



Guidelines are available in Large Text Format.

Little Pictures is dedicated to inclusion and so if you have need to talk through the application process or have access needs and would like the guidelines in a different format, language we are happy to arrange this for you.

If you prefer to submit your application as an audio file, video, BSL video, in another language other than English, Easy read, or would like assistance such as using a scribe or need any help in applying we are happy to arrange this and support you through this process.

Please contact us by email on littlepictures@macfilm.com

INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

Little Pictures is a **micro-budget short film commissioning scheme** funded by the National Lottery and the Scottish Government through Screen Scotland for and encourages applications from under-represented backgrounds. Little Pictures is for people of **all ages from 16 years onwards** and **who live in Scotland** and who are **not in full time education** and who have **not been commissioned to make a film before**.

Up to 8 short films of **15 minutes or less** and of all forms, **fiction, documentary, animation and experimental** film, will be commissioned and projects will be developed through training workshops. Each filmmaker will also be mentored throughout the scheme and given up to **£2,250 budget in cash** towards making the film and support in kind and access to equipment from GMAC Film.

Little Pictures will encourage new filmmakers to develop their voice, take creative risks and will help to kick start and develop film talent from across Scotland. Little Pictures is also committed to **50% of the commissions by women**.

Films will be delivered by **February 2022**.

Filmmakers will receive ongoing support to maximise the impact of the project and to signpost them to further training, commissioning or employment opportunities and this is **FREE** along with support given to **ANY** additional requirements needed.

Established as a charity in 1982, GMAC Film is an open access media centre that delivers a creative and artistic programme for all people interested in film, regardless of age, background or income. Our mission is to **empower** young people and adults by enabling them to **acquire the skills, knowledge, confidence and resources to realise their ambitions** in film or elsewhere in the arts.

As confirmed by [the Equality Matters: A Review of Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion in Scotland's Screen Sector \(2017\)](#) there are persistent barriers in accessing and the provision of opportunities in the screen sector in Scotland so Little Pictures welcomes applications from people from under-represented backgrounds.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Little Pictures is open to people of any age who are:

- Over 16
- Live in Scotland
- Not in full time education
- Have not been commissioned to make a film before (**i.e. TV Broadcaster, Film Funding Body or another Film Commissioning Scheme**)

Under The Equalities Act 2010 the following are protected characteristics (Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex, Sexual orientation)

The following groups are also under represented within the screen sector and therefore we encourage applications from:

- Low Income/socio economically disadvantaged
- Minority ethnic group
- Refugee and/or Migrant background
- Disabled/D/deaf People
- LGBTQIA+
- Care Experienced and Carers
- Rurally excluded
- Women

Priority will be given to applicants from these groups.

Please only apply if you are eligible. If you are **not eligible** to apply please sign up for a **FREE** membership at GMAC Film and keep up to date on training and other opportunities.

SUBMITTING YOUR FILM PROPOSAL

We are looking for proposals for short films no longer than 15 minutes long in:

- Fiction
- Documentary
- Animation
- Experimental

A **micro budget** film is produced for significantly less than the average cost of the average film. The key things to consider when applying with your film idea is can it be made with a micro budget?

- Ideas are achievable in 15 minutes or less
- The film can be shot over the course of 3-4 days
- Keep cast or characters to a minimum
- Try to limit locations to a few
- Don't have big special or visual effects
- Be creative under Covid 19 restrictions

If you prefer to submit in another language other than English or if you prefer to submit an audio, video or a BSL video application or require support to complete your application with the support of a scribe we are happy to assist you and can arrange a meeting with you to discuss how we can support you.

You can also include any links to any visual material or any films that you have previously made and email your application form to: littlepictures@gmacfilm.com

Application Deadline is midnight WEDNESDAY 30th JUNE 2021. Applications and participation to Little Pictures and training workshops are FREE.

DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS AND KEY DATES

If you are commissioned we will team you up with an industry mentor to help support you throughout the process. We will also pair you up with an emerging producer to work together as a team. You must be committed to attend development and training workshops via online and in person as well as being committed to making the film during your own time and it is important that you have a collaborative approach to developing your film.

The aim is to help you progress further into the screen industry in Scotland with Aftercare Support of the scheme once you have completed your film.

Rather than a formal structured interview, shortlisted candidates will be invited to come to an online conversation via Zoom with the selection panel on week commencing **2nd AUGUST 2021**.

The key dates that you must attend if you are selected for commission are:

- **28th & 29th AUG** 9am-1pm (Online)
- **4th & 5th SEPT** 9am-1pm (Online)
- **11th & 12th SEPT** 9am-1pm (Online)
- **18th & 19th SEPT** 9am-5pm (at GMAC Film)*
- **25th & 26th SEPT** 9am-5pm (at GMAC Film) *
- **OCT - NOV** Films go into production
- **DEC - FEB** Films go into post production
- **FILMS COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 2022 ***

* These dates are subject to change due to COVID 19

Any additional support needs or support costs to access Development Workshops is available.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I used to live in Scotland or I am Scottish but based elsewhere in the UK. Can I still apply?

Unfortunately, you need to be currently living in Scotland and able to provide your address in the application form.

I produced some paid work before, am I still eligible to apply for Little Pictures?

If you haven't been commissioned for a short film scheme or TV Broadcaster as a writer/director before then you are eligible to apply. You can still apply if you produced Freelance work and self-funded, crowd funded or student films are not considered as short film commissions. If you have previously made or been involved in digital content e.g. BBC Social, you can apply.

I am a student and/or under 18 years old. Can I still apply?

Anyone 16 years old and over can apply to Little Pictures as long as they are not in full time education including higher education (university, college etc.) You can apply if you are in part time education or if you are graduated by June 2021.

Can I apply with a team?

Unfortunately, we only accept applications from one applicant. They can be a writer, director or writer/director filmmaker though we will help filmmakers team up with a producer and have a collaborative approach to make their films after they are commissioned.

What do we mean by new filmmakers?

Even though we are open to commission new filmmakers we would like to see some creative ideas you have been exploring through any form including; writing, music, photography, short video/film making and encourage you to submit any material you created that are relevant to your application.

Can I apply with more than one idea?

Yes, you can apply with no more than 2 different proposals. If you are applying more than once, you will need to fill out a new application form separately per proposal or separately as preferred method of submission i.e. Audio/video, BSL video, Scriber.

What happens after I submit my application?

The selection panel will view all the submitted story outlines anonymously with an external reader and make a longlist around 50. The panel will then assess them individually and get together to make a list of 15-20 applicants to invite for an online conversation rather than a formal structured interview. From the interview stage we will select up to 8 filmmakers to commission and notify the unsuccessful applications by email within 3 weeks after the deadline.

If I am shortlisted, what can I expect from the online conversation/informal interview?

We will notify you 2 weeks before the date of the conversation and we will give you a list of topics/questions in advance. The conversation will allow you to tell us more about your idea and vision for making your film. If you want to chat prior to the conversation about any particular requirements that you may have to make the experience work best for you, please let us know. There are 4 members of the selection panel. The conversation will be with 2 of the selection panel members and will last around 60 minutes. We will ask you if the conversation can be recorded so that the remaining 2 members can hear the conversation. All recordings will be deleted as soon as they are viewed. The selection panel will meet together to make a decision on the commissioned filmmakers. All shortlisted candidates will be notified by telephone or by preferred method of contact of the decision made.



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