

SHORTS SUPPORT SCHEME FAQs

1. How do you select the festivals on your 'Key Festivals List'?

We select the festivals on our list based on the strategic role each festival plays in promoting and developing new talent internationally. We work hard to make sure our industry knowledge is as up to date as possible and therefore may add/remove festivals when appropriate. The list is subject to change.

2. Do you support Virtual Reality projects? Yes, we support travel for VR project makers to the festivals marked VR on the Key Festivals list.

3. What events do you run for the Shorts Support Scheme?

We organise an annual calendar of events with partners including BFI Net.work, BAFTA, and Shooting People amongst others for filmmakers on our Shorts Support Scheme. These include networking events, screenings and industry events. Once you have joined the scheme you will receive invites to relevant events. We also run Short Sighted twice yearly events with BAFTA, open to non –members as well. Sign up to our Short Sighted mailing list [here](#).

4. Do you ever accept short films onto your scheme that haven't been accepted into one of the festivals on your list?

*Yes, we reserve the right to invite films that haven't been accepted into any of the festivals on our list but which we feel would be of interest to our programming contacts, or which might form a part of a touring package on a particular theme. Please note, however, that **we will not consider unsolicited material** - films will either meet the criteria outlined in the guidelines, or be recommended to us by one of the scheme advisory partners.*

5. If my film is selected for a major event like the Academy Awards can I apply to the fund?

The Travel Grant Fund is designed primarily to support filmmakers to travel to festivals, but we may consider major film awards for travel grant support if funds permit. Consideration for support in these cases is at the discretion of the British Council Film Department.

6. I've been accepted into one of the festivals on your list but I only want to be included in the Short Support Scheme, I'm not interested in applying to the Travel Grant Fund, is there a separate application form?

If this is the case then please contact us to discuss by emailing Films@britishcouncil.org

7. If I apply to the Travel Grant but for some reason am unsuccessful, then will I still qualify for the Short Support Scheme?

Yes, as you will still have met the basic criteria for inclusion on the Shorts Support Scheme i.e. acceptance into one of the festivals on our 'Key Festivals List'

8. Does British Council submit films to festivals on my behalf?

No, you will need to submit your film to appropriate festivals yourself. We are not a sales agent or a distributor, so we cannot do this on your behalf. However we do recommend films to key programmers.

9. What if I don't want British Council to screen my film as part of a package or at an event?

*We will **always** ask permission from filmmakers before screening their films in any context.*

10. Do you support feature films under the terms of the Short Support Scheme and Travel Grant Fund?

No, please visit the BFI's [Film Export Fund](#) page for details of feature exhibition support.

11. Is this Fund anything to do with the Artist's International Development Fund (AIDF)?

Yes - and no! British Council is a partner in the AIDF, a joint travel fund launched with Arts Council England. The short film Travel Grant Fund has been created because while the AIDF can sometimes cover artist moving image it does not cover film. If you would like more info on the general AIDF have a look [here](#).