



SCREENWRITERS' LAB

Filmbazaar Screenwriters' Lab | Children's Screenwriters' Lab

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is there any special requirement in terms of the subject of the screenplay?

The chief criterion for selection in this Lab is that it should be an original, Indian story in any Indian language.

What are the submission requirements for applying to the Screenwriters' Lab?

There are two stages of submission. At the first stage, you are required to send the logline, the tagline and the story synopsis.

Only short listed projects will be asked to submit a detailed step outline and a complete screenplay with dialogues. The final selection will be made based on the complete screenplay.

Please see [here](#) for a complete overview of what you need to submit.

In which language should the synopsis and screenplay be in?

Regardless of the final language of the film, the logline, synopsis, step outline and screenplay (including dialogues) should be in English only.

My synopsis is less than 3000 words. Can I still apply?

The application form will not accept any submission which does not adhere to the word limit. You may want to re-edit your synopsis in order to be considered.

Can I send screenplay or treatment instead of the synopsis?

No. The form will accept submissions only in the prescribed format.

How much time do I get to submit my screenplay and step outline if I am short listed?

You will get approximately a month to submit your screenplay and step outline.

What if there is more than one writer of the screenplay?

Screenwriters Lab follows a one-on-one mentoring process. Thus it is highly discouraged that a project with more than one writer applies to the Lab.



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Can I apply with more than one screenplay?

Yes, however each screenplay must be applied separately and only one screenplay will be selected. Do bear in mind that you do not need to create new Film Bazaar accounts to submit more than one application. Simply click "Create new Submission" to add another submission

When and how will I know if I am selected for the Lab? Will I be notified if I am not selected for the Lab?

Shortlisted candidates will be informed by end of April via email. The final selection will be announced by mid July.

You will be notified by email if you are not selected.

Will I be informed of the reasons if I am not selected?

Due to the large number of applications received, we cannot provide individual feedback to rejected applicants.

Why do I have to create Film Bazaar account?

Screenwriters Labs are held in collaboration with Film Bazaar, an annual international film industry event. The MyFilmBazaar account will keep you connected with all Film Bazaar activities.

I had applied to the lab before. Can I apply with a project that was previously rejected?

Yes you can. But do tell us in Writer's Statement section in the application form what has changed in the project since your last application.

If my film is about a child, which lab should I apply for?

The best way to decide is to ask yourself who your primary audience would be. Just because your protagonist is a child does not make it children's film.



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Will NFDC help in finding a producer?

NFDC only offers an opportunity to the selected participants to attend the Film Bazaar in Goa. It is the participant's responsibility to find funding for their project. However, NFDC does offer assistance in identifying potential partners to the project during Film Bazaar.

How will attending Film Bazaar help my project?

Film Bazaar organized by NFDC is a unique opportunity for Indian film professionals to meet international producers, filmmakers, distributors, funding agencies to look for possible partnerships.

What penalty will I have to face if I don't attend any segment of the lab?

The penalty will be charged only if the participant does not deliver submission or abide by the rules of the lab. The amount is INR 1,00,000. In case of an unavoidable situation where the participant is indisposed then NFDC will not charge any penalty. However all the other rules regarding, credit, lien, confidentiality will still stay valid.

Will I be able to sell my screenplay to a producer during the duration of the Screenwriters' Lab?

Yes, the work on the project, including sale, finding producer, pre-production etc can continue as scheduled. In the case a participant defaults, he/she will have to free the lien after paying the penalty. In addition, in case of a successful completion, the lien will be terminated only after a payment of INR 1,50,000 to NFDC. This will be applicable to projects that are sold to a producer/studio/ investor or is translated into a film by the producer/ studio/ investor.

Can my director attend the lab at his/her own cost?

No, all the sessions of the Screenwriters' Lab until the Film Bazaar are open only for the selected participants. However, directors attached to the project can attend the Film Bazaar after due registration. Please check Film Bazaar website for further details.



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What are the exact dates for the lab?

The dates of the lab will be notified to the selected participants as soon as they are finalized.

What is the exact nature of the lab?

The idea behind the Screenwriters' Lab is to help screenplaywriters improve their draft of the screenplay with inputs from mentors in one-on-one sessions. In addition, during the course of the lab master classes, lectures and short workshops will be conducted on structure and character development, dialogue and scene writing, along with visual codes, pitching and synopsis writing in an additional session in Mumbai.

Are Indians residing in any others parts of the world eligible for applying to the lab?

Yes, Indian citizens (holding a valid Indian Passport) residing anywhere in the world can apply.

If someone does not have a passport at the time of application, can they still apply for any lab?

The first session of the FilmBazaar Screenwriters' Lab involves international travel. Applicants shortlisted for the lab will be notified by end of April. It is advisable that these applicants have a passport ready by June 2016.

If you have any further questions write to screenwriters Lab at screenwriters-lab@filmbazaarindia.com.