



Application Guidelines 2021
Deadline Monday September 20th, 2021. Midnight

Please note, due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19 the first phase of FILM 5 2021/22 is currently planned to be delivered in-person though this may change. A decision has not yet been made on the delivery-method of the second phase of the program.

Overview

FILM 5 is a creative development program for emerging Nova Scotia filmmakers. The program provides a unique blend of classroom instruction, mentorship from experienced filmmakers, and hands-on production experience.

The principle objectives of FILM 5 are:

1. To provide artistic development, support and mentorship for emerging filmmakers.
2. To assist with the creation of high-quality short films that can further the filmmaking careers of the participants.
3. To provide aspiring technical crew with classroom and on-set training and mentorship.

Participants are challenged to create well-executed, innovative short films at a professional level while developing their artistic voices.

Relationship with AFCOOP

All FILM 5 productions are made under the supervision of the Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative and the FILM 5 core support team. Productions are produced in accordance with the approved shooting script and locked budget. Creative control and ownership of the projects remain with the filmmakers at all times during the program.

Participant Eligibility

Teams must consist of a Director, Writer and Producer. A Director or Producer may also be the Writer. A Director cannot be the Producer.



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All Team members must have completed some basic film training. The training may have been completed through a post-secondary institution, a filmmaking cooperative, artist-run centre, on the job, or can be self-taught.

Director applicants must have held a key creative role (writer or director) on a completed film or video work.

At least *one Team member* must be a Full Member of AFSCOOP before principal photography begins. (Don't worry! There is plenty of time to become an AFSCOOP member once you are in the program.)

All Team members must be residents of Nova Scotia and Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents.

Applicants who have previously participated in Phase I of the program (but not made it into Phase II) are welcomed and encouraged to apply again.

Please note: If you are unsure if you meet any of these criteria please contact AFSCOOP to discuss your eligibility at programs@afcoop.ca or (902) 405-4474.

Ineligibility

Team members will be considered overqualified if they:

Have held the same key creative role on a feature film that has been produced with the participation of Telefilm Canada.

Have been active as a narrative filmmaker for over 10 years (this doesn't include an experimental or documentary filmmaker switching over to narrative).

Full time students (undergraduate or graduate level) are not eligible to apply.



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Past participants of the Production Phase are ineligible to apply, unless applying in a different discipline (i.e. former Director now applying as Producer).

Terms of FILM 5 Productions

Productions must have a finished running time of no less than four and no longer than nine minutes including credits.

Productions are to be shot in April 2022.

Documentary and animated projects are ineligible.

Teams must share creative control and ownership of their films while they are in the program.

Productions can seek funding from external sources, however the Team must retain full ownership and creative control of the project. External funding cannot exceed \$10,000.00 cash.

Productions are made under the direction of the FILM 5 core support team and are subject to final approval before being green-lit for production.

Crews must consist of a minimum of seven trainees from the FILM 5 Trainee Program and a minimum of three paid industry keys.

AFCOOP will retain a copy of the finished project to be used for educational and promotional use.

AFCOOP reserves the right to licence finished films to CBC for broadcast and web usage. Timeline adjustments can be made to accommodate festival play.



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Program Structure

Phase I – Project Development (October 2021 - December 2021)

Up to **four** Teams will be accepted into the Project Development Phase of the program. Teams will attend weekend and evening workshops designed to assist them in the development of their projects.

Each Team member must participate in the workshops applicable to their role. Only Teams who have participated in the required workshops will be eligible to apply to Phase II.

Phase II – Production (January 2022 – August 2022)

All Teams who successfully complete Phase I are eligible to apply. While it is not competitive to move from the development to production phases (i.e. all Teams may advance), it also is not guaranteed and Teams must meet certain requirements to be advanced. Teams accepted into this phase of the program will enter pre-production with the understanding that getting the final green-light to go ahead with their production is contingent upon the approval of their final proposal.

During this period Teams will receive further training and mentorship while adhering to a schedule of deliverables, leading up to a final proposal package. Each Team will present their final proposal plans to the FILM 5 core support team who will assess the project's readiness to go ahead with production.

