



**New Zealand  
FILM COMMISSION**



Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

# New Zealand Film Commission Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

## **STRATEGIC TRAINING FUND** Guidelines for Applicants

March 2021

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We encourage you to read these guidelines carefully as they are intended to help you deliver the strongest application possible.

Please feel free to get in touch before making an application, as we can offer helpful advice and guidance. You may email [talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz).

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**Please also refer to the NZFC COVID-19 Policy**



## Introduction

Over the past three years, Te Tumu Whaakata Taonga | New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) has invested approximately \$1.5m through the Strategic Training Fund into training and skills development. This has been in strategic partnership with screen sector guilds, industry organisations and industry training providers to deliver industry level training and development programmes that are holistic, developmental and progressive in their approach.

The Strategic Training Fund is available for programmes that are aimed at the above the line roles of producers, directors, actors and writers.

**This funding is available for programmes that run from July 2021 to June 2022.**

**Your application must be completed online [through our application portal](#). Please see the NZFC website for application and decision deadlines.**

## Strategic Training Funding overview

As illustrated in the [NZFC Statement of Intent](#), the Strategic Training Fund fits within the NZFC's:

- Vision to champion exceptional storytellers to create enduring taonga for Aotearoa;
- Mission to empower and attract distinctive and diverse screen productions for all audiences;
- Goal to activate high impact, authentic and culturally significant screen stories; and
- Goal to facilitate dynamic pathways for outstanding people, projects and businesses.

Successful applicants will be expected to work closely with the NZFC Talent Development team on the ongoing development of the programmes and the identification of talent. These programmes should target a mix of new, emerging, mid-career and/or established talent as per the [NZFC talent level criteria definition](#). The NZFC is keen to receive programmes of training that are available across the country that meet the needs of those from the various regions and demographics. The NZFC is committed to providing opportunities for Tangata Whenua and those from a diverse and/or underrepresented community.

## We are here to help

These guidelines are intended to help you deliver the strongest application possible. You are welcome to discuss your application and proposed programmes with the NZFC Talent Development team, but please note we cannot read your application prior to submission. Contact us via email [talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz)

## Who can apply

To be eligible for Strategic Training Funding, applicants must be screen sector organisations, companies and/or collectives that are registered in New Zealand. They may be, but are not limited to, organisations that have a membership; are talent development focused; that celebrate, champion and promote New Zealand talent; have a diversity and inclusion focus and/or support the development of Māori talent.

You cannot apply for Strategic Training Funding if you have any overdue contractual or reporting obligations to the NZFC.





## What you can apply for

The Strategic Training Fund is a contestable fund and is available for programmes that run from July 2021 to June 2022.

Applicants may apply to the Strategic Training Fund for:

- Bespoke programmes of talent development that includes (*but not limited to*):
  - Industry skills development;
  - Development Labs (writers, directors, producers, actors);
  - Mentoring programmes;
  - Industry events;
- Essential operational running and delivery costs of the proposed programmes.

This fund does not cover:

- Costs already funded by third party financiers or investors
- Costs for capital expenditure.

We encourage applications from across New Zealand that cater for specific regional developmental needs and requirements.

*The NZFC reserves the right to provide one-off funding throughout the year for dedicated programmes that address specific industry skills shortages and diversity.*

## Assessment Criteria

Your application will be assessed against the following criteria:

	Criteria	Scoring
1	Evidence of need for the proposed programme(s) as presented in the application	10
2	Track record of the organisation and/or individuals involved to deliver the highest quality of talent development/training	10
3	Identified learning outcomes for the participants, and numbers of expected participants benefiting from this programme	10
4	Are the services (or programmes) accessible	
	• Online	5
	• For talent across New Zealand (in person)	5
	• For talent based in Auckland and/or Wellington (in person)	5
5	How the proposal fulfils the following NZFC goals:	
	• To activate high impact, authentic and culturally significant screen stories	5
	• To facilitate dynamic pathways for outstanding people, projects and businesses	5

**Total score out of 55**





## Te Rautaki Māori

The NZFC's commitment to Tangata Whenua under our [Te Rautaki](#) is to work in partnership with Māori to better support the development and progression of Māori talent.

