

University Biomedical Services

2025/2026 Prices and Recovery to the Chest

Background

fEC prices for BioFacilities were introduced in February 2006 and are updated annually. Revised prices are agreed by the University Biomedical Services Governance and Strategy Committee each year. A costing model has been developed which is continuously revised and updated to ensure accurate costing and recovery.

Since the Feb 2021 rate (based on the 2019/20 financial year) UBS has been providing a subsidy to the BioFacility boarding rates on an annual basis to the value of c£1.5m. This was deemed appropriate given the volatility of consumable prices, restrictions on activity, movements in available grant funding and the intent to maintain stability in the University's competitiveness for Research.

This subsidy was applied to all active grants at the time and any applied for in that year. However, the provision for the subsidy was always based on a fixed temporary income stream that is now coming to an end.

Now that costs have stabilised, a benchmark analysis has been started with other institutions to investigate the impact of the increased costs across the sector and the effect of removing the subsidy.

2023/24 Benchmarking Data

Pricing information for a mouse cage from three other Russell Group Universities (each within the top 9 institutions using animals in research in the UK) has been gathered and an average pricing data set from a 2019 survey across Europe.

24/25 Figures	fEC Cost	fEC Rate Charged	Charity Rate Charged
Institute 1		£ 15.84	£ 9.38
Institute 2	£ 17.44	£ 11.14	£ 9.65
Institute 3	£ 19.05	£ 14.38	£ 12.73
Europe Average*	£ 18.93		

* Inflated from Aug 2019 prices

1st August 2025 – 31st July 2026 Prices

For awards applied for before 1st February 2025

For awards applied for prior to 1st February 2025 a rate will be applied using the previous subsidy agreement. Table in red below shows these rates:

Previous Subsidy Rates	<u>Full fEC</u>	<u>Charity</u>
	Feb-25	Feb-25
Mice	£12.80	£7.15
IVC Mice	£13.65	£9.58
Rats	£19.68	£11.39
IVC Rats	£20.08	£13.15
Guinea Pigs	£18.67	£10.93

Cost and pricing for grants applied for after 1st February 2025

	<u>Full fEC</u>		<u>Charity</u>	
	Feb-24	Feb-25	Feb-24	Feb-25
Mice	£12.51	£14.73	£6.99	£10.24
IVC Mice	£12.89	£14.74	£9.10	£10.67
Rats	£18.98	£23.06	£10.99	£16.05
IVC Rats	£19.66	£24.64	£12.52	£17.71
Guinea Pigs	£18.58	£21.33	£10.40	£13.59
Marmosets	£70.89	£70.28	£33.43	£36.77

Fish £ per tank per week

Tank Size	fEC		Charity	
	Feb-24	Feb-25	Feb-24	Feb-25
2.8L Standard Tank	£5.24	£5.66	£4.40	£4.51

Surgery Charges from 1st August 2025

Surgery (Rodent)	Staffed (1 Tech)	Unstaffed
1st Hour	£50.82	£40.44
Remaining Hours	£29.63	£8.87

Procedures Charges

UBS technician time for procedures and services other than husbandry is at an hourly rate of £26.40.

Consumables

Since the inception of fEC for Biofacilities the University has maintained that a simple costing model should be preserved. This minimises the logistical and administrative burden in recording and processing costs and simplifies the bills to research grants. A single husbandry charge is the most efficacious operationally.

This single husbandry charge includes basic consumables used in the care of laboratory animals and minimally invasive procedures that the majority of users undertake within a Biofacility. Consumable items made readily available in a Biofacility are free to use within the facility. Specialist or high value consumables can be ordered into a facility upon request to a Biofacility Manager and will be charged to the user.

Animal Purchase and Handling Charges

For all animal orders raised by the Biofacility teams there will be a handling charge of 5% on the Net cost (minimum of £29.49) added to the recharge invoice.

If required, UBS technician time for animal unpacking and set up will be charged separately.

UBS Transport

Where animals are requested to be moved between Biofacilities, or to a different designated building/area, a minimum charge of £24.19 per hour plus 50p per mile will be charged along with any transport box and consumable costs. If the distance is more than 50 miles additional charges may be applied.

UBS Import/Export Charges

Where UBS arranges the import/export of animals and processes the invoice for this, an admin fee is added to the recharge of the import/export invoice.

DEFRA Quarantine Import/UK Quarantine Holding/Animals from UK Commercial Breeders

In all cases animals and import/export charges will be charged at the applicable rate. Should microbiological screening be required all charges will be passed to the user.

Additional Support

Technical support is available to researchers requiring additional services outside of husbandry activity. Please contact the relevant Biofacility Manager for availability/costing.

Grant Applications

When creating an application, the correct boarding rates should be selected for the sponsor that is being applied to.

- All RCUK and Government sponsors will fund at the full fEC rate.
- The Wellcome Trust will fund at the full fEC rate.
- All other sponsors will fund at the full fEC rate.
- All new EU applications are to be submitted with fEC rates under the Horizon Europe Framework as per the Terms and Conditions.
- EU rates will apply to all grants submitted under previous frameworks.

Corrections to Invoices

Please ensure all invoices are checked for the correct number of cages/animals and rates. Queries or requests for changes must be submitted within 3 months and no later than the end of the financial year (end of July). UBS operate at cost recovery and return all overheads to the University Chest, corrections after this cannot be guaranteed as the funds may not be available.