

The Investment Schemes of the Israel Film Fund

The Israel Film Fund was established in 1979, in order to encourage and promote the creation and distribution of Israeli feature films.

The fund engages in the production of over 450 films and is responsible for establishing the conditions that will allow the best Israeli creators to manifest their unique point of view and bring to the cinema screen a variety of stories whose purpose is to reflect the multicultural wealth of Israeli society in the best possible way, through the films produced with the support of the fund over the years, which excel in groundbreaking artistic achievements and provide expression to a variety of issues of culture, society and local identity.

Every year the Israel Film Fund invests in and supports the production of about 15 new feature films intended for screening in cinemas, as well as in the development of additional 30 scripts. The fund ensures to collaborate with artistic consultants, production assistants, script editors and professionals of the high standard. It selects its projects carefully, and thereafter, provides its films a home from the script to the distribution stage, while accompanying, both on the artistic side and the production side. This approach is designed to realize the high cinematic potential inherent in Israeli works and to encourage the distribution of Israeli cinema amongst audiences in Israel and worldwide.

Film Regulations - Recognition of a Film as an Israeli Film

This page is attached hereto for informational purposes only

[Film \(Recognition of a Film as an Israeli Film\) Regulations, 5765-2005.pdf](#)

Production Investment Guidelines

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The Israeli Film Fund (NPO) supports the production of feature films based on a feature script of at least 70 minutes long (60 minutes long for animated films), which complied with the criteria for defining an Israeli film in the Film Law and the Regulations thereunder, intended for screening in cinemas.

The fund's production support is carried out in two main schemes:

The Main Scheme - An investment of NIS 2 million

Debut Film Scheme - An investment of up to NIS 1 million

In each of the schemes it is possible to apply films for children and youth as well as films in the various genres: Drama, comedy, animation, horror movies, science fiction, etc.

In order to apply for production investment, it is mandatory to register on the fund's website

General procedures

1. The fund publishes at least two submission dates per year for submitting applications for production investment.
2. The fund is entitled to decide to postpone, delay, extend or cancel any additional submission date that opens (beyond the two annual deadlines above), and any submission received as part thereof, as it deems fit, and without the need to justify the aforementioned decision or to compensate the applicants of that time.
3. Applying for investment production is open to all. The application for investment production is based on a "Production Package" for all its components, as detailed on the fund's website, in each of the schemes. The scripts are delivered to the lectors (artistic consultants), while keeping the names of the creators anonymous. All identifying information submitted in the production package will be kept in the fund.
4. The submission of the application is online and will be carried out by the producer / production company through the fund's website. Submitting the application involves the prior registration on the website.
5. The applicant does not have an inherent right to have his application for production investment accepted or reviewed (such as in the case where the fund decides to cancel the submission date, this can be done with or without examining the submitted applications, insofar as there are any) and the applicant waives any claim, demand or argument of any kind and type against the fund, in this regard.
6. The director/s and screenwriter/s may include his/their name/s in two production packages at any time. The producer/production company may include his/their name in three production packages.
7. It is not possible to receive an investment in a script or film that received an investment production from another fund which is budgeted by the Ministry of Culture and Sport in the feature field.
8. The fund's commitment to invest in production is valid for two years from the date of approval of the production investment and is conditional on receiving the fund's annual support from the Ministry of Culture and Sport.
9. Creators who wish to submit a production investment application are asked to carefully read the "Submission Procedures" document specific to each field and submit their application in accordance therewith. Submissions that do not meet the threshold conditions and submission procedures by the deadline will be rejected.
10. The fund will participate in investing in feature films intended for distribution and first screening in cinemas.
11. The reading and sorting procedure will be completed within four months from the submission deadline.
12. Close to giving answers, each applicant will receive three detailed opinions. The opinions will be sent without mentioning the names of the lectors.

13. The applicant may submit the script up to 3 times. Each application will be reviewed by a different team of lecturers.

Guidelines - Production Investment in the Main Scheme

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Threshold requirements

- Screenwriter - There is no threshold requirement.
- Producer - The producer must be an active producer with proven professional experience in the production of a 60-minute-long or 150-minute-long feature drama film which was produced and screened and/or broadcast and who owns a registered production company (or who is a licensed dealer who will maintain a partnership for the needs of the film, if approved).
- A producer whose experience is producing a film/s of a spouse and/or relative must obtain the fund's approval for submission in the Main Scheme.
- When submitting applications for investment in animated films or animation combos, the producer must be an active producer with proven professional experience in the production of a 40-minute-long animated feature film or 4 short-animated films of at least 5 minutes long, which were produced and screened and/or broadcast, and who owns a registered production company with experience in film production and which maintains continuous activity.
- Director - The director must have experience directing a 60-minute-long feature film or alternatively, 50-minute-long of drama in aggregate, produced and screened for a recognized professional body, such as a party that commissions or broadcasts and/or directs a final film that has been successful and recognized in Israel and abroad.

