Film Otago Southland – Travel Grants

Last update: April 2025

The purpose of Film Otago Southland Travel Grants is to offer support for Otago and Southland-based filmmakers and film practitioners to attend events outside of their home region that will support their career development or project development. Events include, but are not limited to:

- Industry workshops and training courses
- Film festivals where the applicant's project is screening*
- Pitch events
- Conferences

Grants fall into three categories:

Regional: For attending events within Otago and Southland, but outside of the applicant's home district (e.g. a Dunedin applicant attending an event in Queenstown). These grants are capped at $100.

National: For attending events within New Zealand, but outside of Otago and Southland. These grants are capped at $500 and the amount is assessed based on the duration of the event and associated expenses.

Note: Regional and national events must be at least a day in duration – i.e. we cannot offer travel support for events that are an evening only.

International: For attending international events, which would normally be a recognised film festival or film market*. These requests are capped at $1000.

* Short film festivals should be on the NZFC International Short Film Festival list or be a reputable New Zealand Film Festival: NZFC International Short Film Festival List - Development Funding Eligibility Feb 2025.pdf

For national and international travel grants, an applicant will only be eligible for one grant per financial year (July – June).

We welcome the following details to apply:

For all applications:

- A summary of the applicant and their experience/credits – this can be written, via attached CV, or links to portfolios/websites/IMDB

- A summary of the event, including links if applicable
- Confirmation of the applicant's attendance at event (e.g. workshop registration, film festival selection etc.).
- Confirmation that the applicant regularly resides in the Otago and Southland region – recent bill or similar to be presented if required

For national and international travel grant applications:

- A written statement outlining your opportunities, such as:
    - The reasons why you want to attend this event and how it will benefit your professional development
    - Your plan to 'work' the event (applicable for festivals and conferences)
    - A list of people you plan to contact/meet with (applicable for festivals and conferences)

For film festival attendance, we also require:

    - the section your film will screen in (including whether it is part of a competition); and
    - a copy of the film as a password-protected file, DVD, or Blu-ray

For international travel grant applications:

- A detailed budget that includes:
    - estimated flight costs (quote from travel agent, or webpage screen print);
    - travel insurance;
    - accommodation costs; and
    - transfer costs (where applicable).
- A project history that includes:
    - details of the amount of funding your project has received already, and from whom; and
    - a list of festivals you have applied for to date.

FOS can receive applications for Travel Grants at any time and applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the FOS Co-Managers and Trust Chair (in the case of larger grants only as per FOS's financial delegations). Assessment will take into account the available budget, the strength of the application, and its intended outcomes in relation to FOS's strategic objectives. It is at the discretion of the Chair and/or Board to accept grant applications that are outside of the criteria set out in this document if they are of significant benefit to the Otago and Southland screen industry.