Approved Teams will receive up to \$8,000 in cash and over \$20,000 in services to complete a short film. They will complete principal photography in April 2022, and see their projects through post-production to final delivery of a digital file. Teams should have a digital file ready for festival submissions by July 2022. Once final paper and deliverables have been approved, each team will be eligible to



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receive a small distribution/marketing fund.

Participant Commitment

FILM 5 runs from **October 2021** through **August 2022**. Once accepted, participants should expect to make a considerable time commitment to both the program and to the development of their projects.

It is important to note that FILM 5 is a training program, not a funding program. As participants in a training program, Teams are required to complete a schedule of workshops and courses intended to provide them with the necessary skills to complete their productions. Workshops and courses are held on weekends and weeknights. Failure to attend mandatory workshops may result in the Team's removal from the program.

Teams are required to work closely with the Mentors provided by the program. They will meet with the Supervising Producer on a regular basis to plan their projects. Teams are required to adhere to a schedule of deliverables and to provide the Supervising Producer with any and all materials that may be requested. Failure to do so may result in removal from the program.

Tuition

Each member of the selected Teams will be responsible for a tuition fee. Tuition is **\$400** per Team member for the first phase of the program (the second phase is free). These fees will be due within **3 weeks** of being accepted into phase one of FILM 5.

Please note: the tuition includes all workshop fees, mentorship, and an AFSCOOP Full Membership (\$80 value).



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Selection Criteria

All applications will be assessed for completeness and eligibility. Incomplete applications or applications that are received after the midnight deadline on September 20, 2021 will not be accepted.

Applications will be reviewed by a jury made up of FILM 5 alumni and members of the local film community.

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. Creative potential of project

- Originality and quality of the script
- Innovation and clarity of the Director's vision
- Enthusiasm and passion for the material
- Artistic cohesion of the creative team

2. The Team's suitability to the program

- FILM 5 is an intermediate-level training program. Teams must be at a stage in their development where they can benefit from the training and mentorship offered by the program.
- Professional development and creative development are cornerstones of FILM 5. Team members must be committed to developing as filmmakers and artists and serious about pursuing a future in filmmaking.
- Teams must be committed to revising and improving their projects throughout the process.
- Team members must be committed to building working relationships amongst themselves, with program administrators, mentors and their film crews.



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3. Project Feasibility

- Capacity for the full creative potential of the script to be realized within the budgetary and time constraints of the program.
- Scripts should not propose technical needs beyond what is generally available (i.e. aerial or crane shots, complex special effects).
- As a training film, scripts should limit the use of challenging themes or situations (i.e. stunts, large amounts of extras, extreme violence or excessive nudity).
- Scripts must be suitable to the short film format. (i.e. not a music video or a trailer for a feature film).

A note about Cultural Representation: If your story is set primarily in a community (racial, ethno-cultural, religious, sexual, ability, class etc.) your team are not members of, you must provide a statement explaining your connection to the community, your intention in telling the story, and what steps you have taken, and will take, to address the issue of representation.

Applying

To apply to the Project Development Phase of FILM 5 please [fill out the online application.](#)

Budget Information

Use the following as a guide to the resources provided by FILM 5. Please note: all funding and sponsorships are subject to confirmation and are non-transferable.

Cash \$8,000

In Kind Services:

Camera equipment (standard HD camera package)

\$5,000

Lighting and grip equipment

\$5,000



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| Misc AFSCOOP equipment | | \$2,000 | |
| AFSCOOP facilities (editing room) | | \$1,000 | |
| Video on-line post production | | \$10,000 | |
| Final Audio mix | | \$2,000 | |
| | TOTAL | In Kind | \$25,000 |
| | TOTAL Cash | | \$8,000 |

GRAND TOTAL **\$33,000**

Please note that you may choose to shoot on film (35mm or 16mm) or digitally. If you choose to shoot on film the program has discounted rates with Kodak and Cinelab to help make this choice affordable.

More information is available by contacting the FILM 5 Production Coordinator at programs@afcoop.ca or (902) 405-4474 ex. 2