Only companies registered in Finland can fill in the electronic application.

Production incentive for the audiovisual industry – application instructions

1. For whom?

Production incentive for the audiovisual industry may be applied for by Finnish and foreign production companies, production service companies or other chosen companies in the audiovisual industry that are responsible for a specific part of the production and for which rights of use are established.

If the funding applicant is a foreign company not registered in Finland, the company must use a Finnish company as a production coordinator.

In international co-productions, the Finnish co-producer may be the funding applicant and recipient.

2. What can the funding be used for?

Applications for funding from the Innovation Funding Agency Business Finland (later referred to as the Funding Agency) can be submitted for any part of the production of an audiovisual work carried out in Finland. The production may be:

- a fictional feature film
- a documentary film
- serial fiction written for the screen
- an animation production

The funding is not intended for productions made for advertising or marketing purposes, music videos, shooting of entertainment or sports events, reality television series, soap operas or talk shows.

The funding of the Funding Agency can cover up to 25% of total eligible costs arisen in Finland. The funding is paid in arrears, against the actual costs.

- For more information on eligible costs, the required attachments to the application, and the terms and conditions of funding see the website at: https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/finnish-customers/services/funding/production-incentive-for-the-audiovisual-industry/cash-rebate/

3. How to apply for funding?

Funding is applied for by filling in the application in the Business Finland’s Online Service.

Applications may be submitted at any time, and the Funding Agency assesses the applications in the order of arrival. Production incentive for the audiovisual industry constitutes discretionary support. The application can only be submitted by a company that has a Finnish business ID.

If a foreign company applies for funding, the company must use a Finnish company as the production coordinator, which fills in the application on behalf of the foreign applicant. The foreign applicant must sign a written service provision contract with the production coordinator, authorizing the coordinator to submit the application.

4. What is a production coordinator?

If the funding applicant is a foreign company, it must use a Finnish company as a production coordinator.

The Funding Agency pays the funding directly to the foreign funding applicant. The Finnish production coordinator hires the people, sources the services for the funding recipient, and pays the salaries and service providers’ bills. The coordinator will charge the paid salaries and bills and his/her own fee from the funding provider. The beneficiary and the production coordinator agree on the terms of payment and payment schedules.

5. Monitoring of costs and reporting

The production coordinator or the Finnish co-production company receiving funding from the Funding Agency must use the Funding Agency’s form “Cost breakdown” for the planning, monitoring and reporting of project costs. The Funding Agency will provide more detailed reporting instructions in the application stage.
6. Instructions for filling in the application

The application is submitted via Business Finland’s Online Service. Log into the service at: https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/online-services/. After logging in, go to the application via the link “Make a new application”.

Please note: When the application is filled in by the production coordinator, it must be noted that all the company-related information provided concern the company referred to under the chapter “For whom?” in these instructions (= the applicant and the funding recipient).

Start by filling in the basic details:

- The applicant’s organization type (for example, an SME or a large company)
- Funding service (Production incentive for the audiovisual industry)
- Business ID of the organization
- Name of the project (this can be changed later)

The contents of the funding application are described in the document Sample application found on the AV web pages. In addition to the questions, the document includes more specific details on what information is sought with the questions. Fill in the application and include all attachments mentioned in the document Application documents.

Estimated costs of the project

The Funding Agency requires that all funding applicants use the same cost estimate specification form for productions in Finland. The specified form “Cost breakdown – Finnish part”, to be attached to the application, is used for the purpose.

For more information on eligible costs, see: Funding terms and conditions for the production incentive for the audiovisual industry (pdf)

Project funding

Funding applied from the Funding Agency

- Funding applied from the Funding Agency may account for a maximum of 25% of the production carried out in Finland.

Other funding

- List the other providers of funding for the project.