

Minnesota Film and Video Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. *May I receive support more than once for the same project?*
No, the program will only provide one grant per project.
2. *How long do I have to complete my project?*
There is no deadline to completing your project, but you are required to start it no more than 18 months after receiving a grant. We expect you to make steady progress. We require yearly updates to keep the Foundation informed of your progress.
3. *Is it okay to apply with a co-applicant?*
Yes. However, both must share the responsibility of directing the project. If he/she has some other responsibility that exclusively involves producing, writing, crewing, or acting in the work, the Foundation will not recognize him/her as a co-applicant.
4. *Does this program fund actors, producers, writers or crew people?*
No. This program's focus is strictly on directors.
5. *Does this program fund organizational, commercial or industrial work?*
No. This program only supports independent work directed by the applicant.
6. *Does this program fund pre-production, distribution, marketing, tape to film transfers, mass duplications, entry fees for festivals, etc?*
No. This is strictly a production grant and, to a lesser degree, a post-production grant.
7. *Do pre-production or distribution expenses count toward the \$200,000 budget ceiling?*
No, the only expenses considered are production and post-production.
8. *Does this program fund retroactively?*
No. Eligible projects must be in production or post-production at the time a grant is provided.
9. *Does this program fund radio or photography?*
No, this program's exclusive focus is moving image media, which includes narrative, experimental, documentary and animation.
10. *Would you be willing to write a letter of recommendation for me if my project receives a grant?*
Yes, but please give us plenty of advance notice.
11. *Will the program fund projects containing controversial subject matter?*
The panels have shown a great willingness to take on controversial subject matter.
12. *Does the program fund artists from other countries?*
Yes, an artist is eligible to apply to this program if he/she lives in Minnesota.
13. *Does the program fund Minnesotans who live outside the state?*
No, you must be a current resident of Minnesota at the time of application and receipt of grant. The Foundation understands that people may move away from the state before their projects are complete. Please remember to let the Foundation know where you are. You must continue to submit annual progress reports and a final report upon completion of the project.
14. *When will I hear about the Foundation's decision?*
You should know the decision by early October 2009.
15. *Will I get my work samples back?*
Yes, they will be returned to you via the U.S. Postal service if you include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) with your application.

16. *How many grants does the program provide?*
It depends on the panel and the number of projects it wants to support. Another consideration is the total amount of money available. Generally, no more than six to nine grants are provided each year.
17. *What criteria are used to determine support?*
The merit of the proposed work and the quality of work samples carry the most weight in the panel's deliberations. The production background and eligibility of the applicant as an emerging artist are also major considerations.
18. *How many film and video artists apply to the program?*
Last year, 61 individuals applied to the program. In 2007, there were 58 applications.
19. *Do you have a preference for a certain genre of work?*
No. The Foundation is committed to supporting a variety of genres.
20. *Does having secured funding from other sources of support have an impact on the panel's decision to fund?*
The panel is interested in knowing if you have received support from other funding sources; however, decisions are not contingent on having secured additional funding.
21. *Is more than one project allowed per applicant?*
No. Only one application per person is allowed.
22. *Why is the Foundation no longer supporting new media through this program?*
The Foundation supports nonprofit new media organizations that provide funds to artists for the production of work. Please contact the Foundation office for more details on these opportunities.
23. *Why is the Foundation no longer supporting installation artists through this program?*
The Foundation supports nonprofit alternative spaces, galleries and museums that provide exhibition, commissioning and residency support to installation artists. Please contact the Foundation office for more information on these opportunities.
24. *May I reapply with the same project if I do not receive a grant the first time around?*
Absolutely.
25. *Are materials not mentioned in the guidelines accepted with the application?*
No, the Foundation does not accept materials not mentioned in its guidelines.
26. *May I email or fax my application materials to the Foundation?*
No, your application materials must be submitted on paper via mail or direct delivery to the Foundation office.
27. *May I substitute the project for which I received a grant with a different project?*
No, substitutions are not permitted. Doing so without the Foundation's permission constitutes a violation of the legal contract between the Foundation and grantee. Such an action will result in the Foundation recalling the grant.
28. *If my budget changes after I've submitted my application, may I submit an updated budget?*
Yes, absolutely. Please remember that it cannot exceed \$200,000.
29. *May I change or add work samples after submitting my application?*
Yes, you may. However, the total running time of samples cannot exceed 20 minutes.
30. *May I call you if I have additional questions?*
Yes, please call 651.224.9431 from the Twin Cities area and 1.800.995.3766 from Greater Minnesota.