



KURDISTAN FILM FUND

Applicant Eligibility

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These policies complement the Kurdistan Film Fund Rules & Regulations and establish operational standards for applicants, staff, external experts and Jury members.

In the event of any inconsistency, the latest approved Kurdistan Film Fund Rules & Regulations shall prevail.

1. Proof of Kurdish lineage or a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture

1.1 Purpose

Where the Kurdistan Film Fund Rules & Regulations require a director, producer or other eligible individual to demonstrate Kurdish heritage, Kurdish descent or a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture, the applicant must provide sufficient supporting evidence.

The purpose of this requirement is to allow the Fund to verify eligibility in a fair, consistent and respectful manner.

1.2 Acceptable Evidence of Kurdish Lineage or Descent

Applicants may submit one or more of the following documents:

Official Documents

- Valid national identity card or civil-status document indicating Kurdish origin, where such information is officially recorded;

- Family civil registry;
- Birth certificate;
- Parents' or grandparents' birth certificates or civil-status documents;
- Family book or equivalent official family-registration document;
- Passport or identity document where Kurdish origin is officially indicated;
- Other official documentation demonstrating direct family lineage.

Family-Lineage Evidence

Where an applicant's own documents do not directly establish Kurdish descent, the applicant may submit documentation relating to:

- Parent;
- Grandparent;
- Other direct ancestor;

Provided that the family relationship between the applicant and the person concerned can also reasonably be demonstrated.

1.3 Other Evidence of Tangible Connection

Where official lineage documentation is unavailable or insufficient, the Fund may consider alternative evidence demonstrating a genuine and tangible connection to Kurdish community or culture.

This may include:

- Evidence of long-term membership or active participation in a recognized Kurdish cultural, artistic or community organization;
- Evidence of sustained professional activity within Kurdish cultural or audiovisual institutions;
- Previous artistic or audiovisual works substantially connected to Kurdish culture, history, language, communities or narratives;
- Documentary evidence of long-term involvement in Kurdish cultural life;
- Letters or attestations from recognized Kurdish cultural institutions, professional organizations, community bodies or other credible institutions;
- Other relevant documentary evidence accepted by the Kurdistan Film Fund.

1.4 Personal Declaration

Where necessary, the Fund may ask the applicants to submit a signed declaration explaining:

- The nature of their Kurdish heritage or connection;
- Their family or community background;
- The relevance of the supporting documents provided;
- Any circumstances preventing them from providing conventional official documentation.

A personal declaration alone does not automatically establish eligibility and may require additional supporting evidence.

1.5 Assessment

Evidence shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The Fund may:

- Request clarification;
- Request additional documentation;
- Verify documentation where necessary;
- Consult cultural experts;
- Decline evidence that it considers insufficient, unreliable or irrelevant.

Applicants should not be disadvantaged solely because a specific form of official documentation is unavailable in their country of residence or personal circumstances.

1.6 Cultural Assessment

Where the eligibility question concerns a project's meaningful connection to Kurdish identity, culture, language, communities or narratives rather than personal lineage alone, the assessment may consider:

- Story and subject matter;
- Characters;
- Language;
- Location;
- Cultural context;
- Creative leadership;
- Kurdish participation;
- Historical or contemporary relevance;
- Contribution to Kurdish audiovisual culture.

Where required under the Rules & Regulations, the Fund may refer the project to professionals with recognized expertise in Kurdish culture.

1.7 False or Misleading Information

Submission of falsified, manipulated or knowingly misleading documentation may result in:

- Immediate rejection of the application;
- Withdrawal of an award;
- Termination of a grant;
- Recovery of funds already paid;
- Exclusion from future KFF applications;
- Other appropriate legal or administrative action.

Important: Passing the eligibility check does not guarantee selection. Applications must be complete, valid, and compliant with all KFF requirements to proceed to the evaluation stage.



Thank You!

Address

Hera Business Center Midya Street, Floor 3,
Office 30-31 As Sulaymaniyah, 46001 Iraq

Call Us

+964 (772) 139 2923

Email

info.fund@creativekurdistan.krd

