



FILM  
OFFALY

OFFALY FILM  
COMMISSION

# FILMOFFALY SHORT FILM AWARD 2024

## **Guidelines**

FilmOffaly, Offaly's Film Commission is pleased to announce the FilmOffaly Short Film Award 2024. This funding initiative aims to foster creative, resourceful filmmaking in the county. FilmOffaly are looking for unique, original stories by talented new filmmakers, professional and novice alike. The only stipulation is that the filming must take place in Offaly! The Offaly Film Commission also encourage the utilisation of local crew and a mentoring element of the production for local film makers. This is reflected in the criteria as set out below.

There will be one award to one successful applicant.

The winning applicant will receive:

- **€12,000** towards the cost of their production.
- **A local premiere.**
- **Mentoring Workshop for Short Listed Applicants**

## **Stage One - Closing date: 12 noon on Monday 11th March 2024.**

Please submit the following by post only (we do not accept email):

**One FilmOffaly Short Film Award 2024 Application Form**

**Two copies of the script and two copies of a 500-word synopsis** of the film project.

### **IMPORTANT:**

- **Only one script per author**
- **OMIT author and production company names from scripts, treatments and synopsis. No CVs. Scripts will be rejected if they have these on.**
- **Staple script and synopsis, with synopsis to the front. (No folders, ties, tags).**
- **Unless it is an animation or treatment we do not require any mood boards.**

It is advised, but not essential, to have a Creative Team/Producer committed to your project before submission as same is essential for Stage 2 of the competition.

Screenplays of shorts films from any genre, style, topic or perspective will be considered and judged on its merits regarding the quality of the material.

**Post to: FilmOffaly Short Film Award, Arts Office, Offaly County Council, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly**

### **Stage One continued**

- All entries must be post-marked by **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024** in order to be eligible. Applicants sending entries from European or other countries should allow an extra week for additional postage time.
- Application materials must be in **hard copy only not CD.**
- Materials will not be returned unless a correct sized SAE is submitted.
- Do not send originals.
- For your own protection, we advise registering your application with An Post and copyrighting any material you submit.

### **Stage Two**

There will be Four shortlisted applicants, who will be required to do the following:

1. **Attend a Script Writing Workshop** with professional script writers.
2. **Submit a Full Production Pack**
  - a. **Notes** outlining intended approach;
  - b. **Evidence of ownership of rights.** (Copies of all option and writer's agreements entered into in respect of story and script if applicable to the project);
  - c. **Written confirmation** in the form of clearances and permissions of key subject's willingness to participate;
  - d. **A budget** (to include, production, crew, casting, equip hire, editing, travel, music etc and evidence of further funding)
  - e. **CVs of proposed creative team** (director, producer, writer, editor etc)
  - f. **Proposed casting** – outline details
  - g. **Time schedule**
  - h. Any additional relevant supporting materials.
3. **Attend Interview**

It is in the interest of the applicant that as many members of the team attend the interview. Inability to attend for interview will render the applicant ineligible to compete for the award. There will only be one date selected for interviewing.

## Notes for applicants

**Each applicant must adhere to the following conditions regarding their submissions.**

- The rights of all Screenplays submitted **must be owned by the applicant** in their entirety and be free and clear of any third party interests or encumbrances. The persons and or persons submitting the screenplay must be the author/s of the screenplay and own all its rights in their entirety. (i.e. all screenplays may not have been previously sold, or produced, licensed, optioned or otherwise had any rights transferred to a third party.)
- Screenplays must be the **original work of applicant**. Any derivative work - if the screenplay is based upon another work in any medium - must be submitted with proper legal documentation proving that those submitting the screenplay also own the underlying rights or the derivative rights in their entirety. If the screenplay is another person's life story, whether loosely or strictly based, applicant/s must provide a signed statement to that effect by applicant/s and supporting legal documentation verifying that applicant/s has the right to make such an adaptation.
- This award is toward the production of a short film – it is essential that the finances submitted for this award cover all cost and are demonstrated to do so – applications that show a deficit or indicate that the team will require or apply for additional funding cannot be considered. This is to ensure that all applicants are considered on the same financial footing and that the films can be delivered on the budgets as submitted.
- Applicants are required to indicate any other funding sources that they are applying to – the name of the funding source and the amount sought. The winning applicant will be issued with a contract and will have a set timeframe to sign and return same.
- Screenplays should indicate the duration of the film such as, **10, 15 or 20 minutes**.
- Applicant/s hereby understands and agrees that submission does not guarantee that applicant/s will be selected. FILMOFFALY retains sole discretion regarding acceptance issues, terms and regulations, including whether or not any applicant is chosen and a film made.

### Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed in a competitive context according to the following criteria:

- **The creativity and quality of the project proposal**
- **The rationale of locating the film in Offaly (i.e. why is the film set in Offaly?)  
Also consideration of a mentoring programme and utilisation of local crew.**
- **The track record of the creative team**
- **The demonstrable ability of the team to complete and deliver the project with the available funds as submitted in their budget**

For further information and application forms please contact:

**FilmOffaly 057 9357400 [filmoffaly@offalycoco.ie](mailto:filmoffaly@offalycoco.ie) or [www.filmoffaly.ie](http://www.filmoffaly.ie)**

FilmOffaly is Offaly County Councils' Film Commission



**Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí**  
**Offaly County Council**