Please note: This scheme does not entitle the film director to be the film producer as well.

The submission procedure

The submission will be made on time through the fund's website only, and will include the following:

1. Full details of the applicant and creators, as shown in the submission module (Please note: The projects will be handed over to the lecturers without specifying the names of the creators or details thereof).
2. Script - In a PDF file in the fund's format, without specifying the names of the creators.
3. Synopsis - Up to 900 words, without specifying the names of the creators.
4. Declaration of intent - Up to 500 words. The cinematic vision / the aesthetic perception / the leading characters / the sources from which the ideas were drawn / additional information for the lecturers. Here you can attach, however not bound to, reference photos relevant to the submission, without specifying the names of the creators.
5. Description of characters in the submission module - One line for each character, without specifying the names of the creators.

6. Special characteristics of the production - As answers to the questions in the submission module.
7. A non-anonymous document that is not forwarded to lectors - Attaching an agreement file with initials between the producer, director, and screenwriter. Additional production documents can also be attached - Investors' agreements/letters of intent, agreements with global producers or any other document that can provide the fund with additional information about the production and does not appear in the submission documents - up to 15 pages in one PDF file.
8. Links to previous works (not forwarded to lectors in the first stages of reading).
9. Budget and funding sources - The amount requested from the fund and planned fundraising in Israel and abroad.
10. Statements by the applicant about being the owner of the rights in the film.

Additional clarifications:

- Each project can be submitted up to 3 times, each time to a different team of lectors.
- The applicant may change the submission scheme at the various times (it is not possible to change a scheme within the deadline), provided that he/she complies with the requirements of the same scheme.
- The projects will be forwarded to the reading of the artistic advisors without specifying the names of the applicants. All details submitted in the production package will be kept in the fund.
- The names of the artistic consultants will be confidential until the end of the reading and sorting process.

Fund investment

- A. The scope of the fund's investment will be at least NIS 2 million.
- B. The producer must bring the rest of the amount from his/her own sources or raise it independently, in an amount not less than NIS 1 million (international co-productions - NIS 2 million). The fund will invest its share only after the producer has proven, to the fund's satisfaction, that he/she has indeed raised the rest of the budget necessary to produce the film.
- C. The fund's decision regarding the investment amount will be determined exclusively based on the judgment and recommendations of the artistic advisors and fund managers, and it is subject to the approval of the fund's executive committee.

Guidelines - Production Investment in the Debut Film Scheme

This page is intended for information purposes only

The Debut Film Scheme is intended for directors and/or screenwriters who are making their first or second film. If it is a second film, the film will be produced within five years of the creator's first film. The fund's investment in this scheme is up to one million NIS.

Threshold requirements

- Screenwriter - There is no threshold requirement.

- Producer – In the Debut Film Scheme, the producer must be an active producer with proven professional experience in the field of production (or actual production) of a 60-minute-long or 150-minute-long feature drama film, which was produced and screened and/or broadcast and who owns a registered production company (or who is a licensed dealer who will maintain a partnership for the needs of the film, if approved).
- A producer whose experience is producing a film/s of a spouse and/or relative must obtain the fund's approval for submission in the Debut Film Scheme.
- When submitting applications for investment in animated films or animation combos, the producer must be an active producer with proven professional experience in the production of a 40-minute-long animated feature film or 4 short-animated films of at least 5 minutes long, which were produced and screened and/or broadcast, and who owns a registered production company with experience in film production and which maintains continuous activity.
- Director - A graduate of the School of Film Studies who directed a film as part of the course of study and/or who direct films (also short films) in the free market.

Please note: This scheme does not entitle the film director to be the film producer as well.

