



AFC FILM FUND

Grant Regulation

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1. Introduction

The Apulia Film Commission Foundation, set up with Art. 7 of Regional Law 6/2004, may allocate some of its yearly resources – in one or more sessions – to audiovisual, cinema or TV productions on any support/media addressed at any distribution chain by awarding a free grant aimed at covering the costs of preparation/production/post- production of audiovisual works shot, entirely or in part, in Puglia.

This instrument has taken the name of Apulia Film Commission Film Fund.

A matter of particular interest to the Foundation is the ability to build up co-profitable connections among local, national and international subjects, in order to create a new productive culture focusing on human and technological capital investments in the Puglia territory.

The purpose of this support to production companies is to:

- attract direct and indirect investments to the audiovisual chain in the Puglia Region;
- enable a progressive professionalisation of regional artistic and technological expertise;
- welcome incoming artistic, cultural and economical trading from abroad;
- spread the audiovisual culture in Puglia, working in the field;
- link our Public and Private institutions with the best international expertise;
- contribute towards sharing and spreading the Cultural Identity of the Puglia Region.

2. Who can apply?

This contribution is dedicated to Italian, European and extra European productions which present projects for:

- feature films
- IMAX films (min. 45')
- short- or medium-length movies
- documentaries
- video clips
- video games
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Subjects who may participate in the call for grants are listed in the articles below, and may include Temporary Associations for Enterprise or Co-Productions, as long as the leading ATI subject has been constituted for at least 3 (three) years.

For feature films, only commercial companies, foundations and cooperative production companies will be admitted.

For all other film projects, as well as the companies, foundations and cooperative production companies mentioned above, other public and private entities intending to produce audiovisual, motion picture or videogame projects may compete. Each production, co-production company or association may participate with 1 project per session and maximum 3 times in a row during a solar year.

3. Application Criteria

Upon receipt of the grant, the applicants and beneficiaries must fulfil the following conditions:

- a. to recruit 30% of employed personnel (troupe and cast), including among others, post-production workers, actors, extras and walk-ons, from citizens who are resident or who were born in Puglia;
- b. to spend on the regional territory of Puglia, a sum equal to at least 150% of the received grant;
- c. to use services offered by agencies based in Puglia for board and lodging, even if part of the filming is outside the Puglia borders but within 30km of the same;
- d. to use the AFC logo on all promotional, advertising, informative products of the project including press books, opening and end credits or as otherwise agreed herein;
- e. to grant AFC the right to use, for free, the filmed images or semi-finished work in regional locations with the aim of using the same for commercials, in a media format as agreed with AFC ;
- f. to deliver to AFC, with no additional fees, n. 5 DVD copies of the movie and backstage (or special promotional materials) and n. 1 BetaSP copy of the movie product, granting AFC and the Regione Puglia free use of the same to promote the region and its territory;
- g. to enforce the current regulations on the matters of security, welfare and insurance for the artistic and technical personnel employed, even if for a short term job;
- h. to supply prompt and verified information regarding the budget in order to help internal monitoring procedures. In particular, the employment data and all the expenses incurred on the regional territory must be specified;
- i. to guarantee at least 2 weeks' filming for the 1st photo unit on the Puglia territory (only for feature films);
- l. to provide a daily email describing the production company's daily plan, the filming plan and any eventual updates;
- m. to organise in Puglia, before or during the filming, a press conference inviting Italian major newspapers, in the presence of the directors and leading actors, as well as AFC representatives;

- n. to consent, only for the record, to the taking of pictures and films while filming, as agreed with the producer;
- o. to organise a première presentation in Puglia, or if participating in a major national or international festival, to plan the presence of an AFC representative, at the festival where the movie is scheduled;
- p. to ensure that the film project is not started up after the post-production phase;

Support is envisaged for the production of:

- full length films, feature films, TV films and series: the product must be completed and delivered in DVD format to the AFC Foundation no later than 12 months after signing the agreement;
- short movies, documentaries, commercials, videogames etc.: the product must be completed and delivered in DVD format to the AFC Foundation no later than 6 months after signing the agreement.

In consideration of the criteria foreseen in this Regulation, The Apulia Film Commission Foundation will consider the possibility to allow, if requested, a free sponsorship to the applying production companies.

The Apulia Film Commission will not consider any works inciting violence, racial, sexual or gender discrimination.

4. Available Funds and Payment Procedure

Each production company may apply for a grant for:

- a full length film, feature film, IMAX film, TV film/series - up to a max of €100,000;
- a short movie, short feature film or documentary - up to max of €30,000;
- a video clip/video game - up to max of €10,000.

The contribution will be distributed as follows:

20% at the start of filming

80% at the end of filming in Puglia, and after delivering the complete financial statement and any other documents as stated on Art. 3 of this Regulation and any other additional agreements.

The contribution will be exempt from VAT as it will be conceded by a non-profit Institution, and may not exceed 20% of the overall production budget for full length films and 40% of the same for short movies and documentaries.

