

Grants for Filmmakers - Application Guidelines

AFCOOP's filmmaking grants support the production of local independent films through in-kind equipment and resources. There are grants that are open to the public as well as some that are only open to AFCOOP Full Members. For all grants, the individual applying must hold ownership and creative control of the project. Only Nova Scotia residents are eligible for grants, with the exception of the Analogue Film Grant, which is open to filmmakers in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Grants are given out through a peer-jury process. Jury members are paid for their time. If you'd like to participate on a future AFCOOP peer jury please email Henry: henry@afcoop.ca

We will have one intake period this year on August 1st, 2026. Applications will be accepted online only up until 11:59pm on the deadline day. We will not be accepting applications in December.

You can apply for the following **five grants** listed below:

FIRST THING GRANT

Provides resources and training to make your first film including:

- \$500 in-kind gear and facilities (valued at regular rates)
- "Intro to Filmmaking in Nova Scotia" workshop
- 2 x workshops of your choice
- Associate Membership
- 3 x 1hr meetings with an AFCOOP mentor

Eligibility: Open to all applicants including non-members. This grant is intended for filmmakers with little or no experience. If you have made a few shorts on your own but feel like you would benefit from this support then you are certainly still eligible.

SUPER-8 BURSARY

Covers all costs associated with shooting a short Super-8 film including:

- Two rolls of colour or b&w Super-8 film from the AFCOOP fridge (exact stocks may vary, however we will try to accommodate specific requests)
- Super-8 camera rental (duration is flexible depending on the needs of the project)
- Shipping to and from the lab
- Film processing at a professional film lab

- In-kind digitization provided by the Atlantic Media Preservation Lab

Eligibility: Open to all applicants including non-members. This grant is suitable for beginners as well as established filmmakers. Super-8 is an accessible entry-level analogue format and AFSCOOP staff will provide a camera tutorial/refresher if needed.

FEEDBACK LOOP

Provides professional mentorship from an AFSCOOP member or community member for a project you are developing. Examples of types of support you might request include: production feedback from a producer or production manager, script feedback from a screenwriter, or feedback on your rough-cut from an editor. Mentors will be selected from senior AFSCOOP members and the community based on the nature of your project. You are welcome to apply with a specific person in mind, however, we can't guarantee we will be able to match you with that individual.

Eligibility: Open to all applicants including non-members.

ANALOGUE FILM GRANT

Provides resources for the production of project involving analogue film (Super-8, 16mm or 35) including:

- \$500 cash project support
- \$2000 equipment in-kind gear and facilities (valued at regular rates)
- Ability to be covered under AFSCOOP's production insurance if needed
- In-kind digitization provided by the Atlantic Media Preservation Lab (max. 800')

Eligibility: AFSCOOP Full Members only.

INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS GRANT

Provides resources for the production of an independent film project including:

- \$500 cash project support
- \$2000 equipment in-kind gear and facilities (valued at regular rates)
- Ability to be covered under AFSCOOP's production insurance if needed

Eligibility: AFSCOOP Full Members only. Please note that if this funding is combined with other grants from Arts NS or Canada Council, you will need to indicate if those grants are confirmed or pending and indicate how you would proceed with the project without that support.

GRANT APPLICATION

Send your final application to Programs & Outreach Coordinator, Henry Colin at henry@afcoop.ca in a PDF or .docx format. Answer in a concise manner and please label responses in accordance with the system below for each section (i.e. 1. d. henry@afcoop.ca). Reference the file formatting guideline at the end of this document when submitting. Questions? Send Henry an email!

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Please provide the following general information:

- a. **Full Name**
- b. **Address**
- c. **Phone Number**
- d. **Email**
- e. **Do you identify as female, two-spirit, non-binary, or genderqueer?** | AFCCOOP seeks to promote gender balance in filmmaking. This question is VOLUNTARY and your information will only be used confidentially by AFCCOOP staff to ensure that our granting process is inclusive and balanced.
- f. **Do you identify as being part of an equity-seeking group?** | AFCCOOP seeks to promote equity and recognizes the importance of diversity in filmmaking and the arts sector. This question is VOLUNTARY and your information will only be used confidentially by AFCCOOP staff in order to ensure that our granting process is inclusive and balanced. An equity-seeking group is a group that faces significant collective challenges in participating in society due to attitudinal, historic, social and environmental barriers. For the purposes of this form we ask that you self-identify if you are:
 - Indigenous
 - A visible minority
 - A person with a disability
 - A member of the LGBTQ2+ community
- g. **Identify your AFCCOOP Membership status:**
 - Full Member
 - Lifetime Member
 - Associate Member
 - Non-Member
 - Other

SECTION 2: PROJECT DETAILS

2. Provide the following information on the project:

- a. **Project Title**
- b. **Do you own all the rights to the project?**
- c. **Which grant are you applying for? Please note: you must submit a separate application for each grant if you are applying to more than one.**
 - First Thing
 - Super-8 Bursary
 - Feedback Loop
 - Analogue Film Grant *AFCOOP Full Members only
 - Independent Filmmakers Grant *AFCOOP Full Members only
- d. **Project Synopsis** (50 words or less)
- e. **Support Material** (details below)

SUPPORT MATERIALS

1. Artistic Statement/Letter of intent

Please describe yourself, your artistic practice and your background as a filmmaker as it relates to the project you are proposing for the grant. Think of this a cover-letter for your grant.

2. Script or Project Description

Scripts up to 10 pages max. If the script is longer the jury will be instructed only to read the first 10 pages. If you don't have a script for the project, please include a description or treatment of what you plan to undertake with the support of the grant.

3. CV or Filmography

Please include your resume as an artist/filmmaker or a filmography listing the films you have made, where they have screened and any awards won.

4. Supplementary materials as required (see below)

See the list of additional materials below.

- **First Thing Grant** - Please indicate what workshops you would be interested in taking if your grant application is successful.
- **Super 8 Bursary** – Nothing additional.
- **Feedback Loop** - Please specify what type of mentor you would like to meet with (i.e. cinematographer, director, producer, editor).

- **Analogue Film Grant** - Please describe how you will be using film in your project (and what gauge) and how your plan to use your in-kind equipment support.
- **Independent Filmmakers Grant** – Please include a simple budget for the project indicating any additional funding and whether or not it is confirmed.

5. Maximum one audiovisual support material (Vimeo)

Please include a link to a previously made piece of work (if applicable). One link only. Provide password if applicable.

File formatting Delivery Guidelines

Please label the documents you deliver in the following format.

General Information_[NAME]_[Project Name]

Project Description_[NAME]_[Project Name]

Artistic Statement_[NAME]_[Project Name]

Script or Project Description_[NAME]_[Project Name]

CV or Filmography_[NAME]_[Project Name]

Supplementary Materials_[NAME]_[Project Name]