

New Zealand Film Commission Guide to Past Funding Decisions

Key to column headings

Financial Year – the NZFC financial year runs from 1 July to 30 June (it was 1 April to 31 March until 1990). For most funding types, this is the year the financing is committed by the NZFC. In some cases, this is the year the funding was paid.

Title/Project – for most funding types this is the current name of the film project or the release title if it has been completed. For producer and festival travel it is the name of the festival or market attended. For devolved development and industry support it is the name of the company or organisation receiving the funding. For professional development it is the name of the event or programme funded.

Alias – any previous names the film project went by or other useful information for searching.

Recipient or Key Creatives – For films, the key creatives are listed in the order of producer, director and writer. For other funding types, it is the individual or organisation that was paid or benefited from the funding. For theatrical release support, the distributor is listed.

Type – There are 13 funding types:

- Devolved development
- Feature film finishing grant
- Feature film production investment
- Festival travel
- Industry support
- NZSPG
- Producer travel
- Professional development
- Script development
- Short film post production
- Short film production investment
- SPIF
- Theatrical release support

Amount – the amount committed or paid in New Zealand dollars.

Key to funding types

Feature film production investment is the amount of equity investment the NZFC makes in a film and usually includes all previous script development. Therefore, you should generally not add script development and feature film production investment when calculating the amount of the NZFC's investment in the film as that would be double-counting. Script development funding that has been fully repaid is indicated by an asterisk. Feature film production investment includes equity funding for post-production only (distinct from the feature film finishing grant). If an investment has been fully recouped by the NZFC then this is indicated by an asterisk.

Short film production investment is funding provided to short films either by way of equity or grant. It encompasses all previous short film funding schemes such as the Short Film Fund, Premiere Shorts and Fresh Shorts as well as Premiere Pathways. It does not include films funded via Screen Innovation Production Fund (also known as Creative Development Fund and Independent Filmmaker Fund), a joint Creative NZ/NZFC initiative that ran from 1984 to 2010. For a list of those films see the Creative NZ website.

Short film post production is funding available for filmmakers who have had their narrative short film selected by a significant international film festival to screen in competition.

Script development is usually a loan that is repaid on the first day of principal photography. Script development may include other project development costs such as concept design, material for seeking finance, travel costs, etc. Script development funding that has been fully repaid is indicated by an asterisk. This will generally be the case for all films that went into production.

Devolved development refers to development funding given to producers to develop a slate of projects. In these cases, the producer does not have to apply to the NZFC for each project but instead provide regular updates on projects on their slate. Devolved development includes a number of previous schemes: Producer Operated Development (PODs), SuperPODs, Devolved Development Funds (DDFs), Producer Overhead Funds (POFs), Producer Awards, Writer Awards, Boost, He Ara and the Business Development Scheme.

There are two types of **professional development**. There are professional development awards for individuals in a range of craft areas to undertake training opportunities, usually offshore. There is also professional development funding for organisations to run specific training programmes, often in conjunction with the NZFC. This type of funding is distinct from core funding for festivals, awards, guilds and industry organisations which is included under **industry support**. Funding provided to organisations under the professional development services programme is treated as professional development and not industry support.

NZSPG (New Zealand Screen Production Grant) replaced the Large Budget Screen Production Grant and Screen Production Incentive Fund from 1 April 2014. We administer the NZSPG on behalf of the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. International Productions are eligible for a cash grant of 20% of Qualifying New Zealand Production Expenditure (QNZPE) with a 5% Uplift available for a smaller number of productions that can demonstrate significant economic benefits to New Zealand. New Zealand Productions are eligible for a cash grant of 40% of QNZPE. New Zealand Productions must have significant New Zealand content or be official co-productions.

Producer travel is funding provided to producers to travel to festivals, markets or meetings to seek financing for their projects by way of pre-sales, attaching sales agents, seeking equity investors etc. It is also known as Producer International Travel Assistance (PITA).

Festival travel is funding provided to filmmakers to travel to A-list festivals where their film is screening in order to promote the film and forge international connections.

Feature film finishing grants are usually grants given to feature films that have been made independently of NZFC production investment in order that the film can be finished to a quality suitable for screening.

Theatrical release support grants are available to distributors of feature films to subsidise the cost of releasing New Zealand films in New Zealand. The grant is paid on eligible distribution costs (usually print and advertising or publicity and advertising).

SPIF is the Screen Production Incentive Fund that was available to eligible feature films from 2008 to 2013 and was administered by the NZFC on behalf of the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. The SPIF is treated as a non-discretionary cash grant treated as producer equity in the film. The SPIF has been replaced with the New Zealand Screen Production Grant for New Zealand Productions. NB: Grants for international productions under the Large Budget Screen Production Grant or NZSPG for International Productions are not listed here.