). If the total cost of items is between £9,998 and £20,000 the grant awarded will be capped at £4,999.

Q. What can be funded?

A. Capital items – as the grant is targeted towards a diverse range of businesses the types of eligible items are varied. Examples of items funded from previous years include:

- Power Washers
- Welders
- Generators
- Panel Saws
- IT equipment – laptops, PC's, printers etc.
- Scaffolding
- Trailers – motorized vehicles are not eligible.
- Sewing Machine
- Ecommerce websites
- Software (outright purchase only)
- Cameras/Video equipment
- Catering equipment
- Horse riding equipment

This list is not exhaustive as items will be specific to your business needs.

Q. What cannot be funded

A.

- Motorised vehicles including vans, lorries, boats, bikes, quads, forklifts, scissor lifts, ride on lawnmowers and any other form of motorized vehicles;
- Items costing less than £1,000 or more than £20,000;
- Second hand or refurbished equipment;
- General Maintenance or Refurbishment Works;
- Capital Improvements, building works or refurbishments of any property;
- Purchase of port-a-cabins, pods or any other building;
- Labour Costs not directly associated with the installation of purchased equipment or build of e-commerce sites;
- Projects that have already started;

- Any resource items, such as marketing materials, information websites (with no online purchasing capabilities), training courses, feasibility studies;
- Business running costs such as staff costs, rent, rates, electric, insurance, stock;
- Bank interest charges, referral fees and foreign currency transaction charges;
- Consumable items used by any business that are replaced regularly because they wear out or are used up;
- Equipment related to the provision of additional bed space for existing accommodation providers;
- Staff Uniform or clothing, including PPE.

Q. Who can apply?

A. Micro Rural Businesses - existing registered private businesses or social economy enterprises that are actively trading commercially; evidenced by providing your self-assessment number or Limited Company and sales turnover details.

Q. What is considered a Micro Business?

A. A micro business is anyone with **less** than 10 Full Time Equivalent employees (FT is considered 30hrs or more per week/Part Time work at least 16 hours per week)

Q. What do I need to submit?

- A.** You will need to submit a:
- fully completed application – as this is a very competitive scheme, any qualitative questions will need to be answered fully, providing relevant information about your business. Do not assume we know your business. Include **facts and figures** where necessary i.e. how will these items increase your productivity, turnover, income, create employment etc;
 - a spec for each item you are requesting funding for;
 - 2 'like for like' quotes from 2 different suppliers for each item you are applying for.

Total Estimated Cost per item	Action and Minimum Number
Up to £5,000	At least 2 price-checks per item from different suppliers / internet quotations
£5,001 - £20,000	At least 2 Written Quotes per item from different suppliers (internet quotes cannot be used)

Q. My machinery is getting old and would need replaced

A. Replacement 'like for like' items cannot be funded however if you are updating from an old item to a higher/better spec then these can be considered.

Q. I don't employ anyone, am I eligible?

A. If you are a Sole Trader or the only one that works in the business then you are considered an employee and therefore eligible to apply.

Q. Do I include Directors as employees?

A. Everyone including Directors, Partners, Sole Trader and staff are all considered employees.

Q. My business is located within Omagh/Enniskillen town area, is it eligible?

A. No your business is not eligible.

Q. My business is located on the outskirts of Omagh/Enniskillen, is it eligible?

A. If your business is located outside the 'Limit of Development' of Omagh and Enniskillen, then it is considered eligible. If you are unsure whether your business is located outside this 'Limit of Development', contact us directly on 0300 303 1777 or via email businesssupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Q. My contact address is within the Limit of Development for Omagh/Enniskillen, however my business is located outside the 'Limit of Development' of these areas.

A. As long as your business is located outside the 'Limit of Development' of Omagh/Enniskillen then it is eligible. You will need to provide the business address on Q. 2b of the application form.

Q. I run a farm, can I apply?

A. No. Farmers, or anyone registered to a Category 1 DAERA Business ID, undertaking mainstream agricultural activity cannot apply.

Q. I run a farm business, can I apply?

A. If you have a trading farm business, which is a separate entity to your farm and the items requested are not related to your farm, then you are eligible to apply.

Q. I have more than one business, do I need to submit separate applications?

A. Yes you will have to submit an application for each of the businesses you are requesting funding for.

Q. My business operates out of different locations, however they are all under the one entity.

A. Yes you can apply as long as the item requested is for a business located outside the Limit of Development for Omagh/Enniskillen and, in total, you do not employ 10 or more Full Time Equivalent Staff. One application only is eligible.

Q. Are international quotes eligible?

A. International quotes are eligible. Quotes in other currencies will be compared using the rate of exchange through www.x-rates.com Funding will be based on the cheapest quote.

Q. If I am successful when will I receive the grant?

A. Should your application be successful, a Letter of Offer will be issued which you must sign and return an acceptance form and attend a Letter of Offer workshop. It is anticipated Letters of Offer will be issued mid October (subject to change). Once you have completed these you can then purchase the items funded. All items must be purchased and payment cleared your bank account by 17 December 2021.

As soon as the payment clears your bank account you can submit all the relevant claim documentation. This will be explained further in the Letter of Offer Workshop.