

Northwest Territories Film Rebate Program Guidelines

Purpose of Program

This program is intended to encourage film producers to choose the Northwest Territories (NWT) as their film location by rebating a percentage of the money they spend in the area. The rebate covers costs such as goods and services, traveling within the NWT, and hiring or training local residents.

Program Goals and Objectives

1. Facilitate the growth and sustainability of the film and television industry in all regions of the NWT;
2. Support the career development of members of the NWT film and television industry by increasing employment opportunities;
3. Position the NWT in national and international film markets as a competitive location for production; and
4. Strengthen a diversified NWT economy.

Program Funding

The NWT Film Rebate Program budget is subject to annual Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) budget allocations.

There is no per-applicant maximum amount designated beyond the program budget allocation.

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants and/or Productions

- Guest Producers, NWT Co-Production Partners and NWT Production Companies that are registered with GNWT Corporate Registries and licensed to do business in the NWT or will be prior to the start of funded activities.
- Projects with an anticipated NWT Spend of \$100,000 (CAD) or more and are:
 - Feature length films, intended for release in cinemas, on physical media, or via streaming, or;
 - Television programming intended for broadcast, on physical media or via streaming, or;
 - Digital media projects, including those convergent to a television program intended for cross platform digital media exploitation and/or download; or,
 - Commercials and music videos.

Preference will be given to:

- Projects with TV broadcast or theatrical distribution commitments, and/or;
- Projects that generate the greatest economic benefit to the NWT or professional experience benefit to NWT Resident(s)

Multi-year Productions

In accordance with Section 805 of the Financial Administration Manual, multi-year funding may be provided for productions that span more than one fiscal year. Productions considering a schedule spanning two fiscal years should discuss it with the NWT Film Commission as early as possible prior to preparing their application to understand the conditions of a multi-year funding arrangement.

Ineligible Productions

- News, current events or public affairs programming;
- Projects that solicit funds;
- Inappropriate projects such as pornography;
- Projects produced primarily for industrial/corporate/institutional purposes;
- Projects, other than documentaries, which substantially consist of stock footage;
- Projects that contravene any civil or criminal law.

Program Categories

There are two categories in the NWT Film Rebate Program:

1. NWT Expenses

- 40% rebate – Scripted Projects
- 30% rebate – Non-scripted Projects
- 20% rebate – Commercial Projects

2. NWT Travel Rebate

- 50 % rebate on scheduled airline travel within the NWT:
- Includes Cargo
- Excludes helicopter travel.
- Charter flights are eligible only if scheduled flights are unavailable.

Application Process and Funding

An application form and the official NWT Film Rebate Program policy can be found on the NWT Film Commission website at: www.nwtfilm.com.

1. Intake

Applications are currently accepted year-round with funding disbursed on a first-come-first-served basis.

2. Evaluation

Completed applications will be evaluated by staff of the NWT Film Commission.

Applicants will be notified by the NWT Film Commission of the decision. Successful applicants will be provided with a written estimate of the pre-approved rebate and a draft Contribution Agreement.

3. Funding

The NWT Film Commission and the applicant will finalize and execute a Contribution Agreement, which will include financial and results reporting requirements and a funding release schedule.

4. Reporting

Successful applicants will be responsible for providing satisfactory financial and results reporting as outlined in their Contribution Agreement. Should the financial or results reporting be unsatisfactory according to the NWT Film Commission, the applicant may be invoiced, in whole or in part, for funds already disbursed.

The NWT Film Commission reserves the right to exercise discretion throughout this process, in both evaluation and funding decisions.

Appeals

- (a) Applicants may appeal an application decision that resulted in a denial of funding. Appeals can be pursued on the grounds that:
 - (i) the applicant believes the provisions of the policy were not fairly and adequately applied; or
 - (ii) where new information has become available after submission to the approving authority.
- (b) Reasons other than (i) or (ii) above will not be considered ground for appeals.
- (c) Appeals must be made in writing to the Deputy Minister within 30 days of the decision. The Deputy Minister may choose to delegate authority for reviewing an appeal.
- (d) Once a decision is made by the Deputy Minister or delegated authority, the applicant will be notified in writing. Appeal decisions are final with no further levels of appeals.

For a complete description of the programme, please refer to the Northwest Territories Film Rebate Program Policy ([LINK](#)) where several terms have been defined.