5. How to apply

With the call for grants, two bound copies of the following must be included:

● **For long movies, feature films, movies and TV series:**

application form, duly signed in accordance with the written criteria and appearing on the 1st page of the folder;

- company profile inclusive of all the production parties involved in it;
 - DVD of the last film made by the director and the production company;
 - story, synopsis and script;
 - direction's commitment or agreement;
 - director's filmography;
 - author's filmography and contract;
 - leading actor's filmography and contract/letter of intent;
 - artistic and technical staff plan with specifications of local professionals already selected or to be identified;
 - detailed budget of general expenses, including actors' and author's fees and production/ post-production fees, highlighting those to be incurred in Puglia;
- The budget needs to be accompanied by a certification signed by a registered Accountant, or an auditing firm;
- certification of enrolment in the Register of Companies, where required by law;
 - 1 copy of the Articles of Incorporation or Constitutive Instrument and of the Statute, where required by law;
 - copy of the 3 previous years' balance with relevant attachments;
 - a photocopy of the ID and SSN of the production company's legal representative, that is the commissioning company;
 - the production company's financing plan together with any co-production, pre-acquisition, foreign sale, distribution and minimum guaranteed contracts;
 - any public funding granted in the capacity of the same being a movie of Cultural Interest, that is, a first or second film;
 - agreements for cession of rights to free-TV and/or pay-TV networks; UE contributions, MIBAC script development;
 - receipt for bank draft of €120.00 (VAT included), as reimbursement of secretarial duties.

An invoice can be issued for this sum if required.

● **For Short Movies, Short Feature Films, Documentaries, Video clips and Video games**

- application form, duly signed in accordance with the written criteria and on the 1st page of the folder;
- story, synopsis and script;
- company profile inclusive of all the production parties involved in it;
- director's/author's filmography and production company/society;
- artistic and technical staff plan with specifications of local professionals already selected or to be identified;
- DVD of the last film made by the director and the production company detailed budget of general expenses highlighting those to be incurred in Puglia;
- The total movie budget needs to be accompanied by a certification signed by a registered Accountant, or an auditing firm;
- certification of enrolment in the Register of Companies, where required by law;
- 1 copy of the Articles of Incorporation or Constitutive Instrument and of the Statute,

- where required by law;
- copy of budgets or financial statements relative to the previous 2 years with relevant attachments (for those entities other than commercial companies and cooperatives) or relative to the previous 3 years if the applicant is a commercial company;
- a photocopy of the ID and SSN of the applicant's legal representative;
- receipt for bank draft of €120.00 (VAT included), as reimbursement of secretarial duties.

An invoice can be issued for this sum if required.

Applications must be sent, by recorded delivery or courier service, to:

Fondazione Apulia Film Commission
c/o FinPuglia
via Falcone e Borsellino, 2
70125 Bari

The envelope must be marked:

“Spett.le Apulia Film Commission- Call for Grants - AFC Film Fund”

The €120.0 bank transfer must be made out to the following and include the description of payment (causale) as follows:

Fondazione Apulia Film Commission
San Paolo Banco di Napoli – Ag. 2 – Bari
IBAN: IT19/DO10/1004/0021/0000/0001/503
causale: “Rimborso spese partecipazione al Film Fund AFC – Prima sessione 2007/2008”.

6. Criteria for Grant Allocation

The applications will be assessed by the AFC Board with the aid of 2 cinema experts, critics or historians, and within 60 days after the deadline, and will be submitted to the Board's unappealable approval.

The experts' opinions will be relevant but not mandatory in the decision-making process.

The successful subjects will be notified via email or fax.

The Apulia Film Commission will enter into an agreement with the successful applicant, based on a Board resolution.

If so requested by the production company or association, the Board will reserve the right to grant or to deny free legal aid from the AFC Foundation.

Should a project be unsuccessful but be considered of interest, the Board may refer the same to the following session.

The Board's decisions are final.

AFC will screen and judge the applications using the following criteria:

> for feature films, movies and TV series:

Those projects scoring at least 60 points out of 100 will be considered as acceptable.

Each item contributes towards the total as a predefined percentage:

1. Artistic quality of the subject and script in relation to the different movie genres (30%, max 30 points)
2. Technical quality, intended as the value of the technical and technological factors of the film project in terms of feasibility (20%, max 20 points)
3. Length of filming time and sojourn in the Puglia territory (30%, max 30 points, 4 points per week)
4. Director's and screenwriters' artistic contributions, i.e. awards won at the most important international festivals ¹, participating with previous films in international festivals, box-office takings, awards won by actors/actresses they have directed before (10%, max 10 points)
5. Any acknowledgements and/or ministerial grants conceded for films of Cultural and National Interest, First or Second Films, MIBAC script development; acknowledgements and/or grants conceded by EU Programmes (Eurimages, Media, etc) and distribution or sales contracts with pay-TV or free-TV networks or broadband (10%, max 10 points)

> for short movies, short feature films, documentaries, video games, video clips:

Those projects scoring at least 60 points out of 100 will be considered as acceptable.

