

NEW ZEALAND SCREEN PRODUCTION GRANT FOR NEW ZEALAND PRODUCTIONS & OFFICIAL CO-PRODUCTIONS SUMMARY & CRITERIA



The New Zealand Government offers generous incentives to film and television productions under the New Zealand Screen Production Grant (NZSPG)¹.

OVERVIEW

For New Zealand productions and official co-productions, the NZSPG offers a cash grant equivalent to 40 per cent of Qualifying New Zealand Production Expenditure (QNZPE). This grant is capped at NZ\$6 million per production unless the production qualifies for an Additional Grant. Productions that have QNZPE of NZ\$15 million or more and meet additional criteria are entitled to an additional grant of 40 per cent of QNZPE above NZ\$15 million (Additional Grant). The Additional Grant is capped at NZ\$14 million.

ELIGIBILITY

Format

The grant applies to New Zealand screen productions in the following formats: feature film, television and other non-feature film formats (either a single-episode programme, or a series or season of a series) and short-form animation, with some exclusions.

Expenditure thresholds

Format	Minimum QNZPE
Feature Film	\$2.5 million total
Single episode – scripted	\$1 million total & no less than \$800,000 per hour
Single episode – unscripted	\$250,000 total
Series – scripted	\$1 million total & no less than \$500,000 per hour
Series – unscripted	No less than \$250,000 per hour
Short form animation (single or series)	\$250,000 total & no less than \$400,000 per hour

1. The NZSPG was introduced on 1 April, 2014. This document also includes changes effective 1 August, 2015.

The full criteria for the NZSPG is available on the New Zealand Film Commission website. www.nzfilm.co.nz

Distribution

Feature films must have a confirmed and commercially robust cinematic distribution agreement in New Zealand, and other formats must have a similar distribution agreement on an appropriate and accessible platform in New Zealand.

Other Government funding

Feature films, children’s drama television and animated productions that have already received production funding through a New Zealand government agency will remain eligible to receive the grant. This does not apply to television and other formats.

Applicants

An applicant must be

- a New Zealand resident company (which carries on business in New Zealand and, has its management and control, or shareholder control in New Zealand) or partnership for tax purposes;
- the entity responsible for all activities involved in making the production in New Zealand;
- a special purpose vehicle established solely to make the production in New Zealand (exceptions apply – see full criteria).

Only one entity per screen production can apply for the grant.

An applicant must also be entitled to equity in the production that is generally commensurate with the value of the grant.

Additional Grant

To qualify for an Additional Grant, productions must have QNZPE over NZ\$15 million and satisfy additional criteria relating to producer’s experience and export potential. The New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) will take a share of net income and profit from the production relating to the Additional Grant.

What is QNZPE?

Qualifying New Zealand Production Expenditure (QNZPE) is the production expenditure spent by the applicant on

- goods and services provided in New Zealand
- the use of land located in New Zealand
- the use of a good that is located in New Zealand at the time it is used in making the screen production.

Services provided in New Zealand include fees and expenses for cast who have travelled to New Zealand to work on the production, and for non-cast personnel provided they have worked on the production in New Zealand for at least 14 days.

In certain circumstances, costs for New Zealand residents providing services outside New Zealand may also count as QNZPE.

For official co-productions, Total Production Expenditure (as defined in the criteria), as distinct from QNZPE, will count towards meeting the minimum QNZPE thresholds.

Significant New Zealand content

To qualify for a grant, productions must have significant New Zealand content as determined by a points test. The test considers

- New Zealand subject matter (setting, lead characters, creative material, culture/history)
- New Zealand production activity (shooting location/studio, visual post/VFX and audio post)
- New Zealand personnel (in particular directors, producers, writers, lead actors) and
- New Zealand business (ownership of intellectual property, business development outcomes).

Guidelines are available to help producers assess the significant New Zealand content in their screen production.

Official co-productions are deemed to have significant New Zealand content for the purposes of the grant and do not need to meet the points test.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

The grant is administered by the New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC).

Provisional Certification

An applicant may apply for provisional certification of eligibility at any time before or during production. Provisional Certification does not guarantee payment of the grant and applicants must apply for Final Certification once the production is completed.

Final Certification and Payment

The application for a Final Certificate must be submitted to the NZFC no later than six months after completion of the screen production. Applications are generally processed within three months of receipt of a completed application.

