



New Zealand
FILM COMMISSION



Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

New Zealand Film Commission

Screen Sector Capability Funding

– Guidelines for Applicants

September 2020

You are encouraged to read these guidelines carefully as they are intended to help you deliver the strongest application possible. Please also read the relevant information sheets on the [website](#).

Please get in touch well before making a formal application for funding, as we can offer helpful advice and guidance.

Please also refer to the NZFC COVID-19 Policy



Introduction

The New Zealand Film Commission Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga (NZFC) is committed to ensuring New Zealand has a successful screen industry. We provide core operational funding for guilds, industry organisations and diversity and equality focused screen sector organisations. This funding helps support the sector to build and develop capacity and delivers a wide range of services for their members and the industry. Through the NZFC's Strategic Training Funding, we annually support various programmes of training and talent development to help upskill and develop screen sector professionals.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic effect on the New Zealand screen sector. It has forced the sector to adapt and change the way it operates; it has been disruptive, financially challenging and incredibly destabilising.

The NZFC is here to assist the screen sector to adapt and recover from the economic and related effects of the pandemic. We want to ensure that the New Zealand screen industry has the necessary industry, technical and business capability to meet the challenges of a COVID-19 environment.

Screen Sector Capability Funding Overview

The NZFC Screen Sector Capability Fund will provide up to \$2M over two years (Financial year 2020/21 and 2021/22) through the following four strands of activity:

1. Support for screen sector organisations.
2. Sector wide skills and industry development programmes.
3. Audience development / short form content fund.
4. Enhanced 'On the Job' development programme.


The objective of this fund is to support the New Zealand screen sector to develop the business and technical capability to meet the challenges of a COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 environment.

THESE GUIDELINES ARE ONLY FOR THE FOLLOWING TWO STRANDS

1. Support for screen sector organisations.
2. Sector wide skills and industry development programmes.

The NZFC has allocated up to \$550,000 until June 2021, available as a grant across these two strands. Additional funds may be available if required. *There will be new Screen Sector Capability funding available from July 2021 – June 2022.*





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

Strands 3 and 4 are still being fully scoped, more information will be available soon.

The NZFC Screen Sector Capability Fund is one element of the NZFC's response to the impact of COVID-19 on the New Zealand screen sector. If you have a production that requires support due to COVID-19, you may be eligible for the [Screen Production Recovery Fund](#).

Here to help

These guidelines are intended to help you deliver the strongest application possible. It is recommended you discuss your proposal with the Talent Development team as you work on your application. To contact us email talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz or phone 0800 659 754.

Who can apply

To be eligible for Screen Sector Capability Funding, applicants must be screen sector organisations, companies and/or collectives that are registered in New Zealand.

You cannot apply for Screen Sector Capability Funding if you have any overdue contractual or reporting obligations to the NZFC.

What you can apply for

1. Support for screen sector organisations

This funding will support the vital work that New Zealand screen sector organisations and guilds undertake, enabling them to continue to provide services to their membership and the wider industry.

Applicants can apply for funding to cover costs incurred due to COVID-19 including the loss of income, cancellations of events and other COVID-19 related costs.

Applicants may also apply for funding to help support the delivery of joint planning, contractual and strategic work across the sector and to explore new business and operating models with the aim of developing more robust and sustainable models and ways of working for the future.





2. Sector wide skills and industry development programmes.

This funding will meet the current and developing needs of the sector that will enable talent to develop, upskill and flourish in a COVID-19 and post COVID-19 world. Industry partners and screen sector organisations may apply for funding to either enhance and/or expand existing programmes or deliver new bespoke programmes of skills and talent development.

Note: Both strands of this funding are available for ‘above the line’ and ‘below the line’ organisations and talent development programmes. Applications from across New Zealand that cater for specific regional developmental needs and requirements are encouraged.

What you cannot apply for

- Costs covered by other Government support mechanisms (including the wage subsidy);
- Costs already funded by third party financiers or investors;
- Costs covered by insurance;
- Costs that could reasonably be covered by adjustments to the budget or accessing the contingency or could otherwise be mitigated;
- Services, programmes and activity currently supported through existing NZFC funding, **unless** it is an enhancement or expansion of the programme. If so, this will need to be clearly outlined and demonstrated where the Capability Funding is required to expand the programme to deliver on the fund’s objective.

What to include in your application

- A short history of the organisation, company and/or collective (half an A4 page);
- A proposal (no more than five A4 pages) detailing how your application meets the assessment criteria (**see below**);
- A detailed budget including any other investment and income;
- A schedule of activity and key events;
- A list of any partnerships with written confirmation from the partners.





Assessment Criteria

Your application will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. Evidence of the impact of COVID-19 on current services and development programmes;
2. Quality of the proposal to address how this funding will enable the organisation to help the New Zealand screen sector to develop the business and technical capability to meet the challenges of a COVID-19 environment;
3. Track record of the organisation and/or individuals involved to deliver the highest quality of services and talent development/training;
4. Who the services and programmes are targeted at (new, emerging, mid-career and/or established level talent);
5. Is there collaboration with other industry organisations?
6. Are the services or programmes accessible across New Zealand and/or online? For example: Is the programme supporting the development of talent based outside Auckland and Wellington?
7. How the proposal fulfils the following NZFC goals:
 - To activate high impact, authentic and culturally significant screen stories
 - To facilitate dynamic pathways for outstanding people, projects and businesses

Te Rautaki Māori

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

Diversity and inclusion

The NZFC is committed to providing opportunities and support for women and those from diverse and/or underrepresented communities.

Funding decisions through Screen Sector Capability Funding will reflect these commitments. When assessing applications, the NZFC will also consider:

- Is the organisation or development programme(s) focused on supporting the development of Māori talent?
- Is the organisation or development programme focused on supporting female filmmakers?
- Is the organisation or development programme focused on supporting talent from a diverse and/or underrepresented community?





How to apply

Apply using the online application portal at <https://funding.nzfilm.co.nz/>.

Search for Screen Sector Capability funding and click 'New Application'. The form will step you through all the required information.

If you are using the online application portal for the first time you will need to register for a new account, as part of this process you will be asked to provide some information about yourself.

It is important you provide as much information as you can to help assessors make a full and fair assessment. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Early applications are encouraged.

What happens to your application?

Once your application is received, it will be checked for eligibility. If the application is eligible, it will be reviewed by the NZFC Talent Development team with recommendations made to the NZFC's 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.

All decisions will be made within four weeks of receiving a full application.

Please note that funding will be administered at the discretion of the NZFC and all decisions are final. All decisions will be consistent with these guidelines.

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 the information.

Next steps

You will be notified of the outcome of your application by phone and/or via the online portal. Formal contracts will be negotiated before any funding is committed to the successful applicant(s).





Key Dates for Screen Sector Capability applications:

Open for applications – Please refer to NZFC website.

Closed for applications:

- For applications up to \$50,000 there is a rolling deadline assessed on a monthly basis. Please refer to the NZFC website for more detail.
- For applications over \$50,000 there are two deadlines. Please refer to the NZFC website for more detail.

Remember, you are welcome to contact us at any time to discuss your application. If you have any further questions, please contact the Talent Development Team by email at talentdev@nzfilm.co.nz or phone 0800 659 754.

