

## Doha Film Institute Grants Programme - FILM General Guidelines

1. Funding is available via the Doha Film Institute Grants Programme (the “**Programme**”) to international film projects that satisfy specific criteria.

Development, production and post-production funding is available for short and feature-length projects. For features, a first- or second-time director must be attached.

For the purposes of the Programme, a first- or second-time filmmaker is defined as one who is directing their first or second feature-length (65 min and over) narrative or documentary film.

Post-production funding for feature-length films is also available to **established directors** from Qatar and the MENA region.

Funding is subject to criteria based on the director’s nationality.

2. The Institute does not apply restrictions on form or genre.

3. **Short films** are defined as **5 to 30 minutes** in duration and feature films as 65 minutes or longer in duration.

4. A director may be attached to only one project per Programme session.

5. **Applications for production or post-production funding for feature-length projects must have a producer and production company attached.**

6. Projects that have received **development** funding in prior Programme sessions are eligible to apply for **post-production funding only**. Projects that have received **production** funding in prior sessions are not eligible to apply for post-production funding.

7. A project **will not be considered more than twice** at the **same stage** of production. **Resubmissions** for the same stage of funding must be accompanied by a **detailed report of all applicable changes**.

8. Funding for experimental and essay projects is available to Qatar and MENA applicants only.

9. There are two annual grants submission cycles. **Check online for exact dates**

10. A director who has **completed a film longer than 30 minutes cannot apply** for funding with a **short film**.

11. A director applying for funding for a feature film must have completed at least one short film.

12. If a **project is co-directed, both directors** must be **first- or second-time filmmakers** and must meet all other eligibility criteria.

13. Any **project** under consideration becomes **ineligible** if its **world premiere** takes place **prior to the deliberations** of the jury.

14. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

*Doha Film Institute reserves the right to modify these guidelines at any time without prior notice.*

Eligibility per region

FUNDING FOR EXPERIMENTAL AND ESSAY PROJECTS IS AVAILABLE TO QATAR AND MENA APPLICANTS ONLY

		SHORTS			FEATURES		
		Development	Production	Post-Production	Development	Production	Post-Production
First & Second time directors	QATAR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	MENA		✓		✓	✓	✓
	NON MENA						✓
Established MENA (including Qatar)							✓

Funding Consideration Stages

Eligible projects are considered for funding in two stages:

Stage 1:

The artistic material and the director’s previous work(s) are reviewed. DFI will notify applicants **within two months** of the submission deadline, informing them whether their project has been shortlisted or not.

Supporting documentation may be submitted in **Arabic, French and/or English** during Stage 1.

If English-language documents are translations, applicants are encouraged to submit the original-language versions as well. Whenever possible and applicable, previous works should be submitted with English subtitles.

Stage 2:

Further materials must be submitted to DFI **within one week** of notification of inclusion on the shortlist, and the Programme Jury will thereafter carefully evaluate shortlisted projects. Final decisions will be announced **within two months** of the commencement of this evaluation process.

**Should your project be shortlisted**, any **documents** originally submitted in **Arabic or French**, including scripts, treatments and/or rough cuts, **must then be provided in English and/or with English subtitles**.

## Submission Requirements

FEATURE FILMS					
MANDATORY MATERIALS		STAGE OF PRODUCTION			
		DEVELOPMENT	PRODUCTION	POST-PRODUCTION	
STAGE 1	<b>I. CREATIVE DOSSIER (to be submitted in a single PDF file)</b>				
	Logline (up to two sentences)	↓	↓	↓	
	Synopsis (up to 200 words)	↓	↓	↓	
	FICTION - Treatment (10 to 20 pages)	↓	if available	if available	
	DOCUMENTARY - Treatment (minimum 7 pages)	↓	↓	↓	
	Director's Statement (including visual treatment)	↓	↓	↓	
	Director's biography (up to 100 words)	↓	↓	↓	
	Producer's biography (up to 100 words)	if available	↓	↓	
	Estimated total budget (in USD)	if available	↓	↓	
	Link(s) to previous work - up to 2 maximum*	↓	↓	↓	
	Minimum of 60 minutes	n/a	n/a	↓	
	Continuously Edited Scenes or Rough Cut*	n/a	n/a	↓	
	Writer's Notes on Current Draft**	↓	n/a	n/a	
	Editing Notes on Submitted Cut**	n/a	n/a	↓	
	Producer's Note	if available	↓	↓	
	Scan of director's passport	↓	↓	↓	
	<b>II. FICTION - SCRIPT (to be submitted in a separate PDF file)</b>				
	FICTION - Draft Script (minimum 70 pages)	- Mandatory for MENA - If available for GULF	n/a	n/a	
FICTION - Final Script	n/a	↓	↓		
STAGE 2	Financial Plan	Development only	↓	↓	
	Detailed total budget (in USD)	Development only	↓	↓	
	Production stills (3,000x2,000 pixels at 300 dpi)	if available	if available	↓	
	Production Company Profile	if available	↓	↓	
	Sales and Distribution Strategy	if available	if available	if available	
SHORT FILMS					
MANDATORY MATERIALS		STAGE OF PRODUCTION			
		DEVELOPMENT	PRODUCTION	POST-PRODUCTION	
STAGE 1	<b>I. CREATIVE DOSSIER (to be submitted in a single PDF file)</b>				
	Logline (up to two sentences)	↓	↓	↓	
	Synopsis (up to 200 words)	↓	↓	↓	
	FICTION - Treatment	↓	if available	if available	
	DOCUMENTARY - Treatment	↓	↓	↓	
	Director's Statement (including visual treatment)	↓	↓	↓	
	Director's biography (up to 100 words)	↓	↓	↓	
	Producer's biography (up to 100 words)	if available	if available	if available	
	Producer's Note	if available	if available	if available	
	Estimated total budget (in USD)	if available	↓	↓	
	Link(s) to previous work*	if available	if available	if available	
	Rough Cut*	n/a	n/a	↓	
	Scan of director's passport	↓	↓	↓	
	<b>II. FICTION - SCRIPT (to be submitted in a separate PDF file)</b>				
	FICTION - Draft Script	if available	n/a	n/a	
	FICTION - Final Script	n/a	↓	↓	
	STAGE 2	Financial Plan	if available	↓	↓
		Detailed total budget (in USD)	Development only	↓	↓
Production stills (3,000x2,000 pixels at 300 dpi)		if available	if available	↓	
Production Company Profile		if available	if available	if available	

\* Please be sure to also include all links on the online submission form.

\*\* Please elaborate on the current status of your Draft/Cut, mentioning the challenges you are facing and the improvements you envision to bring your Draft/Cut to completion.

Any additional materials you wish to attach to your application should be submitted as a separate PDF file.

## Grant Amounts per Category

(All amounts are listed in US dollars)

### Short Films (up to 30 min)

#### **Narrative**

Development: up to \$5,000  
Production: up to \$15,000  
Post-Production: up to \$10,000

#### **Documentary**

Development: up to \$5,000  
Production: up to \$12,500  
Post-Production: up to \$7,500

#### **Experimental and Essay Films**

Development: up to \$5,000  
Production/Post-Production: up to \$10,000

### Feature Films (65 minutes or longer)

#### **Narrative**

Development: up to \$20,000  
Production: up to \$100,000  
Post-Production: up to \$75,000

#### **Documentary**

Development: up to \$15,000  
Production: up to \$75,000  
Post-Production: up to \$50,000

#### **Experimental and Essay Films**

Development: up to \$10,000  
Production/Post-Production: up to \$30,000