

BFI/Doc Society Fund Application Form questions.

These are a preview only. Please apply online [here](#)

Doc Society is proud to be part of The Documentary Core Application, a collaborative effort by grantors who regularly fund documentary projects to standardize application requirements, with the aim of fostering greater access and a more equitable and sustainable documentary field. For more information: <https://www.documentary.org/funding/documentary-core-application-project>

DECLARATIONS

1 *

My film is a documentary

Yes

2 *

My documentary is intended to be at least 69 minutes in length

Yes

3 *

In order to apply for funding for the BFI Doc Society Fund, your film will need to meet the following criteria, please thoroughly consider the following checklist:

Does your film have significant representation of British cultural diversity and British culture through a novel and creative approach to filmmaking?

Is your film being made through a company registered and centrally managed in the UK, or EU?

Are all of the team aged 18 or over?

Is your film capable of obtaining theatrical and video release certificates no more restrictive than BBFC '18'?

Have you secured, or can secure, the rights (including any underlying rights) in the idea proposed?

Do you have a feasible draft finance plan for your film?

Your budget does NOT seek 100% finance from the fund for all stages of the film's creation

You have considered how your project will meet the BFI Diversity Standards

PROJECT INFO

1 *

Name

Name of the person completing the application

2 *

Email

Preferred contact email address

3 *

Gender

How would you identify your gender?

4 ***Date of Birth**

What is your date of birth? You have to be over 18 years of age to apply for this fund.

5 ***Location**

What region of the UK is the Director based?

Scotland

Northern Ireland

North

Midlands

South West

London

South East

Wales

Other

6 ***Contact Number**

What is your preferred contact number?

7 *

Organisation name

8

Organisation trading name (if applicable)

9 *

Company or Charity Number

10 *

Organisation registered address

11

Website

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1 ***Logline**

Provide a brief, catchy summary of your story

(Suggested length: Approximately 2 to 3 sentences)

2 ***Story Summary / Synopsis**

What is your story and its structure? Give an overview, introducing the main characters and potential plot points. Describe the anticipated narrative trajectory, or potential character arcs for your project. Discuss your access to the story and characters.

(Suggested length: 6 to 8 paragraphs)

3 ***Topic Summary**

Describe why this topic is important, timely or relevant. Things to consider include: Why are you the best person to make a film about this? Explain the cultural or social relevance and context for the topic, and why

this project is timely or urgent. Detail the topics, issues, themes, challenges, stakes, or questions that your project will cover.

(Suggested length: 6 to 8 paragraphs)

4 *

Artistic Approach

How are you going to tell this story? Describe your creative vision for the finished project - its visual look and feel. Explain your intended use of cinematic language or any particular artistic approach that informs the storytelling. If applicable, mention any creative elements and assets, interactive elements, new technologies or non-traditional mediums that you intend to utilise. Explain how these elements will enhance the experience and interaction between viewers and the world of the story.

(Suggested length: 6 to 8 paragraphs)

5 *

Expected Completion

Explain the current status of the project. Outline the projected production timeline from the project's current state to the anticipated completion date. Your timeline should cover both the creative and production processes and should detail major project activities, production schedules, and anticipated post-production and release dates. If you have applied to this fund previously, please share how your project has progressed since the last time you applied.

(Suggested Length: 1 paragraph)

6

Current Sample/Rough Cut/Trailer

Describe the sample you are submitting for consideration. What should reviewers be looking for in your sample? Explain what is present or absent in the sample, and how it will differ as a finished film. How is it representative of the intended story, style, subject, or another aspect of the project? If you submitted a rough cut, what changes or additional material are planned?

Please submit Vimeo link or a location the clip can be viewed online, along with a password if relevant.

(Suggested Length: Approximately 1 paragraph)

7 *

Please record and upload a one-minute video of yourself explaining your motivation for making this film. Provide the Vimeo or other link to view the clip and any password(s).

8 *

Have you previously submitted this project to the BFI Documentary Fund?

9

If your project is a resubmission, please detail how the project has progressed since the last application

(Suggested length: 1 to 2 paragraphs)

AUDIENCE AND DISTRIBUTION

1

Distribution and Marketing Strategy

Characterise the intended distribution life for your film. Specify plans for festival, theatrical, and/or community screenings, as well as your plans for securing distribution and/or broadcast.

