



الهيئة الملكية الأردنية للأفلام  
The ROYAL FILM COMMISSION  
JORDAN

## **The Jordan Film Fund (JFF)**

### ***Guidelines and Regulations***

This comprehensive document is anticipated to guide you when applying for The Jordan Film Fund (JFF). Please read carefully and if you still have questions, get in touch with the JFF team at The Royal Film Commission- Jordan:  
Tel: +962 6 4613835 ext. 123 or Email: [apply@film.jo](mailto:apply@film.jo).

### **2020 Timeline**

The application deadline for all categories has passed on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and granted projects will be revealed in August 2020.

### **Eligibility**

- Applicants should be 18 years or above.
- A Jordanian national or an Arab residing in Jordan for five years minimum can apply.
- A Jordanian national or an Arab national, who has been residing in Jordan for at least five years, should occupy one or more of these roles to be eligible to apply: producer, director or writer.
- In short film category, Jordanian national or Arab nationals, who has been residing in Jordan for at least five years are eligible to apply.
- JFF supports feature-length narratives and documentaries (60 minutes and above) at development, production and post-production stages; also, the production of shorts (narrative, documentary and animated) films (5 to 25 minutes); it also supports the development of TV series.
- At least 50% of all dialogue, narration, voiceover and any form of communication within the project must be in Arabic.
- At least 50% of the production must be in Jordan.
- JFF grantees (producers, directors and writers) can apply for a new project only one year after the completion phase of their previously granted project. However, grantees are eligible to apply with a new project in a different category without waiting for one year.

- Only the eligible producer is entitled to apply; otherwise the application will be automatically disqualified. This applies to all categories except for the development category where a writer, or writer/producer can apply.
- Applicants should have industry experience when applying for production and post- production of feature-length films (narrative & documentary). For short films, applicants do not need to have industry experience.
- A producer or a production company to which he/ she is linked, can submit a maximum of two applications provided they are not for the same category.
- In production and post- production categories, the producer and the director must be two different individuals; but duality is allowed in the case of the writer/producer or writer/director.
- Rejected projects are eligible to re-apply only when they are invited by the jury to do so or significant changes and developments were evident in the project.
- For projects applying for production category, principle photography should commence post the jury decision; JFF does not cover retroactive expenses.

### **Non-Eligible Applications**

- JFF grantees (producers, directors and writers) with an Open Grant – either for the same or for a different project - cannot apply; this applies to all categories.
- JFF granted projects that were not materialized cannot re-apply; this applies to all categories.
- Rejected submissions by the jury twice are not eligible to re-apply.
- Applications belonging to any of the following categories: music videos, commercials, advertisements or experimental films.
- Applications submitted by current jury members or their partners (or any other kind of legal relationship) or their first-degree relatives (parents, siblings and children).
- Applications with misleading, dishonest or false information.
- Applications not meeting the criteria in this document, handwritten or incomplete.
- Applications missing the deadline.

### **General Regulations for Grants**

- Except for development category, the eligible producer is the only person allowed to enter into an agreement with the RFC. The RFC must immediately be notified if the producer leaves the project and the approval of this appeal will be at the discretion of the RFC.
- Grants will be reimbursed back to the RFC when:
  - The producer does not sign an agreement within two months from the date the JFF sends the letter of intent.
  - Granted shorts are not completed within six months from the date of signing the JFF agreement.
  - A new draft is not delivered to the RFC in four months for cinema projects, and six months for TV series receiving development grants.
  - Post-production did not commence within four months from the agreement sign-off date.

- Production of feature narratives and documentaries did not commence within 16 months from the day of signing the JFF agreement.
- Applicants may require justifications to the jury's decision within five working days after receiving the official response.

## Evaluation & Granting Process

Considering transparency, objectivity and equal opportunities to all filmmakers, the RFC's Board members and employees or their first-degree relatives (spouses or parents, siblings and children) are not part of the jury, neither of the selection of the submitted projects.

An independent jury of established film and TV professionals will evaluate eligible applications in Cinema and TV categories and will decide on the selection process. Their assessment will consider projects' originality, creative merit, feasibility, as well as the filmmakers' credentials and abilities.

It is the jury's decision to ask directors/producers applying for production and post-production categories (feature-length narrative and documentary) to pitch their projects if there is a need to do so. The jury's decision will be final and the applicants will be informed in writing of the decision.

Selected projects by the jury will enter the point-based system evaluation process to determine the value of each fund accordingly. The amount allocated to selected projects might vary from one project to another; projects with higher points will be eligible for a bigger percentage of funding, and those achieving lower points will be eligible for a smaller percentage of funding (check the table below for details). The exact amount of funds per project is subject to the jury's recommendation per cycle.

