

Project Development Fund 2026/27

Frequently Asked Questions

1. When are applications due?

Applications to the program are evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis until the budget for the fiscal year has been fully committed (ending March 31, 2027).

2. Is there an application fee?

A non-refundable \$105 application fee (includes GST) is required for each submission. Payment by direct deposit is preferred. Please attach a screenshot confirming payment with your application. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

3. What types of projects can I apply with?

Eligible project types include:

- Scripted feature length films (minimum 75 minutes)
- Documentary one-offs (minimum 25 minutes)
- Documentary or Factual Series (minimum 22 minutes per episode)
- Television movies, pilots, series, and mini-series
- Web series
- Short films

4. Do I need to have an incorporated company to apply?

Creative BC will only accept Project Development Fund applications from companies incorporated in British Columbia (or Canada) that are majority owned and managed by residents of British Columbia. The company's head office must be located in British Columbia. Companies that are extra-provincially incorporated in British Columbia are not eligible to apply for funding.

5. What is considered an eligible triggering agent?

Eligible triggering agents include **broadcasters**, **distributors**, and **select funding agencies** that actively advance the project toward broad distribution or streaming.

Examples of distribution entities include, but are not limited to: Boat Rocker Studios, Lionsgate, and Mongrel Media. Examples of licensed public or private broadcasters include, but are not limited to: APTN, Bell Media, CBC, Corus Entertainment, Knowledge Network, Rogers Media, and TV5 Quebec Canada. A more comprehensive list can be found in the program guidelines.

Private companies or private investment **do not** qualify as an eligible triggering agent.

The triggering entity must be arm's length from the applicant company and cannot be a related or associated company.

If the project is intended as a co-production, it must be associated with an independent triggering agent that is not related to or affiliated with the applicant company or co-production partner.

6. I have a project with a co-producer from another province or country attached. Am I eligible to apply?

Inter-provincial and international co-productions are eligible to apply, provided they meet minimum thresholds of ownership and creative control.

For inter-provincial co-productions, this requires a minimum of 51% ownership and control by the B.C. co-producer. For international co-productions, the minimum ownership and control threshold is determined by the governing treaty between the two countries (typically a minimum of 20% ownership).

Proper written documentation must be included in the application. This is demonstrated through an executed co-production deal memo and/or agreement outlining ownership percentages, levels of control, and the obligations of each party during the development phase.

Copyright ownership granted to the B.C. applicant must be proportional to the B.C. applicant's financial, technical and creative contribution and level of control, and must not be less than 20%.

For co-production between two B.C. companies, the application becomes a joint application, and the contract must be addressed to and signed by both B.C. companies.

7. My project will be produced/released in a language other than English. Is my project eligible?

Yes, Creative BC wishes to encourage greater diversity at all levels of production, and that includes the intended audience. Completed productions may therefore be intended for release in languages other than English.

In such cases, subtitles in both official languages should be included as an anticipated cost. For ease of review, applications must be submitted in English, including scripts, at this time.

8. Do I need to include a budget? Do you have a template?

Yes. Applicants must provide an overview of how the requested Project Development Fund support, as well as funding from the eligible triggering agent and any other financial sources, will be allocated during the development phase.

Applicants are required to use either the Telefilm Canada or Canada Media Fund development budget templates. Links to both templates are available on our website.

9. I have multiple projects in development. Can I apply to this program with more than one project?

Yes. Applicants may apply to the Project Development Fund with more than one project, provided each project has received a financial commitment toward development from an eligible triggering agent.

Please note that the total development funding available to any one applicant, including affiliated or related companies, may not exceed \$50,000 in the fiscal year 2026/27.

10. Can I apply to the Project Development Fund with the same project more than once if I've received financial commitments from different eligible triggering agents?

Potentially, yes. If the development activities are distinct from each eligible triggering agent, you may be eligible to apply more than once for the same project.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Program Analyst prior to applying to confirm eligibility.

Please note that the maximum cumulative funding an eligible project may receive over its full development history is \$40,000 for feature films, documentary one-offs, web series, and shorts; and \$60,000 for all other project types.