



Screen Malta Mentor Regulations

The Malta Film Commission under the auspices of the Ministry of Tourism and Consumer Protection is responsible for the management and administration of Screen Malta support schemes.

With an annual budget of €600,000, Screen Malta support schemes offer financial support towards scriptwriting, project development, production, promotion and distribution of Maltese projects in accordance with the official regulations which can be found at the following link: <https://maltafilmcommission.com/screen-malta/grants/>.

Support can also be given to Maltese producers for their involvement in international co-productions (minority partners) as long as an application is submitted by the Maltese producer and a co-production agreement is in place (according to industry standards).

Screen Malta has the following main objectives:

- Making a valid contribution to the expression of creativity and culture;
- Strengthening aspects of the economy with the supply of cultural products;
- Contributing towards the development of production capability skills in the audiovisual sector with the goal of maintaining and fostering employment in Malta in this sector;
- Being processed to commercial release standards, for local and/or international distribution for theatrical release, festivals and broadcast/ telecast (including VOD/SVOD platforms).

In total, Screen Malta offers seven (7) schemes, which aim to provide support for eligible productions:

1. SCRIPTWRITING SUPPORT

Support for scriptwriting may only be granted for scripts or shooting outlines (creative documentaries) if it promises to improve the quality, potential recognition and economic viability of Maltese works. This scheme provides up to €30,000 to be utilised towards the writing and related research of a script with the involvement of an experienced scriptwriter or group of writers based on an approved work plan (qualifications are evaluated based on training and previous works). New scriptwriters will be considered on the basis of the applicant's training and sample works.

If you (the Applicant) have an initial first draft of a script, which has not been taken to a script workshop and/or has involved a professional script consultant and/or has not been developed, you may apply for support to work on a new draft.

Qualifying Productions

This scheme will offer financial support to applicants for qualifying productions, as follows:

Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD)
TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode)
Creative Documentary

2. DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Development support can be granted for further development of the script and all measures prior to going into actual production. This can include seeking co-producers and/or bringing on board a sales agent or distributor; and work carried out by key creative members to bring project up to a stage ready for pre-production. A detailed work plan describing the proceeding work up to pre-production in readiness for production, needs to be clearly outlined and supported by clear justifications of how the financial support will go towards achieving this. This scheme will offer financial support up to €50,000.

Qualifying Productions

This scheme will offer financial support to applicants for qualifying productions, as follows:

Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD)
TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode)
Creative Documentary

3. PRODUCTION SUPPORT

Financial support towards the realization of your project which the script, the crew and cast, promises to improve the quality of Maltese productions available in Malta and abroad (having a cultural, technical and economic impact).

Qualifying Productions

This scheme will offer financial support to applicants for qualifying productions, which are fully developed and are ready to go into production, as follows:

- New Talent Short Film up to a maximum of €5,000
- Short Film up to a maximum of €30,000
- Film (Feature length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD) up to a maximum of €200,000
- TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode) up to a maximum of €200,000
- Creative Documentary up to a maximum of €50,000

4. SCREEN MALTA NEW SCHEME (Low Budget)

This scheme offers teams who can deliver a Film (Feature length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD) and/or a TV Fiction – Drama only (Pilot Episode) from development to realisation up to a maximum of €50,000 (all in amount). The evaluation will take into consideration all aspects and the potential of the team to be able to and ensure that this project is realised. Screen Malta mentor support will be provided throughout and to monitor the project to ensure that it is moving forward according to an approved work plan. Application needs to be made by the Producer and must include a team consisting of a Writer (can be a new comer), first-time feature length/TV Fiction – Drama only Director, DOP and Editor (cannot be the same people, other than Writer/Director subject to approval of the evaluators; any further considerations will be made at the discretion of the evaluators).

Projects submitted by teams with varying experience are encouraged, however, the scope of this scheme is to assist newcomers, especially the director and/or scriptwriters. Accordingly, the evaluators will take into consideration all aspects of the application, experience levels, past applications for support and the overall scope of this scheme when deciding which projects will receive support.

Qualifying Productions

This scheme will offer financial support to applicants for qualifying productions, as follows:

Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD)
TV Fiction - Drama only (Pilot Episode)

5. DISTRIBUTION – FESTIVAL FEES SUPPORT

Applicants can apply for financial support towards the cost of festival fees necessary to submit qualifying productions into recognised International Festivals. The scope of this scheme is to widen the distribution and improve the market opportunities for the qualifying production in accordance with the proposed festival strategy and budget.

In the case of international co-productions, share for costs considered as ‘shared costs’ can only be awarded up to the equivalent of their co-financing (percentage as outlined in the co-production agreement); the remaining share of the ‘shared costs’ must come from the foreign co-producer.

