



New Zealand
FILM COMMISSION



Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

PLACEMENT GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES as at August 2026

If you have any accessibility requirements or require this information in a different format, please
contact: development@nzfilm.co.nz

Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga The New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) invests in talented filmmakers and exciting New Zealand films to be enjoyed in Aotearoa New Zealand and around the world. We support emerging and mid-career writers, directors and producers develop their craft and careers through significant international and local placements.

These include opportunities to work in international and local companies, gaining insights across all areas of development, financing, production, post-production, distribution and marketing (Company Placements). You can see current available Company Placements listed [here](#).

Additionally, we support opportunities to shadow directors or producers on local or international productions filming in Aotearoa (Project-Based Placements). You can submit an Expression of Interest at any time to be considered for a Project-Based Placement as opportunities arise.

Please see below for submission information.

Successful applicants will be awarded a **one-off grant (Funding)** towards their placement **of up to \$60,000 NZD + GST** (if applicable) **for a Company Placement** and of **up to \$25,000 NZD + GST** (if applicable) **for a Project-Based Placement**. The amount awarded will depend on the location, duration and nature of the placement. Funding may be paid to the applicant and/or the company offering the placement, in accordance with the approved budget.

Successful applicants are responsible for any visas or other work authorisations required for the placement. The NZFC will provide reasonable information and assistance to support applications for visas or other work authorisations. Any related costs may be included in the approved budget, but are otherwise the responsibility of the applicant. Payment of Funding by NZFC is conditional on the NZFC being satisfied that you are entitled to work in the place of your prospective placement.

WHO CAN APPLY

You are eligible to apply for this Fund if you:

- Are a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident; **and**
- Are available to accept any specific placement you are applying for; **and**
- Are a writer, director and/or producer who has received development, production, short film or finishing grant funding from the NZFC or scripted development or production funding from NZ On Air or Te Māngai Paho; **or**

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- Have participated in an intensive contestable development programme funded by the NZFC or NZ On Air; or
 - Have at least 80-minutes of cumulative scripted content that has been released theatrically, broadcast, or screened at one of these listed film [festivals](#); or
 - Have had a short film screened at one of these listed [festivals](#).

SUBMISSION MATERIALS FOR COMPANY PLACEMENTS

- A biography;
- A link to one screen work that you wrote, directed or produced;
- A one-page cover letter detailing what you will bring to the role and what you hope to gain from the experience;
- Your passport/citizenship status – including any additional international passports/visas/work authorisations you may hold (e.g. UK/Irish Ancestry or dual nationality).

If you are shortlisted for a placement, you must also provide:

- a budget detailing how you propose to spend the Funding; and
- your proposed travel and immigration/visa/work authorisation arrangements (if applicable); and
- any other materials and information we reasonably require for the relevant placement(s).

HOW TO APPLY

- Submit your application using the NZFC Portal before the relevant deadline. *Please note: each placement may have different deadlines – these are specified on the website. You can apply for more than one current international placement at a time and will need to provide a separate cover letter for each placement.*
- We will aim to process your application within 4 weeks of the placement deadline.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS FOR PROJECT-BASED PLACEMENTS

- A biography;
- A link to one screen work that you directed or produced;
- A one-page cover letter detailing what you will bring to the role and what you hope to gain from the experience.

If you are shortlisted for a placement, you must also provide:

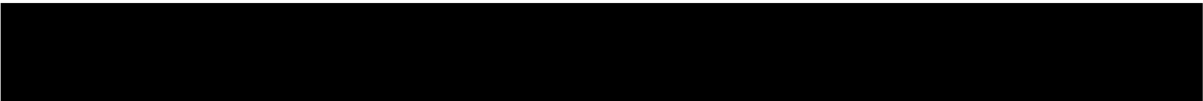
- a budget detailing how you propose to spend the Funding; and
- any other materials and information we reasonably require for the relevant placement.

HOW TO APPLY

- Submit your Expression of Interest using the NZFC Portal at any time throughout the year.

By submitting an application for Funding, you agree to these Guidelines (except to the extent varied or waived by us) and our [Code of Conduct](#).

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- NZFC staff, and in some cases external assessors engaged by NZFC, will assess your application or Expression of Interest based on the materials provided, any eligibility criteria
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for the relevant placement, and any other criteria we consider to be relevant (at our sole discretion).

- If you have provided an Expression of Interest for a Project-Based Placement and an opportunity arises, we will check in with you around availability if you are shortlisted. If you are not available this time around, you will remain on the list for future opportunities.
- We will provide a shortlist of applicants to the company/individual offering the placement.
- If you are shortlisted for a placement, you may be required to:
 - meet with the NZFC funding team to discuss your application and any bespoke arrangements for the placement; **and/or**
 - provide additional materials (as set out above); **and/or**
 - attend an interview (online/in person).
- If you are shortlisted, we may share information you provide to us (including personal information) with the company or individual offering the placement. They may use this information to assess shortlisted applicants, decide who will be offered the placement, and administer the placement if you are selected.
- The final decision on whether to award a placement, and to whom, will be made by the company/individual offering the placement.
- The final decision to award Funding will be made by the NZFC in accordance with these guidelines. All decisions are final.
- Successful applicants will be notified by email.

CONFIDENTIALITY

We will use reasonable efforts to keep the information you provide confidential. Please note that any information you give us can be requested under the Official Information Act 1982. If we get such a request, we can talk to you before responding.

If you have any further questions, please email us at development@nzfilm.co.nz