1. Artistic quality of the subject and script(35%, max 35 points)
2. Technical quality, intended as the value of technical and technological factors of the film project, in terms of feasibility (25%, max 25 points)
3. Length of filming time and sojourn in the Puglia territory (30%, max 30 points, 4 points per week)
4. Artistic and technical professionals resident in Puglia employed in the production (5%, max 5 points, 1 for each 5% of troupe or cast over the minimum limit of the total 30%)
5. Any acknowledgements and/or ministerial grants conceded to short movies, and distribution or sales contracts with pay-TV or free-TV networks or broadband (5%, max 5 points)

7. Financial Statement and Obligations of the Production Company

In order to obtain the balance and not risk incurring legal sanctions, the beneficiaries pledge themselves to:

- Submit a financial statement (with justifying documents) of all the expenses incurred in the Puglia territory, for a sum equal to at least 150% of the received grant
- Provide the final statement of the expenses incurred in making the film

¹ Major festival and movie awards considered for each section: Venice, Cannes, Berlin, Rome, London, Locarno, Montréal, Sundance, San Sebastian, Turin, Moskow, Karlovy Vary, Pesaro, Giffoni, Oscar, David di Donatello, Nastro d'Argento, Golden Globes, EFA, César, Goya, Solinas, Clérmont-Férrand, Arcipelago, Belluria, Milano Film Festival

- Substantiate the employment of local workers and the total sum of expenses incurred in the Puglia territory

When verifying the financial statement as above, should the AFC notice that the documented expenses do not correspond to those actually incurred and that these are lower than the total envisaged in the agreement, it could proceed to proportionally reduce the same or even cancel the grant.

8. Admissible Expenses

Only those expenses pertaining to the following can be considered:

Subject and script, management, main actors, production, direction, technical staff, workers, artistic personnel, wardrobe, art direction, studios & structures, indoors/outdoors [real life] , technical resources, transport, non residents, film, film processing, editing, music, pre-organization, insurance, miscellaneous expenses, production services.

9. Grant Repeal and Place of Jurisdiction

The grant will not be allocated or, if already delivered, must be refunded in the case of verified forgery of documentations or bills/accounts, if mendacious or imprecise statements have been given.

The non-delivery of the movie in DVD format within the prescribed times, implies the obligation to return previously paid funds.

The non-fulfilment of the obligations as per Art. 3 of this regulation and/or the non-production of the project, implies that all funds previously paid must be returned and that the balance will be denied.

In such cases, the Apulia Film Commission has the right to request a total and immediate reimbursement of the funds previously paid, even in the way of advance payment.

The place of jurisdiction for all disputes arising out of, or in connection with, these Regulations shall be Bari, Puglia.

On signing the application form, the petitioners are committed to accepting the entire contents of these Regulations.

Apulia Film Commission – Film Fund – 1st Tranche 2007/2008

Deadline: January 31st 2008

APPLICATION FORM

1. PRODUCTION COMPANY (in case of co-production or ATI, mandatory subject or other representative)

Name	
Producer's Name	
Legal Status	
Address	
VAT registration number	
Business Phone & Fax	
Email	
www	
BAN code	

2. Further Associate Producers or Co-Producers

Name	
Producer's Name	
Legal Status	
Address	
www	
Name	
Producer's Name	
Legal Status	
Address	
www	

Name	
Producer's Name	
Legal Status	
Address	
www	

3. Reporting contacts for Communications

Name & Surname	
Business Phone	
Mobile Phone	
Fax	
@	
www	

4. Category you are submitting the application form for (cross with an X)

Feature Film	
TV Film	
Short Movie	
Short Feature Film	
Documentary	
Video clip	
Videogame	

5. Project

Title	
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6. Director or Videogame's author

Name	
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7. Filming gauge

35mm Film	
16mm Film	
Mini DV	
DV Cam	
HDV	
Betacam	
Other	
.....	

8. Expected Movie Budget

	€
Below the line	
Under the line	
Total	

9. Expected Movie Budget in Puglia

€	
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10. Grant Requested to AFC

€	
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11. Further Grants/Funds requested or obtained

Fund/Grant Description	€
Ministry of Culture	
EU	
Release (minimum guaranteed)	
TV rights	
Other	
Total	

12. Billing

Attach to the entry form a copy of the bank transfer paid to AFC

Should a receipt be required for the repayment of administrative charges, please give your email address and the petitioner heading, including the VAT registration number, below:

Production Data and VAT registration #	
Email	

Having read the Fondazione Apulia Film Commission Regulations, I approve the contents of the same and accept each article according to Law no. 193/2003 (Protection of personal data) .

The legal representative of the Applicant
(Signature and Stamp)

Acceptance Terms of this Regulation

Approved according to the law and for all legal purposes, Art. 1341, 1342 of the Italian Civil Code, Art 3 (Application criteria for the grant), Art.9 (Grant repeal and place of jurisdiction).

The legal representative of the Applicant
(Signature and Stamp)