The submission procedure

The submission will be made on time through the fund's website only, and will include the following:

1. Full details of the applicant and creators, as shown in the submission module (Please note: The projects will be handed over to the lectors without specifying the names of the creators or details thereabout).
2. Script - In a PDF file in the fund's format, without specifying the names of the creators.
3. Synopsis - Up to 900 words, without specifying the names of the creators.
4. Declaration of intent - Up to 500 words. The cinematic vision / the aesthetic perception / the leading characters / the sources from which the ideas were drawn / additional information for the lectors. Here you can attach, however not bound to, reference photos relevant to the submission, without specifying the names of the creators.
5. Description of characters in the submission module - One line for each character, without specifying the names of the creators.
6. Special characteristics of the production - As answers to the questions in the submission module.
7. A non-anonymous document that is not forwarded to lectors - Attaching an agreement file with initials between the producer, director, and screenwriter. Additional production documents can also be attached - Investors' agreements/letters of intent, agreements with global producers or any other document that can provide the fund with additional information about the production and does not appear in the submission documents - up to 15 pages in one PDF file.
8. Links to previous works (not forwarded to lectors in the first stages of reading).
9. Budget and funding sources - The amount requested from the fund and planned fundraising in Israel and abroad.
10. Statements by the applicant about being the owner of the rights in the film.

Additional clarifications:

- Each project can be submitted up to 3 times, each time to a different team of lecturers.
- The applicant may change the submission scheme at the various times (it is not possible to change a scheme within the deadline), provided that he/she complies with the requirements of the same scheme.
- The projects will be forwarded to the reading of the artistic advisors without specifying the names of the applicants. All details submitted in the production package will be kept in the fund.
- The names of the artistic consultants will be confidential until the end of the reading and sorting process.

Fund investment

1. In the Debut Film Scheme, the fund's investment will be up to NIS 1 million (if the investment amount is less than one million NIS, the investment will amount to at least 40% of the film's budget).
2. The fund will transfer its share in the production only after the producer has proven, to the fund's satisfaction, that he/she has indeed raised the rest of the budget necessary to produce the film.
3. The fund's decision regarding the investment amount will be determined exclusively based on the judgment and recommendations of the artistic advisors and fund managers, and it is subject to the approval of the fund's management.

Guidelines - Production Investment - Completion Scheme

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The Completion Production Scheme is intended for films in different stages of post-production.

General procedures

1. The fund publishes at least one submission date per year for submitting applications for production investment completion.
2. The fund is entitled to decide to postpone, delay, extend or cancel any additional submission date, and any submission received as part thereof, as it deems fit, and without the need to justify the aforementioned decision or to compensate the applicants of that time.
3. Applying for investment production is open to all. The application for investment production is based on a "Production Package" for all its components, as detailed on the fund's website, in each of the schemes. The scripts are delivered to the lecturers (artistic consultants), while keeping the names of the creators anonymous. All identifying information submitted in the production package will be kept in the fund.
4. The submission of the application is online and will be carried out by the producer / production company through the fund's website. Submitting the application involves the prior registration on the website.
5. The applicant does not have an inherent right to have his application for production investment accepted or reviewed (such as in the case where the fund decides to cancel the submission date, this

- can be done with or without examining the submitted applications, insofar as there are any) and the applicant waives any claim, demand or argument of any kind and type against the fund, in this regard.
6. The director/s and screenwriter/s may include his/their name/s in two production packages at any time. The producer/production company may include his/their name in three production packages.
 7. It is not possible to receive an investment in a script or film that received an investment production from another fund which is budgeted by the Ministry of Culture and Sport in the feature field.
 8. The fund's commitment to invest in production is valid for six months from the date of approval of the production investment and is conditional on receiving the fund's annual support from the Ministry of Culture and Sport.
 9. Creators who wish to submit a production investment application are asked to carefully read the "Submission Procedures" document specific to each field and submit their application in accordance therewith. Submissions that do not meet the threshold conditions and submission procedures by the deadline will be rejected.
 10. The fund will participate in investing in feature films intended for distribution and first screening in cinemas.
 11. The reading and sorting procedure will be completed within four months from the submission deadline.
 12. Close to giving answers, each applicant will receive three detailed opinions. The opinions will be sent without mentioning the names of the lecturers.
 13. The applicant may submit the script up to 3 times. Each application will be reviewed by a different team of lecturers.

