



SCREENWRITERS' LAB 2017

FAQs

APPLICATION PROCESS

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.

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 story in any Indian language.

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

To apply, you are required to submit the logline, the short story synopsis and a writer's statement. Additionally you have the choice to submit either

a full script

OR

a long synopsis (6 - 10 pages) and the 1st 20 pages of the script. (both documents are mandatory)

Shortlisted applicants will need to appear for an interview either in person or on Skype.

Please see the Definitions document for a complete overview of what you need to submit.

In which language should the synopsis and script be in?

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

Eg: Roman Hindi - "Jaise ki yeh jo lika hai maine" - **Not Accepted**
English - "Like this, what I have written" - **Accepted**

How many pages does my full script need to be?

While there are no strict limits to the number of pages of your script, a conventional script is between 90 - 120 pages.

My long synopsis is less than 6 pages. Can I still apply?

Yes. However, do remember that we are looking for a complete story with a clear indication of the plot and the emotional journey of the protagonist. The strength of your application will be based on this document so make sure you give it your best. For more details see the Definitions document on the website.

Can I submit a short synopsis and the first 20 pages of the script?

No. There are only two submission options. You can either submit a full script OR a long story synopsis and the first 20 pages of the script (excluding the title page). There can be no mix and match.

If I am submitting the long synopsis and the 1st 20 pages of the script, when do I have to submit my complete screenplay?

You will not be required to submit anything else after submitting the Application form.

How will I receive notifications regarding the application and selection process?

All communication regarding Screenwriters' Lab 2017 will be sent via email **only** to the applicant listed as 'Screenwriter' on the application form.

WHO CAN APPLY

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

No. Only Indian citizens residing in India can apply.

Can I still apply if there is more than one writer attached to my project?

Yes. However, as Screenwriters' Lab follows a one-on-one mentoring process, only one writer per project can attend the Lab. The person listed as 'Writer' in the Application Form will be considered for attending the Lab.

Can I apply with more than one project?

Yes, however each project must be applied with separate applications forms and only one project per writer 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 add another submission.

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 the Writer's Statement section of the application form what has changed in the project since your last application.

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.

SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

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?

Short-listed candidates will be informed by late April 2017 via email about their interview dates. The final selection will be announced before the 2nd week of May 2017. These are tentative dates.

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 or reasons to rejected applicants.

AT THE LAB

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 screenwriters 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.

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.

If selected, what is the Travel Reimbursement Amount that I am eligible for?

The three tier AC travel reimbursement amount will be decided solely at the discretion of NFDC, based on Indian Railways estimates of train fare from the city of applicant's current residence to Mumbai. Selected participants are advised to check with the Screenwriters' Lab team regarding applicable amounts before finalizing their travel plans.

Do I get any Travel Reimbursement if my current city of residence is Mumbai?

No. However, NFDC will provide transport for all selected participants from Mumbai to the Lab venue. Details of said transport will be communicated closer to Lab dates.

FILM BAZAAR

Why is attending Film Bazaar mandatory?

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 .A special Screenwriters 'Pitch is organized during Film Bazaar to present lab projects to industry professionals.

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.

My query isn't listed. I wish to speak to a team member. Whom can I contact?

If you have any further questions, we encourage you to write to screenwriters-lab@filmbazaarindia.com. Queries will not be answered on the phone.