

Frequently Asked Questions - WIFV Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers

What is a seed grant?

A seed grant is a contribution to a project in the research/development phase. This grant is available only for documentary projects.

Why is WIFV providing a seed grant?

WIFV members understand how difficult it can be to get first-in support that allows you to develop your project to a level that it will be more appropriate for larger grant or individual support. We want to give you the time and assist with the resources you need to get your project ready to leaf out to other supporters!

Do I have to be a woman to apply?

No. WIFV does not discriminate based on gender. Men and women can submit their project applications for consideration as long as the filmmaker meets eligibility criteria.

What gets a grant?

Documentary projects that are being developed by WIFV members are eligible to receive a grant. They need to submit an application and support materials as outlined on the application checklist.

Do I have to be a member of WIFV to apply?

Yes. You need to be a member of WIFV to apply for the Seed Fund Grant for Documentary Filmmakers. See the Join WIFV page on the WIFV website for further information about membership in WIFV.

When should I apply?

The deadline for the 2016 grant awards is May 20, 2016. There is only one call for applications per year. More information on the application process is available here ([LINK](#)).

How do I apply?

Go to the Seed Fund page under the Programs tab at www.wifv.org. There you will find an application form and information about what documentation is required about you and your proposed project at the time of application.

How much does it cost?

There is no application fee for the WIFV Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers.

If your application is accepted and it is determined that WIFV fiscal sponsorship makes sense for your project, you will need to pay a \$50 fiscal sponsorship application fee, but you will not need to resubmit an application. For fiscal sponsored projects, WIFV will charge a 7% administrative handling fee for all grants and charitable donations. This fee is competitive with other fiscal sponsorship programs.

Is WIFV involved in the production of the documentary project?

No, WIFV will not be involved in the production of the film or media content itself. Mentors are available to assist the grant recipient as needed.

How long does it take to find out if WIFV will give me a Seed Fund Grant?

There will be one call for Seed Fund Grant applications per calendar year. For 2016, the **application deadline** date is **May 20, 2016**.

Upon the application deadline, applications are reviewed by the WIFV Executive Director for completeness and eligibility. Following review of your application, it will be forwarded to the WIFV Seed Fund Grant Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will meet within 60 days of the application deadline and notification of the results will be forwarded to you within one week of that meeting. If you have been selected for a Seed Fund Grant, your first payment will be part of the notification.

Please do not contact any WIFV staff or Board Member with an inquiry about your application status during the selection process. You will be notified as soon as the selection committee results are known.

I am a WIFV member but my project does not fit the eligibility criteria.

Can WIFV still help me?

The WIFV staff is a constant resource to members. Even if your project does not meet the eligibility criteria for the WIFV Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers, you should contact the office about what resources might be of help you. We have partnerships with many organizations on both the national and local level and are plugged-in to the network of valuable resources available to filmmakers and media-makers.