

Guidelines



KURDISTAN FILM FUND

Feature films & TV Series in Development

Introduction

Under the umbrella of the Creative Kurdistan Institute, alongside the Kurdistan Film Commission, the Kurdistan Film Fund (KFF) is a national grant program supporting short, feature, medium-length films, and TV series across all production stages through two annual cycles.

Guideline

This document outlines essential guidelines for applicants submitting a Fiction, Animation, Documentary Feature film OR TV Series project in the development phase.

Applicants are strongly advised to thoroughly review these guidelines before applying, as they detail essential regulations, funding amounts, and submission requirements for the development stage.

Eligibility

The full KFF General Regulations are available online on our website, where you can find detailed information and answers to your questions.

Application Timelines

Application Cycle One

Opens on **September 1, 2026**

Closes on **October 16, 2026**

Announcement of supported projects by **mid-January 2027**

Categories & Funding Film Cycle

Feature film in development

Including Fiction, Documentary and Animation

A feature film is defined as a single work with a running time of more than 60 minutes intended for an initial theatrical release.

TV series in development

Including Fiction, Documentary and Animation

Open to any of the following formats: one-season series, multi-season series, limited series. With a minimum of 3 episodes and a running time for each episode of 15 to 60 minutes.

Amounts of Funding Grants & Sessions

Package includes cash and professional guidance during collective sessions.

Cash Amounts & Collective Sessions

Development

Fiction and Animation Feature film	up to \$20,000
Documentary Feature film	up to \$10,000
TV Series	up to \$20,000

Payments of Funding Grants

The grant will be allocated to the producer, except in certain cases duly specified in the present regulations (*)

- 1st transfer of **70%** of total grant upon signature of the grant agreement:
 - of which **30%** is allocated to the director (*)
 - of which **40%** is allocated to the producer
- 2nd transfer of **30%** of total grant upon receipt (allocated to the producer)
 - of a satisfactory version of the screenplay
 - of a complete narrative and financial report on the use of total grant

Validity of Funding Grants

Will be terminated if no revised draft of the screenplay demonstrating a significant development is sent within one year after the notification of the grant.

Required Materials

Below is a list of required documents in the application dossier for the Feature Films or TV Series in Development.

- To facilitate the evaluation process, applicants are strictly required to present and submit their application materials in the order specified below.
- All required documents must be submitted in one single PDF file.

Development Funding stage

Artistic documents (in English)

- Cover page including title
- Short and/or long synopsis (20 lines maximum)
- Director's statement/Artistic note of intent related to the project (2 pages maximum)
- Artistic references: mood board or visual references, aesthetic influences and inspirations (6 pages maximum)
- Producer's note of intention outlining the project's specific needs, necessary works and steps to ensure its successful development, and its potential production opportunities within the territory (2 pages maximum)

For Feature films only:

- Feature-length film treatment (10 pages minimum) or screenplay

For TV Series only:

- Logline

Bible including:

- Series concept
- Characters
- Story arches
- Synopsis of each episode (3 episodes minimum)

Creative team documents (in English)

- Director's bio and filmography
- Links to the director's previous audiovisual works
- Screenwriter(s)' bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Producer's bio and filmography (if applicable)
- Links to the producer's previous audiovisual works (if applicable)
- Production company profile (if applicable)

Legal documents (some may be provided in their original language, such as Arabic or Kurdish)

- Director's ID
- Director's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a

tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture

- Producer's ID (if applicable)
- Producer's proof of lineage or any other appropriate evidence of a tangible connection to the Kurdish community or culture (if applicable)
- Adaptation rights agreement(s) (if applicable)
- Director's agreement (if the director is not the screenwriter) (if applicable)
- Production agreement(s) or signed deal memos may be accepted if final agreements have not yet been executed (if applicable)
- Proof of legal registration of the production company (certificate of incorporation or equivalent official registration document)
- The director bears legal responsibility for the validity and safety of the documents submitted to the Kurdistan Film Fund
- The national film fund reserves the right to take the necessary legal measures against them if the submitted documents are proven to be invalid

Financial documents

- Development estimated budget (using the official Kurdistan Film Fund excel budget template)
- For a Documentary Feature film or TV Series in Development, no more than 20% of the estimated final edited film may have been shot at the time of application
- For resubmitted projects only > A rewrite note must be included

Note on the evaluation

- Beyond assessing artistic excellence and production feasibility, the Jury also considers each project's potential contribution to the long-term development, international recognition and sustainability of Kurdish cinema.
- Special attention will be given to supporting projects that place a strong emphasis on diversity and gender equality in the above and below-the-line crew.

Thank You!

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