



29th September 2023

Circular 19/2023

To all Registered Foresters

Re: Afforestation Scheme – Financial Approvals Planting Season 2023/2024

Applications can now to be accepted for financial approval under the Afforestation Scheme by applicants with valid technical approvals.

You must use the Form 1(a) headed Afforestation Scheme 2023-2027 and no previous version of this form will be accepted. Copies of Forms 1 (a), 1(b) and 1(c) and the general conditions, procedures and penalties are already available on our website (entitled 'Afforestation Scheme 2023-2027 Form 1(a) (1b) (1c) Guidelines') at gov.ie - [Forestry Circulars \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie). This document may be found between Circular 15 and Circular 16 on this link.

There is no deadline for receipt of Form 1(a) – that will be determined by you and your client's readiness to plant. The Department will, however, monitor financial approvals to ensure that available budgets are not exceeded.

The end date for this application period will be determined by the Department and will have regard to the availability of funding, silvicultural and other policy considerations.

The completion date for financially approved applications will be determined as follows:

Financial Approval Date of Issue	Expiry Date for Completion
29 September to 31 October 2023	31 January 2024
1 November to 30 November 2023	29 February 2024
1 December to 31 December 2023	31 March 2024
1 January to 31 January 2024	30 April 2024
From 1 February 2024	No later than 30 June 2024

Applications should be addressed to Ms. Catherine O'Brien, Approvals Section, Forestry Division, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford, Y35 PN52. Email address: forestryappeng@agriculture.gov.ie

Martina Monaghan
Higher Executive Officer
Forestry Division