

Film Skills Fund Funding programme



Creative Skillset's Film Skills Fund invests in the skills and training of the UK film industry to secure its growth sustainability and world-class position. The Film Skills Fund is backed by the British Film Institute (BFI) with National Lottery funds.

[Read more about the Film Skills Strategy](#)

Training for Professionals

This funding programme supports the BFI Film Forever strategy.

What training are we looking to support?

- Training that supports existing professionals to step-up to the next level of their career.
- Creative Skillset will pursue a pro-active prioritisation of applications from Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, and training programmes that address the needs across the industry to improve diversity and gender imbalance.
- Training **must address our funding aims** as identified and detailed in the **annex below**.

Priority Areas	Archives, BAME Leadership, Craft and Technical, Creative Talent Development, Cross Media, Production Management, Sales, Distribution and Exhibition, VFX
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Who can apply?

Organisations (not individuals) that have a proven track record of delivering successful industry-led training, or can demonstrate how they will secure this expertise.

Key information

Application deadline:

You can apply at any time but your application will not be assessed until the **monthly deadline** has passed.

The monthly deadline is 12 noon on the first Thursday of every month.

Please note: if you apply a day after the monthly deadline (for instance, on the first Friday of the month onwards) your application will not be assessed until the **next** monthly deadline has passed. For worked examples, please see the **Creative Skillset Funding for Organisations Guidelines**.

This scheme will continue until funding has been fully allocated.

What should the training look like?

Training should be designed and delivered with leading industry professionals. Examples of training and best practice models include online tuition, class-based learning, blended learning, studio based or a combination of these models.

Delivery criteria

Training should:

- Address specific aims outlined in the **annex** of this funding programme;
- Applications should demonstrate the support of relevant industry organisations;
- Embed our **delivery values** as outlined in the **What to include in your application** section of the **Creative Skillset Co-investment Guide**;
- Be **delivered by no later than 31 January 2017**.

Prior to application you must contact a member of the Creative Skillset Film Team, by emailing film@creativeskillset.org or calling 020 7713 9800.

Your application

How much can you apply for?

Please refer to the **annex** for specific amounts available and discuss your proposed budget with the Film Team before applying.

Your project co-investment

We will usually fund up to 70% of a project's delivery. We therefore expect you to provide at least 30% of the money you need for your project. A minimum of 7.5% of the total budget must be your cash contribution. This is your **project co-investment**

Diversity

Creative Skillset is committed to significantly improving the diversity of the film industry's workforce to better reflect the UK's diverse population.

The Creative Skillset 2015 Employment Survey¹ and Creative Media Workforce Survey 2014² provided the following workforce statistics in gender, diversity and disability for the total workforce in the Creative Media Industries.

¹http://creativeskillset.org/about_us/research/creative_skillset_employment_survey_2015

²http://creativeskillset.org/news_events/press_office/3412_workforce_survey_calls_for_fairer_access_to_creative_media_industries

- Gender – female representation is 39%, compared to 47% in the UK workforce;
- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic representation is 7%, compared to 10% in the UK workforce and 35% of the London workforce;
- 5% of the Creative Media workforce was identified as disabled, compared to 11% in the wider UK working population.

Your training should aim to meet or exceed the following targets when recruiting participants. Your application must demonstrate a commitment to reaching these targets and include proactive marketing to attract diverse participants and inclusion policies such as making access provisions for disabled applicants, or childcare/travel subsidies.

The figures below are baseline targets for the industry and we will prioritise applications that have higher diversity targets in specific sectors.

Participant Diversity Target	
Female participants	50%
Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic participants	20% (40% in Greater London)
Disabled participants	10%
All projects should also aim to recruit from across the nations and regions, setting targets which reflect the geographical shape of the UK film industry.	

How to apply

Prior to application you must contact a member of the Creative Skillset Film Team, by emailing film@creativeskillset.org or calling 020 7713 9800.

Please download and read our [Co-investment Guide for Organisations](#). This guide contains essential information about using our **online application process**, providing **supporting documents** and the **delivery values** your application should include.

When you are ready, apply using the correct online application form below:

- [Start an application to deliver Continuing Professional Development](#)

At the end of the form you will be asked to attach the following completed **supporting documents**, which should be attached as Microsoft Word documents, except the Project and Budget Report where you should download the template provided from the link below:

- [Project and Budget Report template](#). *Guidance for completing the template is found in Tab 1;*
- Detailed course outline and schedule;
- Industry trainers biogs.

