

Fees BLL 2021

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Stichting
Beter Leven
keurmerk

1. General

Companies that participate in the Better Life label scheme (BLL) are obliged to pay a fee to the Better Life label Foundation (BLLF). This fee covers the operational costs of the BLL. The following apply:

- The company type determines which participation fees apply;
- The company or chain size determines the amount of the fee;
- Multiple company types of the same parent company located at a single location (e.g. an abattoir and a processor) and companies with more than one BLL species of animal only pay one annual participation fee, namely for the company(type) for which the highest fee applies.

Table 1 lists the specific fees for your company.

2. BLL fees in 2021

An indexation of 2.7% will be applied in 2021 to the majority of the fees to compensate for food price inflation (CBS code 011000) (the provisional figure for 2020 is 2.7%). In addition, certain fees will be increased for the second time (in three years). (see explanation in annex)

This has resulted in the following fees:

Table 1 – Table of fees BLL 2021

Cost calculation 2021 (18 January 2021)	Primary sector	Completely organic	Slaughterhou se	Egg packing station / raw milk processor	Processor/ Chain director	Retailer/Bucher/ Foodservice, Restaurant	Logistics service provider 2B	Logistics service provider 2C
One-Off Fee								
Small company (0 – 10 fte)	–	–	€ 88	€ 88	€ 88	€ 86	€ 88	–
Large company (>10 fte)	–	–	€ 879	€ 879	€ 879	€ 879	€ 879	–
Fixed fee	–	€ 88	–	–	–	–	–	€ 88
Yearly fixed fee								
Small company (0 – 10 fte)	–	–	€ 351	€ 351	€ 351	€ 351	€ 351	–
Large company (>10 fte)	–	–	€ 3.514	€ 3.514	€ 3.514	€ 3.514	€ 2.343*	–
Fixed fee	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	€ 351
Variable fee								
Per BLK veal Calf	–	–	€ 0,3018	–	–	–	–	–
Per rabbit	–	–	€ 0,0031	–	–	–	–	–
Per beef	–	–	€ 1,1075	–	–	–	–	–
Per pig	–	–	€ 0,0816	–	–	–	–	–
Per broiler	–	–	€ 0,0012	–	–	–	–	–
Per finished laying hen	–	–	€ 0,0002	–	–	–	–	–
Per turkey	–	–	€ 0,0099	–	–	–	–	–
Per 360 eggs	–	–	–	€ 0,0126	–	–	–	–
Per 100 kg dairy	–	–	–	€ 0,0187	–	–	–	–
Yearly BLK Logo fee for sales to consumers								
Smallest chain (0 – 10 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€ 169	–	–
Very small chain (10 – 50 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€ 1.566*	–	–
Small chain (50 – 100 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€ 3.471*	–	–
Mid sized chain (100 – 350 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€ 7.255*	–	–
Large chain (>350 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€ 13.482*	–	–

(* = growth rates for 2021; see explanation in appendix).

2. Classification criteria

The classification criteria for small or large companies for the one-off participation fee on joining the scheme and the annual participation fee were already standardised and simplified for all companies in the participation fees for 2020. The table of fees lists the classification criteria.

The classification criteria for the annual logo fee are still based on the size of the chain in the number of branches of a retail outlet, butcheries and restaurants. Food service companies can calculate their logo fee by dividing the number of branches that offer the BLL product by three and use this figure to determine the classification. The table of fees also lists these classification criteria.

For classification into large/small company/ fixed fee and classification into smallest chain/ very small chain/ small chain/ medium chain/ large chain, only the status of the company at the beginning of the current year (reference date 1 January of the year concerned) is taken into account. For companies that joined the scheme in the current year, the date of joining in the current year is taken into account. Any mutations in the classification of a company after the reference date will only be taken into account in the fees that apply for following year.

3. Explanation

- A. Amounts stated exclude VAT.
- B. One-off fees and annual fees are due per company location that has BLL approval or certification (even if they are located abroad).
- C. Logistics service providers can be classified into different categories. The logistics service providers document (can be requested from the BLLF) shows which category applies to you.
- D. All fixed fees are due for payment annually at the beginning of the period for which they apply.
- E. For new applications, the first day of the new month (after application has been approved) applies as the start date for invoicing.
- F. The variable fees are calculated at the beginning of the year based on management statements for the previous year for abattoirs, egg packing centres and dairy produce companies, unless the BLLF has been notified about an adjusted estimate by the company. At the beginning of the calendar year, the fee due for the previous year will be settled based on a management statement for that previous year. A dairy produce company means a company that buys BLL milk from a dairy farmer (and then processes this milk into products).
- G. When participation is terminated, the month in which participation was terminated will apply as the final month for invoicing purposes.
- H. If a participant has terminated their participation but subsequently reapplies to join the scheme, a one-off fixed fee will be charged again.
- I. Further details need to be finalised for companies that sell to consumers and are not one of the companies stated above (for example farm gate sales),
- J. A logo fee is currently being developed for companies that market a product with an independent brand¹ with a BLL logo. This fee will be introduced as soon as the details have been finalised.
- K. In all cases not provided for by this overview, or where multiple interpretations are possible or lead to an exceptional situation, a decision will be made by the BLLF manager.

4. Additional information

Additional information about the participation fees, the invoices or the plans for the participation fees for 2022 can be found in the annex. Or you can contact financien@sblk.nl.

¹ A company with an independent brand is a company that markets a product with a BLL logo that cannot be considered to be private label of one of the retailers. (Retailers already pay a logo fee for retailers for the use of logos on retailers' private label products)

Appendix Explanation of amended BLL fees 2021

1 Explanation of amended one-off fee to join the scheme

- An indexation of 2.7% will be applied in 2021 to the one-off participation fee for joining the scheme in line with the provisional CBS food price index.

2 Explanation of amended annual participation fee

- An indexation of 2.7% will also be applied in 2021 to the annual participation fee in line with the provisional CBS food price index.
- No fee applies as yet for completely organic farms. However, a fee may apply in the future.
- A growth rate over three years applies for wholesalers 2b (2020, 2021 and 2022). This should lead to the annual participation fee for wholesalers 2b being phased over a period of three years until it equals the annual fees charged to large companies from other sectors, for reasons of fairness.

3 Explanation of amended variable fees

- The indexation of variable fees is calculated by applying a percentage of 0.05015% to the price of a slaughtered animal, 360 eggs or 100 kg of dairy produce as referred to in the KWIN 2020-2021 manual with statistics on livestock husbandry. The intention is that the companies concerned contribute an equal percentage of the economic value of their BLL products, so that each company has an equal financial burden.

4 Explanation of amended annual logo fee for sales to consumers

- Retailers only pay a logo fee for the use of the BLL logo on their private label products.
- A retailer with multiple private label products only pays a one-off logo fee per year, for the private label product that is offered in the majority of its branches.
- The proposed fees (with the exception of the lowest fee) are phased fees towards an equal fee per branch-service, so that large chains are not favoured or disadvantaged compared with small chains. The intention is to phase the fees over a period of three years (2020, 2021, 2022) towards an equal fee per branch, applied to the median class.
- Food service companies can divide the number of branches/locations that offer the BLL product by three and use this figure to determine the classification and the corresponding fee.