**Your application will be assessed against the following Te Rautaki criteria:**

	Criteria	Scoring
6	Is the organisation focused on supporting the development of Māori talent?	5
7	Is the development programme(s) focused on supporting the development of Māori talent?	5
<i>Optional</i>	If no to criteria 6: Are there partnerships with Māori/ Iwi/ Hapū and/or whanau to help deliver this programme(s)?	5

**Total score out of 10**

## Diversity, inclusion and equality

The NZFC is committed to providing opportunities and support for (but not exclusively), women, Pacific Islanders, Asian New Zealanders, LGBTQIA+, gender diverse, disabled people, those from regional areas and/or from a diverse background.

Funding decisions through the Strategic Training Fund will reflect these commitments. When assessing your application, the NZFC will also consider:

**Your application will be assessed against the following Inclusion criteria:**

	Criteria	Scoring
8	Is the organisation focused on supporting the development of female and/or gender diverse filmmakers?	2.5
9	Is the development programme(s) focused on supporting female and/or gender diverse filmmakers?	2.5
<i>Optional</i>	If no to criteria 8: Are there partnerships in place to help deliver this programme(s)?	2.5
10	Is the organisation focused on supporting talent from a diverse and/or underrepresented community?	2.5
11	Is the development programme focused on supporting talent from a diverse and/or underrepresented community?	2.5
<i>Optional</i>	If no to criteria 10: Are there partnerships in place to help deliver this programme(s)?	2.5

**Total score out of 10**

## How to apply

The NZFC invites applications from New Zealand screen sector industry organisations, guilds, filmmaking collectives and training providers interested in delivering training and talent development programmes that meet the assessment criteria.

These applications will be submitted via the online portal.





## Application checklist

The checklist below sets out what must be included in your application:

- A short history of the organisation with links to a website if available
- Details and bios of individuals leading the training
- Details of the types of training/ development being proposed
- Who the training/development is targeted at, including talent level (as per NZFC Talent criteria); the above the line roles within the industry; and the proposed demographics of the participants
- Proposed learning outcomes for the participants, and how many expected participants would benefit from this training
- A full breakdown of how the application meets the assessment criteria
- A detailed budget including any other investment and income
- A full schedule of activity and key events
- A list of any partnerships with written confirmation from the partners

## What happens to your proposal

When your application is received, it will be checked for eligibility. All eligible applications will be reviewed by the NZFC Talent Development team, with recommendations made to the NZFC Head of Talent Development and CEO, who will make the final decision.

All the information included in your application, as well as any conversations regarding your application, will be considered. If more information is needed from you, we will let you know as soon as possible.

Funding is discretionary – that is, the NZFC chooses where best to apply the limited funding available. Decisions are final. The criteria applied may change from time to time, but decisions will be consistent with these guidelines and the New Zealand Film Commission Act 1978.

**Final funding decisions will be made within five weeks from the closing date of applications.**

The NZFC will use reasonable efforts to maintain the confidentiality of the information provided by the applicant. Please note that any information you provide to the NZFC is subject to Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) requests. In processing a request under the OIA, the NZFC will consult with the relevant applicant prior to making a decision to release or withhold any information.

## Next steps

If your application is successful, you will be required to enter into a funding agreement with the NZFC. You will receive a letter from the NZFC detailing our offer for funding and outlining any conditions. No payments will be made until you have entered into a funding agreement.

If your application is unsuccessful, you will be notified via the online application portal.





## Dates for Strategic Training Funding

Please refer to website for dates of the following:

- Deadline for applications
- Funding decisions announced

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If you have any questions please contact our Talent Development team by email [talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz).

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