

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 2022

For the majority of the fees in 2022, no indexation will apply compared with 2021. In addition, for reasons of fairness, some fees (marked with *), will be increased or decreased. This adjustment has been gradually phased in over a period of three years; this year is the final year of the adjustment. (see explanation in annex)

This has resulted in the following fees:

Table 1 – Table of fees BLL 2022

Fees BLL 2022 (20 Oct. 2022)	Primary sector	Completely organic	Abattoir	Egg packing centre/ dairy company	Processor/ chain manager	Retailer/Butchery/ Food service, Restaurant	Wholesaler 2b	Trader 2c
One-off contribution to join scheme								
Small company (0 – 10 fte)	–	–	€88	€88	€88	€88	€88	–
Medium sized company (10 – 15 fte)	–	–	€439	€439	€439	€439	€439	–
Large company (> 15 fte)	–	–	€879	€879	€879	€879	€879	–
Fixed fee	–	€88	–	–	–	–	–	€88
Annual fixed contribution								
Small company (0 – 10 fte)	–	–	€351	€351	€351	€351	€351	–
Medium sized company (10 – 15 fte)	–	–	€1,757	€1,757	€1,757	€1,757	€1,757	–
Large company (> 15 fte)	–	–	€3,514	€3,514	€3,514	€3,514	€3,514 *	–
Fixed fee	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	€351
Variable contribution								
Per calf	–	–	€0.3018	–	–	–	–	–
Per rabbit	–	–	€0.0031	–	–	–	–	–
Per cow	–	–	€1.1075	–	–	–	–	–
Per pig	–	–	€0.0816	–	–	–	–	–
Per broiler	–	–	€0.0012	–	–	–	–	–
Per spent laying hen	–	–	€0.0002	–	–	–	–	–
Per turkey	–	–	€0.0099	–	–	–	–	–
Per 360 eggs	–	–	–	€0.0126	–	–	–	–
Per 100 kg dairy	–	–	–	€0.0187	–	–	–	–
Annual logo fee for sales to consumers								
Smallest chain (0 – 10 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€169	–	–
Very small chain (10 – 50 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€1,017 *	–	–
Small chain (50 – 100 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€2,541 *	–	–
Medium sized chain (100 – 350 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€7,624 *	–	–
Large chain (> 350 branches)	–	–	–	–	–	€16,096 *	–	–

(* = final growth rate for 2022; see explanation in appendix).

2. Classification criteria

In response to requests from the market, a category has been added to the large company category. This means that companies with 10 - 15 fte pay half the fee of a large company (>15 fte). The table of fees lists the classification criteria.

From 2020, the classification criteria for the annual logo fee are based on the size of the chain calculated as the number of branches of retail outlets, 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 small/medium-sized/large 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 terminating participation in the scheme, a reasonable term of notice of two months from the month in which notice was given shall be observed.
- 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 introduced as soon the details have been finalised.
- K. The BLLF reserves the right to deviate from the fees listed in this document in exceptional circumstances.
- L. 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 a independent brand is a company that markets a product with a BLL logo that cannot be considered to be a 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 2022

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

- The one-off fees to join the scheme for 2022 have not been indexed compared with last year.

2 Explanation of amended annual participation fee

- The annual fixed contributions for 2022 have not been indexed compared with last year either.
- No fee applies as yet for completely organic farms. However, a fee may apply in the future.
- A growth rate for the third and final year (2020, 2021 and 2022) applies for wholesalers 2b . 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

- In 2022, the same rates apply as in 2021. The variable fees of last year were 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. Products derived from dairy, such as cheese, are subject to a fee calculated by determining the weight of the share of milk in the product, after which the fee for milk is applied. 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. This year is the final year of the phased fee growth rate.
- 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.