

Working Structures – Fence-line Hay Feeding System

2026-2027 TAEF Application A

50% Cost Share – Maximum Reimbursement - \$5,000

The amount of payment is based upon 50% of expenses incurred for eligible program items up to the program maximum.

Applicant Responsibility

It is the applicant's responsibility to review all TAEF program requirements prior to applying for cost share. Applicant must qualify for program selected at time of application to be considered for approval.

- [Applicant Eligibility](#)
- [Educational Requirements](#)
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Minimum Requirements

Cattle – 30 head **or** Goats/Sheep – 50 head

Applicant must meet at least **one** of the minimum requirements of head of livestock for program.

Head of Livestock = maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, during the last 12 months.

Goats/sheep can be combined to meet minimum head requirement.

Verification of minimum requirements may be requested prior to approval.

Eligible Items & Requirements

Fence-line Hay Feeding System — this system allows for hay bales to be placed into a feeding area located within a **fence-line**, as opposed to in-field feeding, to improve safety and efficiency.

The completed project must:

- Feature new items: feeder panels, posts, concrete pad, & optional gate
- Be built outdoors within a fence-line (new or existing) with access from a road or farm lot

Requirements

- System setup must include minimum **purchase** of:
 - **(3) Feeder panels** – *new panels only*
 - **(4) Posts** – *6" x 6"*
 - **(1) Concrete pad** – *minimum 30' x 30' x 6"*
 - **(1) Gate** – *optional*
- System must be built **outdoors** within a **fence-line** (new or existing) with access from a road or farm lot.

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Eligible Material & Labor

- Feeder panels – *new panels only*
- Posts – 6" x 6"
- Concrete pad – *minimum 30' x 30' x 6"*
- Labor for construction of fence-line feeding system
 - Labor must be itemized on invoice
 - Labor provided by applicant is not eligible

Additional Information:

- Cover/roof, fencing, geotextile, gravel, roads, site prep, and standalone feeding pads are not eligible for cost share reimbursement.
- Can the fence-line feeding system have a roof? Yes. However, roof materials & labor are not eligible for cost share reimbursement. Receipts must be itemized.
- Can the fence-line feeding system be built within a structure, such as a barn? No. The fence-line feeding system must be built outdoors within a fence-line (new or existing) with access from a road or farm lot.

Reimbursement Request Deadline – August 1, **2027**

Allowable purchase dates for Working Structures & Fence-line Systems are from October 1, 2026 – August 1, 2027.

All items, regardless of backorder status, must be purchased (paid in full or financed) by the program reimbursement deadline. *Backordered items may be ineligible for cost share if not delivered to the farm by the program deadline.*

Receipts must be in the name of the applicant approved for cost share funding. *Quotes and purchase orders do not represent a purchase and are not considered receipts.*

Proof of payment may be requested to verify purchase.

See "Reimbursement Requirements" link at the top of the page for more information.

Email working.structures@tn.gov for additional information.

Visit www.tn.gov/taep to learn more about TAEP.