**The JFF Point System Guideline**

Elements Points	Max Points
Jordanian Producer	15
Resident* Producer	10
Jordanian Director	15
Resident* Director	10
Jordanian Writer	15
Resident* Writer	10
Content is Jordanian related (topic)	15
Jordan is a main location	20
Jordan is a peripheral location (50%- 90%)	10
At least 90% of cast and crew are Jordanian	20
50%-89% of cast and crew are Jordanian	10

### JFF Budget, Funds & Types of Grants

The JFF total funds allocated to 2020 projects is JD 250,000 (two hundred and fifty thousand Jordanian Dinars) that will be split between successful applications considering, more or less the following: 10% for shorts (narrative, documentary and animation), 20% for documentaries, 20% for development (cinema and TV) and 50% for feature-length narratives- subject to the jury recommendation. See also grants amounts per category in the table below:

**Grant Amounts Per Category**

Category	Min JD	Max JD	Fixed JD
Development Feature Narrative and Documentary			5,000
Development TV Series	5,000	7,000	
Production of Feature Narrative	10,000	50,000	
Production of Feature Documentary	10,000	25,000	
Post-Production Feature Narrative and Documentary	10,000	25,000	
Production of Shorts and Animation (Narrative & Documentary)	5,000	10,000	

The Jordan Film Fund offers two types of grants:

1. This type of grant applies for the development of cinema and TV projects further to the production of short film categories only and shall be disbursed as follows:
  - a) Development of feature film categories (narrative and documentary): 1<sup>st</sup> installment (90% of total grant value) following the signing of the JFF agreement and 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (10% of total grant value) upon completion of development phase and as submitted by filmmakers.
  - b) Production of short films (narrative, documentary and animation): 1<sup>st</sup> installment (90% of total grant value) upon commencement of principle photography (according to the production plan for animated films), and 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (10% of total grant value) upon completion of production.
  - c) Development of TV series category: 1<sup>st</sup> installment (45% of total grant value) following the signing of the JFF contract; 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (45% of total grant value) half way through development phase and as submitted by writer; 3<sup>rd</sup> installment (10% of total grant value) upon completion of the development phase.
  
2. It is agreed that when selected applicants (in production and post-production of feature-length narrative and documentary categories) are granted the specified funding, they will reimburse the RFC if the motion picture earns net revenue. This type of grant shall be disbursed as follows:
  - a) Production: 1<sup>st</sup> installment (45% of total grant value) upon commencement of principal photography; 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (45% of total grant value) half way through filming, according to the production schedule; 3<sup>rd</sup> installment (10% of total grant value) upon completion of production phase.
  - b) Post-production: 1<sup>st</sup> installment (90% of total grant value) upon initiation of post-production phase; 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (10% of total grant value) upon completion of post-production.

Granted projects within this category must reimburse the RFC in the event the motion picture earns net revenue of 10% or over (whereby net revenue includes revenue from box office revenues, television distribution and sales, DVD distribution and sales, merchandising and online and rentals).

The following percentages concern only the amount provided by the JFF to the production and post-production and are relative to the percentage of the net revenue.

<b>% Net Revenue</b>	<b>% To be Re-paid</b>
10%-20%	5%
21%-30%	10%
31%-40%	15%
41%-50%	20%
51%-60%	25%
61%-70%	30%
71%-80%	35%
81%-90%	40%
91%-100%	45%

## Supporting Material Checklist

<b>Requirements/ Category</b> <i>Documents must be received in PDF format, unless stated otherwise. Video material must be received as online links.</i> <b>Marked Cells ✓ Are Obligatory</b>	<b>Production Short Film (Animation, Narrative &amp; Documentary)</b>	<b>Development Feature Narrative</b>	<b>Development Feature Documentary</b>	<b>Development TV Series</b>	<b>Production Feature Narrative</b>	<b>Production Feature Documentary</b>	<b>Post-Production Feature Narrative</b>	<b>Post-Production Feature Documentary</b>
Completed JFF Application Form	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Script, Complete and in correct format	✓ Narrative	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	N/A
Treatment/ TV Series Bible	✓ Documentary	✓ 5 Pages	✓ 5 Pages	✓ *TV Bible	N/A	✓	N/A	✓
Rough Cut/ Video Material- Online links only	N/A	N/A	If Available	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓ Video Material	✓ Video Material
Storyboard- for animated shorts	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Director's Copy of Passport/ Residency- Image or PDF	✓	If Attached	✓	If Attached	✓	✓	✓	✓
Writer's Copy of Passport/ Residency - Image or PDF	✓	✓	If not Director	✓	✓	If not Director	✓	N/A
Producer's Copy of Passport/ Residency - Image or PDF	✓	If Attached	If Attached	If Attached	✓	✓	✓	✓
Complete List of Cast and Crew	✓	N/A	N/A	If Attached	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
A signed Production Agreement between rights holder (writer/ director) and producer or production company if attached	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Production Schedule	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A
Post-Production Plan/ Schedule	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓
Letters of intent from Financier/s	✓ If Attached	If Attached	If Attached	If Attached	✓ If Attached	✓ If Attached	✓ If Attached	✓ If Attached
Detailed Budget & Financial Plan: A clear, complete budgeting plan including percentages of proposed allotments of funding. The budget should be in the format of a clearly organized spreadsheet or table	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* **TV Series Bible** refers to the treatment or pitch document of the TV series. It could include summary pitch, synopsis, story-world, timeframe, character profiles, genre and tone, significance of the story and the team as well as significant visuals.