ANNEX: Details of in-demand areas and priority skills we aim to support

The maximum amount of funding available is **up to £2.5 million**

In-demand areas and priority skills for continuing professional development	
Priority Areas	Priority Skills
Archive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital preservation • Digital estate planning • Copyright & collection management • Cataloguing & metadata standards • Management & Leadership • Financial planning & the business of archives • Creative Digital Media skills related to archive • Community engagement & outreach application of archives • Analogue or digital restoration
BAME leadership programme	<p>We are seeking to support a career management specialist or company to recruit for and manage a management and leadership bursary programme for BAME working professionals.</p> <p>The Consultant will recruit 10 film professionals and analyse the career needs and aspirations of each, working with them on an individual basis to create a training map which will be executed and evaluated. The ultimate aim will be to help improve BAME representation at senior levels in the industry.</p> <p>Please note: This fund is specifically targeting emerging executives who have been working in the film business for 2-3 years, and not creative talent.</p>
Craft and Technical	Priority will be given to craft and technical training programmes for diverse and under-resented groups.
Creative Talent Development	<p>Screenwriters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scriptwriting and development • Commercial awareness <p>Producers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing creative entrepreneurs and film business diversification • Digital opportunities, development, innovation and IP exploitation • Identifying alternative sources of funding and recoupment planning • Distribution and sales knowledge and networking <p>Directors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulating vision • Working with actors • Commercial awareness

<p>Cross Media</p>	<p>Writers / Directors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story development – writing for different platforms and key considerations • Knowledge of cross-sector story opportunities and emerging markets • Design thinking – mapping the audience journey and decision-making process <p>Producers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial awareness • Monetisation of cross-platform content and identifying business and funding opportunities • Design thinking – mapping the audience journey and decision-making process • Developing creative entrepreneurs • Understanding digital delivery processes • Identifying and nurturing partnership opportunities, e.g. marrying talent with digital companies and professionals • Knowledge of cross-sector processes and emerging markets
<p>Emerging Needs</p>	<p>This is a flexible funding pot which allows us to be responsive to the fast-paced nature of the changing demands of the film industry.</p> <p>It will also be able to respond to previously unidentified priorities and related partnership opportunities.</p>
<p>Innovation</p>	<p>Research and development grants: Grants to deliver new model pilots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate, research and develop new models of training provision; • Update existing training models of provision. <p>We particularly welcome applications for projects that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop innovative approaches to encouraging diversity; • Embed principles of sustainability within delivery, and raise awareness within the sector; • Respond to the impact of convergence.
<p>Production Company Development Grants</p>	<p>We invite applications from feature film production companies which have contributed to the Film Production Levy, from 1 April 2015, to apply to deliver creative and practical ways to boost skills and develop talent within their companies.</p>
<p>Production Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production Managers • Line Producers • Production Accountants • US Unions & Payroll for Production Accounts • Post Production Supervisors

<p>Sales, Distribution and Exhibition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and leadership: Heads of Department (Head Office, site specific or festivals) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and leadership • Technical • Specialist audience development • Data capture and analysis / digital marketing and social • Media • Technical: Technical Directors, Technical Managers and Executives, Technical Assistants • Developing diverse audiences: Film Programmers and Cinema Managers • Marketing: Audience data and marketing campaigns, Film Programming Event / Project Management
<p>International Markets</p>	<p>We invite applications from companies to support their junior sales and distribution executives in their first European or International market, through in-house mentoring support by their senior distribution and sales professionals.</p>
<p>Personnel Development Grants</p>	<p>We are inviting applications directly from distribution, sales and exhibition companies for HR and training grants of up to £12,000 (with a 30% match requirement).</p> <p>Training should meet the needs of individual staff members, as well as the immediate skills needs of the company, enabling it to succeed in meeting its short to medium term business goals. The focus of the fund is to assist businesses in becoming more sustainable.</p>
<p>VFX Company Development Grants</p>	<p>Training should meet the needs of the individual staff members as well as the immediate skills needs of the company, enabling it to succeed in meeting its short to medium term business goals.</p>