



## Frequently Asked Questions

### How do I apply?

To apply, submit an application using the online form located here by 11:59pm on Friday, October 13: <https://milwaukeefilm.formstack.com/forms/forwardfund2023>

We strongly recommend that you prepare your answers in advance (in a word processing program) before pasting them in to the fields of the form. You may move forward and backwards through the form without adding information (to see what questions may be up-coming and to prepare your materials). We have also created a PDF containing all of the application questions to help you work on your application offline. You can find that document on our website.

You may save a partial application and resume completing it later. To do so, click “Save and Resume Later” at the bottom of any form page. This will show a screen with a link that you can use to return to your partially-completed application. You can email that link to yourself at that time for safe-keeping. Until your application is complete, we do not receive *any* record of your saved work. Applications must be completed by the deadline, so be sure to remember to return and complete your application in time!

Once you’ve completed the required fields of the application and clicked “submit” you will receive an email containing all of your application data just as you submitted it. This email serves as your receipt that your application has been received.

### What is eligible?

The Forward Fund is open to all types of films of all lengths. That means fiction, documentary, and experimental films, from short to feature-length and everything in between.

Because this program is intended to support the Milwaukee-area creative community, the creative owner (who should also be the applicant and the director/producer) must reside or work in one of the following Wisconsin counties: Milwaukee, Waukesha, Kenosha, Racine, Ozaukee, Walworth, or Washington. All applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

### That sounds like pretty much everything, so what’s *not* eligible?

Here’s the fine print in layman’s terms:

- One application per applicant. So if you’ve already submitted an application as the director, we won’t consider any subsequent ones. (If you’re working with others and are listed as a collaborator on more than one project that’s a-ok!)
- Current year-round Milwaukee Film employees, Board members, major funders and the immediate families of such folks are ineligible.
- If your film is finished it is ineligible. The Forward Fund is not intended to support projects that have been completed.
- And, finally, student films and currently-enrolled students in Film Production-related programs are not eligible to apply.

## **What if I've received a Forward Fund award in the past? Can I still apply for funding?**

If you are requesting funds **for a new/different project**:

- Yes, past Forward Fund award recipients are eligible for another award with a new/different project.

If you are requesting funds for a **project that has already received an award**:

- Projects which have applied for the forward Fund in previous years may re-apply. If a project has received a Forward Fund award, they may apply in subsequent years. Projects may receive up to two (2) awards. However, projects that have received awards previously will be examined based on the use of the previous award and scrutinized carefully for the utility of a second award.

## **The application asks me to submit a budget. Umm...math?...help?!**

Having a project budget will help the jury assess your project. To help you create a budget, we have provided a budget template in Excel. (See <http://mkefilm.org/forwardfund/> for the downloadable template.) When you have finished your budget, save it as a PDF and you will be able to upload it to your application. The form will only accept uploads that are PDFs!

If you have a project budget already, please consider using our template to make all of the budgets relatively consistent in style for the jury.

## **How will projects be evaluated?**

Projects and applications will be evaluated on the basis of:

- The artistic merit, impact, strength, originality, and vision of the described film project
- The professional capabilities of the applicant and his/her collaborators
- The feasibility of the film's completion within a reasonable time-frame for the project
- The potential impact of an award from the Forward Fund toward the completion of a particular film

## **Who will be selecting the winners?**

The Forward Fund will be awarded by an independent, external jury of nationally-recognized film industry members (e.g. no staff or Board members of Milwaukee Film and, indeed, no one from the Milwaukee area). The jury will hold final deliberations in early December.

## **When can I expect to hear if I've won?**

All applicants will be notified via email by EOD Friday, December 8. Awardees will be given full Award Details and be asked to complete paperwork prior to end of year for prompt payment in January.