The submission procedure

The submission will be made on time through the fund's website only, and will include the following:

1. Full details of the applicant and creators, as shown in the submission module. Please note, the projects will be handed over to the lecturers without specifying the names of the creators or details thereabout.
2. Link of the "Rough Cut" on the VIMEO website or a similar website. Submission is anonymous. A rough cut must be submitted without credits. Also, make sure that the username on the viewing site is anonymous for the duration of the submission.
3. Synopsis - Up to 900 words.
4. Declaration of intent - Up to 500 words. The cinematic vision / the aesthetic perception / the leading characters / the sources from which the ideas were drawn / additional information for the lecturers.
5. Description of characters in the submission module - One line for each character.
6. Agreements between the creators and other relevant agreements indicating that the applicant owns the rights to the film, and which prove that the applicant has full rights to make commercial use of the film.
7. Excel report according to the attached example, which includes: The film budget, the production cost report up to the submission stage, cost forecast to complete the production, the list of investors in the production and the investment amount of each investor, and the full team list in the appropriate sheet.

Threshold requirements

- The film submitted for viewing will be at least 60 minutes long.
- The film is in the editing stages.
- The film is intended for distribution and commercial screening in cinemas.
- No support or investment in the production of the film was received from an Israeli public fund which is financed from the budget of the Ministry of Culture and Sport in the feature field.
- The production of the film took place within the previous budget year or in the budget year in which the application was submitted.
- For the avoidance of doubt, a film previously screened in cinemas or on any broadcasting body, will not be allowed to submit an application for participation and investment of the fund within this scheme.

Fund investment

- The investment applications will be examined by lecturers who will forward their recommendations on the films for investment.
- The fund's participation in the investment in this scheme will be intended for the actual expenses required to complete the film.

Guidelines - Investment in Script Development

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1. The Israel Film Fund invests every year in the development of scripts from the extended synopsis stage to a full screenplay.
2. The fund publishes a deadline for submitting abstracts and chooses 20-30 projects by way of reading and sorting.
3. The fund is entitled to decide to postpone, delay, extend or cancel any additional submission date, and any submission received as part thereof, as it deems fit, and without the need to justify the aforementioned decision or to compensate the applicants of that time.
4. The applicant does not have an inherent right to have his application for production investment accepted or reviewed (such as in the case where the fund decides to cancel the submission date, this can be done with or without examining the submitted applications, insofar as there are any) and the applicant waives any claim, demand or argument of any kind and type against the fund, in this regard.
5. **The reading is conducted in two schemes:**
 - A. **The Open Scheme** - Open to all. In the Open Scheme, the total investment is up to NIS 30,000.
 - B. **The Professional Scheme** - is intended for filmmakers who have already written a script for a long C. feature film. In the Professional Scheme, the total investment is up to NIS 50,000.
6. In addition, the fund invests in editing the scripts of the projects in development, as well as editing the scripts of projects recommended by the lecturers as part of the reading and sorting in the production schemes.

The submission procedure

The submission will be made on time through the fund's website only, and will include the following:

1. Full details of the applicant and creators, as shown in the submission module. Please note, the projects will be handed over to the lectors without specifying the names of the creators or details thereof.
2. The abstract of the idea - Up to 30 words.
3. Synopsis - Up to 300 words.
4. Declaration of intent - Up to 500 words. The cinematic vision, the aesthetic perception, the leading characters, the sources from which the ideas were drawn, additional information for the lectors. Here you can attach, however not bound to, reference photos relevant to the submission, without specifying the names of the creators.
5. Extended synopsis - **4-6 pages - pdf, space 1.5, font 13**. The pages must be numbered. The extended synopsis is the description of the main plot of the film and the subplots integrated thereto, layout of the plot progression from beginning to end, while describing the world in which the story takes place, the characters that drive it and the process they go through. The extended synopsis will be written while paying attention to the genre of the film.
6. Description of characters in the submission module - One line per character. Please note: Complete anonymity of the identity of the creators must be observed when submitting the items indicated in sections 2 to 6.

In completing the submission, the applicant declares that he/she has the rights to submit the project, to write a full script and produce a film based on the script and make commercial use thereof.

Threshold requirements

1. Submission in the Open Scheme is open to all.
2. In the Professional Scheme, the applicants must prove previous experience in writing a feature film at least 50-minute-long (or 3 episodes of a drama series) screened in a professional, commercial or festival setting.
3. Each screenwriter may submit one project at a time.

Answers to applicants

1. The answer will be given to the applicant within four months.
2. Submission of applications will be done exclusively in accordance with the format as detailed and close to the date of submission. The fund will not consider applications submitted that do not follow the format. If an application is not reviewed due to a defect in the submission format, it will be possible to submit it again in the next reading and sorting cycle.