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

2

Intended Audience

Describe the anticipated audience for your project, including any underserved audiences. How do you plan to reach your target audience? How have you addressed the needs and interests of this audience in your film? What is your relationship and access to this community?

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

3

Audience Engagement and Social Impact - if applicable

Audience Engagement is a strategy designed to activate audiences and constituencies toward specific goals. Not all films are suited for social engagement, but if yours is, what actions do you hope for viewers to take after seeing your film? Potential activities include organisational partnerships, educational guides, targeted stakeholder/community screenings, social media strategies, multi-platform activity, or social change campaigns. Do you have partnerships with organisations in your issue area already, and if so, how are these relationships informing your project development?

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

KEY CREATIVE PERSONNEL

Provide brief biographies for the director(s), and if attached, the producer(s), cinematographer, and/or editor. Include notable credits and/or major recognition or award information. For each key creative team member, include information about relevant expertise and the individual's role in the project. Bullet list names and titles of any attached advisors and/or consultants.

(Suggested length: Approximately 1 paragraph/short bio)

1 *

Director(s)

Please tell us about the project's director(s)

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

2 *

Producer(s)

Please tell us about the project's producer(s) (Suggested

length: 1 paragraph)

3 *

Cinematographer

Please tell us about the project's cinematographer(s)

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

4 *

Editor

Please tell us about the project's editor(s)

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

5 *

Is the Director...
A new filmmaker
An established documentary filmmaker
A filmmaker looking to move into documentary

BFI DIVERSITY STANDARDS

Can you demonstrate how your project and the makeup of your team will tackle under-representation in relation to disability, gender, race, age, sexual orientation and socio-economic status in the documentary film industry? If you are granted, you will be asked to provide a final report evaluating how you delivered in practice against your aims for diversity.

(Suggested length: 1 paragraph)

BFI Diversity Standards:

The areas of under-representation covered by the Diversity Standards as they pertain to the Equality Act 2010. The Standards also seek to ensure that people from lower socio-economic groups are better represented.

At a minimum, applicants are expected to meet the criteria of at least two of the four sections of the BFI Diversity Standards. Projects satisfying the criteria of at least three standards will be awarded the Screen Diversity mark of good practice.

Please visit the Diversity Standards page of the BFI website for more information about the Standards:

<http://www.bfi.org.uk/about-bfi/policy-strategy/diversity/diversity-standards>

1 *

Your film and your team

(Suggested length: 1 to 2 paragraphs)

FUNDRAISING STRATEGY AND GRANT IMPACT

1 *

What is the total budget for your film?

Please provide a breakdown of your project's projected expenses, from development through release, including a budget total. Provide budget notes for any areas that may be viewed as out of the ordinary or which requires further explanation.

(Suggested length: 1 to 2 paragraphs)

2

Funding to Date

Provide a list of all sources and amounts raised to date. Distinguish between potential sources of funding and secured amounts. List the status of other sources of funding currently under consideration, whether to be applied for or pending.

3 *

Amount requested/Grant impact - Should you receive funding, describe how any granted funds would be spent and how the amount requested would help you move forward with your project.

Please be sure to state the exact amount you are applying for.

(Suggested length: 1 to 2 paragraphs)

4 *

Fundraising Strategy

Describe the strategy for raising the additional funds necessary to complete the project. Be specific! (Suggested

length: 1 paragraph)

5

Do you have any other institutions supporting the film? Are there other organisations assisting/working with you on your film in some capacity? For example: charities, broadcasters, not-for-profits

EQUALITY MONITORING FROM

- Please note that the following questions in this section will NOT affect the assessment of your application. This is a voluntary form and Doc Society staff to monitor the organisation's reach to the documentary community in the UK. The provided information will be used internally.
These answers will be kept separately from the information provided in your application for funding.

Please note that you may answer any of the questions with 'prefer not to say'.