For information on the criteria and grant application process contact:

Incentives Executive

Phone: +64 4 382 7680

Email: NZSPG@nzfilm.co.nz

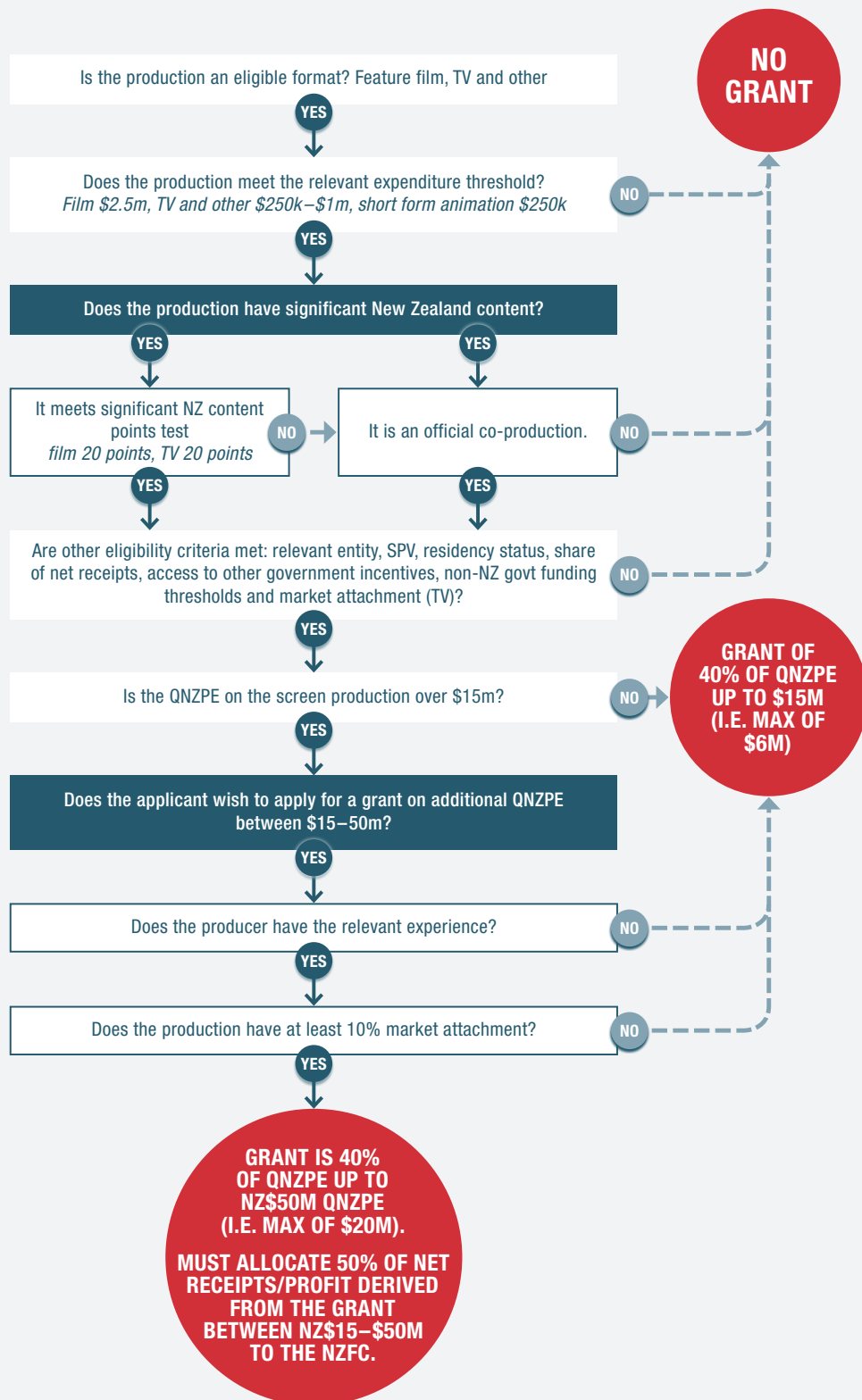
For information on bringing your production to New Zealand contact:

The Enquiries Manager

Phone: +64 4 382 7680

Email: enquiries@nzfilm.co.nz

VISUAL OVERVIEW OF THE NEW ZEALAND GRANT



The information in this fact sheet relates to productions which have started principal photography or (key animation) after August 1, 2015.