**Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government**

**Foreign Audiovisual Production Subsidy Guidelines**

Established on February 23, 2015

Amended on March 8, 2017

Article 1

These guidelines have been drafted by the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government (this Department hereafter,) in accordance with Article 8 of Rules for Assisting and Subsidizing Film Making in Taipei City to encourage the making of audiovisual productions in Taipei City and increase Taipei City's (this city hereafter) marketing opportunities.

Article 2

Audiovisual productions referred to in these guidelines means pre-production, filming, animation computer graphics and post-production; the aforementioned pre-production means planning, R&D, fund-raising, pre-sales and other pre-production work approved by this Department prior to the works being made; post-production means sound recording, editing, special effects, sound effects, light adjusting, printing and other post-production work approved by this Department.

Article 3

Eligibility:

1. The film should feature people, events, history, places or things of "Taipei City" or have Taipei as the filming base, and must be filmed in Taipei City for at least 30 working days.
2. During the production period in this city, a local registered production company should be hired to assist with production by the international film production company. The production team should be made up at least in part of locally-recruited film production personnel, including the director, production, camera, lighting, graphic design, props and actor groups.
3. For films
   1. Previous work by the film's director or producer satisfies one of the conditions listed in Appendix 1; or that the director/producer had directed/produced any single film in the last ten years that grossed more than US$200 million worldwide.
   2. The film is screened at cinemas in Taiwan and in more than 10 other regions worldwide (Appendix 2).
4. For TV Dramas
   * 1. Total duration of TV drama is at least 300 minutes.
     2. Production budget per episode is at least NT$8 million.
     3. The TV drama is played on any platform that reaches audiences in Taiwan and in more than 10 other regions worldwide (Appendix 2).
5. The above eligibility rules do not apply to productions of Hong Kong, Macao or Chinese origin.
6. Applicants for this subsidy must not also apply for other audiovisual production related subsidies provided by this Department at the same time.

Article 4

Documents to be provided:

1. When an application is made for a foreign audiovisual production subsidy under the Guidelines, the following documents should be provided to this Department before production commences:
   * 1. Application (including film proposal and plot outline)
     2. Overseas production company registration document verified by an ROC overseas representative office and its Chinese translation.
     3. Documents to prove the (one of the) requirements of Article 3.3 are met
2. If a foreign audiovisual production company entrusts a local audiovisual production company to apply for a subsidy under the Guidelines and sign a contract on its behalf, prior to commencement of production in Taiwan, apart from the documents stated in Paragraph 1, the following documents are also required when applying to this Department for this subsidy:
   * 1. The local audiovisual production company's certificate of registration in the ROC.
     2. The cooperation agreement between the international audiovisual production company and the local audiovisual production company entrusting the latter to provide assistance with film production, or related documentation.
     3. A letter of authorization from the international audiovisual production company regarding contract signing.
     4. A letter of consent from the foreign audiovisual production company with regards the signing of an agreement on its behalf by the local audiovisual production company.

Where the aforementioned documents are in a foreign language, a Chinese translations should be provided.

Article 5

Application review

* + 1. The Department accepts applications two times a year. Applications are to be submitted by the end of June and December each year. A review panel comprising 3 to 5 experts and scholars from relevant fields of expertise will be invited to review each application.
    2. Once an application has passed review, the review panel will recommend the amount of subsidy to the Department for the final approval. The Department then distributes subsidies for each of the application periods based on budget allocated for the year.
    3. The Department may accept urgent applications and assemble review panel on an ad-hoc basis to support the city government's policy.

Article 6

Contract signing and case closure:

The recipient of subsidy should sign a contract (in Chinese, with the English version as reference) with this Department and, attaching receipts, list of expenditure and original documents, and other related documents in accordance with contract provisions, apply for payment of the subsidy and handling of case closure matters to this Department.

Article 7

Matters for attention:

1. The names Taipei City Government, Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government Taipei City Film Commission and other agency names or logos requested by this Department should appear in a prominent placed in the versions of the film shown internationally.
2. Before or after filming in Taipei, the director, producer, leading performers, at least three of these people, must appear at a public press conference.
3. The producer, director and leading performers must be exclusively interviewed by Taipei Film Commission, with the contents to be used by Taipei City Government for non-profit purposes.
4. A 20 minute long "Behind the scenes tidbits" film should be provided, including the work records of the producer, director and leading performers during filming in Taipei, to be used for public benefit promotional work by the city government.
5. Whether it is film or TV show, a progress report must be submitted within six months after the initial screening/airing worldwide. The progress report shall include news articles published and promotional materials used in various countries, plus a description of worldwide box office performance for films or proof of media platform and rating for TV shows.
6. At least five work photographs or a film file for each Taipei City filming location should be provided, including the director and the leading performers in the scenes.
7. At least three stills taken on location in Taipei should be provided for use in public benefit promotional work in this city.
8. During the filming period in Taipei, dedicated media PR and security staff should be appointed.
9. The production team must purchase accident insurance for all performers and workers (including uncompensated volunteers, interns and student workers) and any third party likely to be affected for the entire filming duration in Taipei City. The production team is also bound to comply with employment regulations of ROC law.
10. The applicant should pay taxes as required by ROC law.
11. All film sets shall be constructed, removed and preserved according to ROC laws on temporary constructions and other regulations deemed applicable.