Qualifying Productions

Applications can only be received for completed projects in receipt of a previous Malta Film Fund production grant. The scheme will offer financial support to applicants for qualifying productions, as follows:

Short Film
Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD)
TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode)
Creative Documentary

6. DISTRIBUTION – MARKETING AND PROMOTION SUPPORT

Support under this scheme is designed to assist producers who intend to self-distribute and/or seek sales agents or distributors to distribute and reach out to international audiences with their final Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD) and/or TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode). To be eligible for financial support your project must have been a beneficiary of a previous Malta Film Fund production grant.

In the case of international co-productions, share for costs considered as ‘shared costs’ can only be awarded up to the equivalent of their co-financing (percentage as outlined in the co-production agreement); the remaining share of the ‘shared costs’ must come from the foreign co-producer.

Qualifying Productions:

Applications can only be received for completed projects in receipt of a previous Malta Film Fund production grant.

This scheme will offer financial support to applicants for qualifying productions, as follows:

Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD)
TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode)

7. DISTRIBUTION – INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION SUPPORT

What can I apply for?

Support for the producer, director or a key cast member (not more than two persons at any one time) to attend a recognized International Festival where the qualifying production has been selected (in competition) and the team have been invited to attend in conjunction with the screening and supporting activities (such as Q&A session/s). This is an open call and applications need to be made when festival confirmation becomes known.

In the case of international co-productions, share for costs considered as ‘shared costs’ can only be awarded up to the equivalent of their co-financing (percentage as outlined in the co-production agreement); the remaining share of the ‘shared costs’ must come from the foreign co-producer.

Qualifying Productions:

Applications can only be received for completed projects in receipt of a previous Malta Film Fund production grant.

Film (Feature Length for Theatrical, Festival, TV, VOD)
TV Fiction – Drama only (New or Continued Series, Pilot Episode)
Creative Documentary
Short Film

SCREEN MALTA MENTORING PROGRAMME

Successful Screen Malta applicants may benefit from mentoring support.

The role of the Mentor will include the following responsibilities:

- To support the applicant throughout the process via Skype calls;
- Read through script/treatment/budget etc. to provide guidance;
- To work alongside the successful beneficiary to offer expertise and guidance.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Desirably the Mentor will have the following experience:

- Professional experience in the filmmaking industry or as a practised mentor with a good working knowledge of film and filmmaking and are expected to have a high level of experience in one or more fields addressed by the support programmes offered by the Malta Film Commission.
- Proven track record *relating to Feature Films, Documentary, Animation, Short Films, High Quality International TV Series - processed to commercial release standards, for international distribution for cinema, film festivals and international telecast.*
- Ability to work in English.

Mentors depending on their role will be expected to carry out functions according to the fields addressed by the above seven support programmes mentioned above.

Appointment of Mentor

- Mentors will form part of a pool and will be selected in order of merit and will be called according to the requirements of the Malta Film Commission (MFC).
- MFC reserves the to select other Mentors outside the pool of mentors if such need arises.
- Selected Mentors shall perform the contract to the highest professional standards.
- Selected Mentors who have accepted the terms and conditions will be given detailed information regarding the project, what is required and will be expected to sign a contract which outlines duties, obligations, commitments, deadlines and remuneration.

Conflict of interest

Selected mentors are asked to sign a declaration by which they declare that they are not placed in a position which may give rise to a situation of conflict of interest, and they commit themselves to respect confidentiality, anonymity and impartiality.

When a potential conflict of interest is reported or brought to the attention of the Fund Manager of the Malta Film Commission by any means, MFC will analyse the circumstances and any objective elements of information at its disposal. If Malta Film Commission concludes that there is conflict of interest, the mentor may be excluded from a particular project or removed from the pool of mentors.

Confidentiality

All appointed mentors are bound by confidentiality, as all information relating to the projects is strictly confidential. The mentors are not allowed to disclose any information about the projects to anyone. Mentors are not to share with any third persons the information obtained or produced in connection with performing their tasks.

Freedom of information Act

The names of the mentors and their profile may be made available on the MFC website and/or if a request is submitted to the Public Authority's FOI Office, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (Cap. 496 of the Laws of Malta).

How to apply

Fill in the application form and send us your Curriculum Vitae highlighting the required skills and professional experience relating to the objectives of the programme for which you are applying by email on screenmalta@mfc.com.mt, indicating "Call for Mentors 2021" in the subject field.

For more information, kindly refer to our website on <https://maltafilmcommission.com/screen-malta/>. You may also call on +356 2180 9135 or send an email to info.mfc@maltafilmcommission.com