

# Netherlands Film Production Incentive

## Pilot High End Series & Single Episodes

### **General Outline**

- Applications are made by a **production company** which, at the time of the application, has been based in the Netherlands, a Member State of the EU or a State that is party to the Agreement in respect of the EEA or Switzerland for a minimum period of two years prior to the application. During this period the production company will have been demonstrably and consistently operating in the area of **producing** and **exploiting** film productions or TV series aimed primarily at cinema release or Dutch broadcasting or publicly available VoD platforms in the Netherlands, a Member State of the EU or a State that is party to the Agreement in respect of the EEA or Switzerland.
- The **applicant** is legally represented by a producer who, from the time of the application, has, as a **majority producer**, been the main party responsible for the production of at least **one film production** (reference film) or one High End TV series (reference series) in the Netherlands, a Member state of the EU or a State that is party to the Agreement in respect of the EEA or Switzerland. The reference film(s) or TV series must have been released in a cinema or exploited by Dutch broadcasting or publicly available VoD platforms in the Netherlands respectively.
- The scheme is open to applications for drama series, animated series and documentary series that upon application have a **guarantee** for Dutch broadcasting or exploitation by publicly available VoD platforms in the Netherlands.
- The series on the basis of which an application is submitted must be fully developed from the artistic/content perspective. **The scripts, director's vision and, in the case of animation, the style guide** appended to the application must be ready for production. In the case of a documentary series, a research report on the research outcomes must also be submitted.
- The **production budget** should be at least 12,000 euros per minute for a drama series, 10,000 euros per minute for short form (10-25 min.) drama series for children and 8,000 euros per minute for an animated series and a long form (25 min) drama series for children, and 4,000 euros per minute for a documentary series. The production costs of a single episode applied for should be at least one million euros.
- At least **50%** of the total production budget has to be unconditionally and demonstrably committed by third parties upon application (excluding deferrals).
- Applications should meet at least **three of the ten cultural criteria**.
- In each round eligible applications are ranked according to a points system. Only applications reaching a **minimum of 75** out of the 200 points are taken into consideration, including points for at least **two HODs** (Heads of Department). Under certain circumstances (such as a minimum eligible production spend in the Netherlands of one million euros) Dutch minority co-productions with just one HOD may be applicable. The Fund may add points to determine the **Impact** of a TV series on the audiovisual infrastructure and film culture in the Netherlands, the (cross-border) development of creative and technical talent and the promotion of the Netherlands as a production location.
- The TV series should be fully financed within **six months** of the Film Fund's decision on the grant. The TV series should be exploited by broadcasting or publicly available VoD platforms within **36 months** of conclusion of the Production Agreement.

- The Film Fund may decide to **exempt** the applicant from the obligation to commence principal photography - or in the case of an animated series, its realisation - until after the conditions set out in the Fund's decision have been met. The applicant will have to demonstrate that the other financiers involved agree to any changes to the financing plan they have approved. A financial contribution may not lead to an increase in the budget or the over-financing of a TV series.
- The production costs taken into consideration in calculating the financial contribution must be **directly** related to the production process. The costs of activities from the **date of application** onwards are eligible, but only if the application file is completed in full and meets all the conditions (otherwise the fixed application date is used to define the eligible costs for the corresponding application). The Qualification Test indicates the specific costs that are not considered eligible.
- The amount of the grant (cash rebate) is determined by the production costs that are both **eligible and demonstrably and directly spent** on parties subject to Dutch taxation, multiplied by **30%**.
- The maximum grant is **1.5 million euros** per TV series. A grant will only be awarded if there is **a minimum** eligible production spend in the Netherlands of **150,000 euros**. The maximum amount for TV series per applicant per year is **three million euros**.
- The annual budget available will be allocated across **several different application rounds**. Application deadlines are published on [filmfonds.nl](http://filmfonds.nl). Rejected applications will be given a one-off opportunity to submit a new application in a subsequent application round.
- A grant will be **conditional**. The final grant will not be determined and paid until all of the qualifying spend incurred has been verified. The financial contribution determined cannot be higher than the amount of the financial contribution awarded. The recipient of the financial contribution is obliged to produce the TV series for which a contribution is awarded in accordance with the characteristics included in the application, including the approved points system.
- Two interim payments are possible: **following the (main) shoot** and **following picture lock**, based on the actual spend of eligible production costs. Advance payment turnaround: **one week** following receipt of the invoice. Interim payments turnaround: **within 6 weeks** of receipt of all the required documents. The interim payment(s) may not exceed 90% of the total financial contribution. The remaining 10% becomes available following the determination decision and is subject to all the required information in accordance with the Financial & Production Protocol of the Incentive and the corresponding Financial Accounting Manual.

**Please check the guidelines and application deadlines at [filmfund.nl](http://filmfund.nl)  
Amsterdam, 1 January 2019**