Article 8

If the applicant uses false information to receive a subsidy, the company can be disqualified by this Department. In such a case, the applicant must return all the subsidy already received as well as pay 10% of the total amount of subsidy approved to this Department as compensation. If repayment is not made in full, no further applications for annual incentives and subsidies will be accepted from the applicant involved.

If related operators and actors and personnel from Taiwan provide false information that is used in the application for subsidy by the applicant they shall bear all related legal liability and, for three years from the date of infringement as defined by this Department, will be barred from applying for the Department's annual incentives or subsidies.

Article 9

In line with the needs of the city government's film policy, this Department can accept a separate application for filming plans not regulated by the Guidelines.

Article 10

If various annual subsidy budgets are cut or frozen by Taipei City Council or otherwise rendered unusable for reasons not attributable to this Department, resulting in inability to implement the Guidelines, acceptance of applications can be halted by this Department.

Article 11

In the event of doubts relating to related matters or matters that are not covered by the Guidelines, this Department's interpretation will be final.

Article 12

The Guidelines are effective from the day of announcement.

**List of Recognized Achievements for Film Director's or**

**Producer's Previous Works (Appendix 1)**

1. Nomination for the following awards in the **Academy Award**:
2. Best Picture (feature-length motion picture)
3. Best Director (feature-length motion picture)
4. Nomination for the following awards in Cannes International Film Festival
5. Palme d'Or (feature-length motion picture)
6. Award for Best Director (feature-length motion picture)
7. Jury Prize (feature-length motion picture)
8. Prize of Un Certain Regard
9. Caméra d'Or (available to feature-length motion pictures of all award categories)
10. Nomination for the following awards in Venice International Film Festival:
11. Golden Lion (feature-length motion picture)
12. Best Director (feature-length motion picture)
13. Grand Jury Prize (feature-length motion picture)
14. Special Jury Prize (feature-length motion picture)
15. Best Film in the Horizon category
16. Best Director in the Horizon category
17. Special Jury Prize in the Horizon category
18. Nomination for the following awards in Berlin International Film Festival:
19. Golden Bear for Best Film (feature-length motion picture)
20. Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize (feature-length motion picture)
21. Silver Bear for Best Director (feature-length motion picture)
22. Crystal Bear for the Best Film in Generation Kplus Competition (feature-length motion picture)
23. The Grand Prix for the Best Film in Generation Kplus Competition (feature-length motion picture)
24. Winner of feature-length motion picture award in any of the following film festivals - (including best director, best picture, or jury/silver award)
25. Sundance Film Festival
26. Toronto International Film Festival
27. International Film Festival Rotterdam
28. Locarno International Film Festival
29. San Sebastián International Film Festival
30. Tokyo International Film Festival
31. Busan International Film Festival
32. Annecy International Animated Film Festival
33. Karlovy Vary International Film Festival
34. Moscow International Film Festival
35. São Paulo International Film Festival
36. International Rome Film Festival
37. Thessaloniki International Film Festival
38. Tribeca Film Festival
39. International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam
40. Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival
41. SIGGRAPH
42. Hot Docs International Documentary Festival.

**List of Recognized Regions and Countries of Screening/Airing (Appendix 2)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Asia  1.1. East Asia  1.2. Southeast Asia  1.3. South Asia  1.4. Central Asia  1.5. West Asia | 2. Europe  2.1. Western Europe  2.2. Northern Europe  2.3. Central Europe  2.4. Eastern Europe  2.5. Southern Europe | 3. Africa  3.1. North Africa  3.2. East Africa  3.3. West Africa  3.4. Central Africa  3.5. South Africa | 4. North America  4.1. North America | 5. Latin America and The Caribbean 5.1 Latin America 5.2 The Caribbean | 6. Oceania |

This document divides the world into 19 regions (East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, Western Europe, Northern Europe, Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Southern Europe, North Africa, East Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, South Africa, North America, Latin America, The Caribbean, and Oceania)

Asia: 49 countries

East Asia: 6 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | China, Taiwan, Mongolia, Japan, North Korea, South Korea. |

Southeast Asia: 11 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, East Timor, Vietnam. |

South Asia: 8 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. |

Central Asia: 5 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan. |

West Asia: 19 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Armenian, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, UAE, Yemen, Palestine. |

Europe: 44 countries

Western Europe: 7 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Monaco, The Netherlands, UK. |

Northern Europe: 5 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden. |

Central Europe: 8 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Poland, Slovakia, Switzerland. |

Eastern Europe: 6 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine. |

Southern Europe: 18 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro (Black Mountain), Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Vatican City. |

Africa: 54 countries

North Africa: 6 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia. |

East Africa: 19 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Mozambique, Comoros, South Sudan, Somaliland. |

West Africa: 15 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cape Verde. |

Central Africa: 9 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Chad, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabonese, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Kinshasa), Angola, Sao Tome and Principe. |

South Africa: 5 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Namibia, Botswana, Republic of South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland. |

North America: 2 countries

North America: 2 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Canada, USA. |

Latin America and The Caribbean: 33 countries

Latin America: 15 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama. |

The Caribbean: 18 countries

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| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela. |

Oceania: 14 countries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of country/region | Australia, Fiji, Kiribati Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Federated States of Micronesia, Tuvalu, Vanuatu. |