1 *

Please declare the race or ethnic origin of key personnel (director, producer, editor and cinematographer)? Please select from the following options:

Bangladeshi
Chinese
Indian
Pakistani
Any other Asian background
Black African
Black Caribbean
Any other Black/ African/Caribbean background
White & Black African
White & Black Caribbean
White & Asian
Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic groups background
White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British Irish
Gypsy or Irish Traveller
Any other White background
Arab
Any other background
Not applicable
Prefer not to say
Prefer to self-describe

2

Would key personnel (director, producer, editor or cinematographer) like to claim their sexual orientation? Please select from the following: Please tick as many boxes as applies.

Heterosexual
Gay or Lesbian
Bisexual
Other
Prefer to self-describe

3

Would key personnel (director, producer, editor or cinematographer) like to declare if they have a disability? Are day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months? The Equality Act of 2010 defines disability as: "a

physical or mental impairment with long term, substantial adverse effects on ability to perform day to day activities."

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

4

Would key personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor) like to identify their gender?

Please tick as many boxes that apply

- Female
- Male
- Prefer to self-describe
- Prefer not to say

5

Are any key personnel's gender different from the one assigned at birth?

- Yes
- No

6

Please tell us the average age of key personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor)?

- 18 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 - 74
- 75+
- Prefer not to say

7

Where are personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor) based?

- England - London
- England - South East
- England - South West
- England - North
- England - Midlands
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

8

Where will the funds you have applied for be spent? Tick all that apply.

- England - East Midlands (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Rutland)
- England - East of England (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)
- England - London
- England - North East (County Durham, Northumberland, Teeside, Tyne & Wear)
- England - North West (Cheshire, Cumbria, Lancashire, Liverpool, Manchester, Merseyside)
- England - South East (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Middlesex, Oxfordshire, Surrey, Sussex)
- England - South West (Bristol, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire)
- England - West Midlands (Birmingham, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire)
- England - Yorkshire & Humber (North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire)
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

9

How would key personnel (director, producer, editor or cinematographer) describe their current economic status?

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Freelancer
- Full-time parent
- Not working right now
- Retired
- Prefer not to say

10

Socioeconomic background: What type of school did key personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor) attend between the ages of 11 and 16? Tick all that apply

- Attended school outside the UK
- Independent or fee-paying school -- bursary
- Independent or fee-paying -- no bursary
- State-run or state-funded school -- non selective
- State-run or state-funded school -- selective on academic, faith or other grounds
- Prefer not to say
- Other

11

Please think about parent(s) or other primary caregiver of key personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor) when you are around 14 years old. What kind of work did this parent/caregiver do? Tick all that apply.

- Clerical and intermediate occupations e.g. secretary, nursery nurse, office clerk, call centre agent
- Middle or junior managers e.g. office manager, warehouse manager, restaurant manager
- Modern professional occupations e.g. teacher, nurse, social worker, artist, musician, software designer
- Routine manual and service occupations e.g. van driver, cleaner, porter, waiter/waitress, bar staff
- Semi-routine manual and service occupations e.g. postal worker, security guard, machine worker, receptionist, sales assistant
- Senior managers and administrators e.g. finance manager, chief executive
- Technical and craft occupations e.g. fitter, plumber, printer, electrician
- Traditional professional occupations e.g. accountant, solicitor, scientist, medical practitioner
- Unemployed/never worked
- Prefer not to say

12

Caring responsibilities: Do any key personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor) have caring responsibilities? Tick all that apply

- Primary carer of a child or children (under 18)
- Primary carer of disabled adult (18 and above)
- Primary carer of disabled child or children
- Primary carer of older person (65 and above)
- Secondary carer
- None
- Prefer not to say

13

Are any of the key personnel (director, producer, cinematographer, editor) returning to work following an extended period (12 months or more) of absence?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, select from the following options:

- Period of ill health
- Primary carer of adult (18 and above)
- Primary carer of child or children (under 18)
- Prefer not to say

16

Please tell key personnel's (director, producer, editor, cinematographer) religion or belief (if known):

Tick all that apply.

- Buddhist
- Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian Denominations)
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- No religion (including Humanist, Atheist or Agnostic)
- Sikh
- Prefer not to say

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

This can include a detailed production schedule/timeline, a detailed treatment and sample scenes of your project, a showreel or short film or detailed budget.

1

Supporting Materials

If you choose YES here you will be asked to upload the files at the end of the application