

# dlr First Frames Short Film Scheme

Additional Information for prospective applicants to the above scheme



Following on from the Information Session held in the DLR Lexicon on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October - the below is a collated overview of the some of the key points discussed and questions raised.

## Included in this document:

- Highlights from the following speakers:
  - **Ciara King**, *dlr Arts Office*
  - **Bernadette Meagher**, *IADT*
  - **Ian Hunt Duffy**, *FailSafe Films*
  - **Barry Dignam**, *IADT*
- Overview of Q & A session
- Copy of Application Process Slideshow

The following documents are available also online

- Please refer to the [dlr First Frame Scheme Brief](#) for full Scheme Assessment & Criteria
- The **Application form** is available as [Word](#) and [PDF](#) format

## Highlights from Speakers at the Information Session:

### dlr Arts Council welcome and introduction to scheme

- [this scheme] is funded solely by the county council
- [Key aims of county council are] supporting emerging film makers; to highlight the range of locations in the county and support of Local Enterprise Office.
- DLR Arts Council have funded a number of short films before
- Recommend signing up to the Arts e-bulletin

### Application Process

- Refer to the Application process slideshow at the end of this document, for key notes regarding the application process, funding, criteria and scoring of applications, possible filming locations (consider required permissions / fees etc for those not owned by DLR in your application).
- Take the time to review the Brief and Application requirements, so you know exactly what you have to gather together
- Note the application deadline and key dates!
- Shortlisted applicants must be available for interview on the date specified.

### Short Film-making - personal experience and advice

- The **Story** & Script is key. Story is the most important thing!
- Short Films challenge you to tell an engaging and impactful story in a condensed amount of time. Make your short stand out
- Make something you are personally engaged with, that excites you....that you are passionate about
- Keep it simple, be aware of the scope. Don't cram too much into a short; think of a narrative and story that will fit the format.
- Have a strong opening and closing; have a clear beginning, middle and end.
- Keep it cinematic

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- Regarding **Pitching**, this your film; practice, get comfortable talking about your film, aloud, what it is about, the themes etc. Try and anticipate the questions that might come up. Be passionate about your film!
- Have as much supportive material as possible, e.g. for Director have notes, visual style, reference imagery, concept art, photos, etc. For producers, have budget, possible locations, ideas for cast etc.
- Have solutions to any possible problems!
- Put as much time into **pre-production** as possible. Prepare! Invariably things go wrong on a shoot, the more prepared you are...the easier you will be able to react and adapt. Break down the script, get to know the material, make notes, “watch the film in your head” to help you decide what are the cuts, what is the pacing. From there you can then do your shot list and storyboards (which are great as visual aid for you on set but also to help communicate with your crew, DP etc. Look books, mood boards etc great for art department / costume etc.
- **Casting** hugely important. Bad actor/performance can ruin a short film. Just because it’s your first or smaller budget film, don’t be afraid to aim high! Get the best actor possible for role; Actors tend to want to act, so if they are not on a shoot and available, and they like the script, you’d be surprised!
- Do Rehearsals!
- **The Shoot** itself, you won’t have enough time! You may have to drop shots or change things. Be prepared! Have a vision in mind but be open minded and then you can improvise if needs be.
- Don’t Skimp on the food! Feed your crew well; Helps keep up morale and performance!
- **Postproduction**: try get the best editor you can, preferably someone with experience; someone you can collaborate with. The edit is where your film will live or die, because you see what you have. You re-write the film in the edit!
- In relation to the scheme, there will be back and forth with DLR
- Be open to feedback, send out cuts to people, get criticism

### A list of suggested ingredients for making a short film

- A good sort film will have some of these ingredients, but a film with all of the following ingredients it will be too complicated!
- Note: this scheme is funded by dlr Co Co – consider your project, make sure your film fits the brief! And, go walking in the area! Have a wander and see if your script can be helped by getting a feel of the place and possible locations
- Some Suggested ingredients:
  - **Short Film** – keep it short!
  - **Originality** – your voice, it comes from you. If you are going to adapt; make it your version, reflecting your personality
  - **Story**
  - **Sound** – good sound & music is important. it’s easy and cheap way to increase production value in film
  - **Clear POV** (not camera shot POV – who / what is the film about)
  - **Emotional Centre** – if your film is dealing with emotions, usually rooted in you and your view of the world.

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- **Credible Plot** – if it doesn't make sense, it won't read to the audience
- **Individual voice** – again, goes back to you
- **Consistency** – e.g. if you start with a horror, end with a horror
- **Period dramas** - (can be expensive, especially for shorts)
- **Entertaining!**
- **Authentic**
- **Short Credits!** (Is included in your run time)
- **Interesting locations**
- **Good acting**
- **Good Concepts**
- **Festival Friendly** – Film itself, and be festival friendly yourself! Be approachable.
- **End Well** – Opening of film important, so is the closing shot. That is what the audience remembers
- **Stay on brief!**

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## Questions

### **Q: Typical number of days for shoot**

For the budget – you could try for 5 days but depends how you work the budget, depends on the project – certainly more than 2 – probably 3 to 4.

The Lighthouse film producer (previous dlr First Frames scheme) responded as follows: *“This will vary depending on the concept and whether lots of crew, equipment is required. As a ballpark, budget for about 3 days; maximum 5 days. One shoot day could be with a skeleton crew to keep costs down. If you budget for 3 days and are successful in your application, do up a more dedicated budget at this point to ensure that the 3-days is workable”*

### **Q: Age restriction?**

No, scheme is aimed at emerging film-makers

### **Q: Multiple applications?**

No restriction about the number, however, a good quality application will take a lot of work, so we advise you to consider focusing on one strong application as opposed to stretching yourself across more than one.

### **Q: Same person as Directing & Producing?**

Yes, it is possible, but CVs submitted will be reviewed by looking for key strengths in both those areas, so need to bear that in mind. Empirically speaking, considered opinion is a very difficult / challenging approach to opt for.

### **Q: Budget**

You will need to present a realistic budget for your project for the application process. If there are holes in the budget this will be a cause for concern.

### **Q: Pay rates**

That is for the applicants to work out as they work through the budget for the film (budget being an important part of the application submission) as you will be deciding how far the budget will go.

Likely to be calling in favours, from people (crew) who are looking to make a name for themselves. Keep it fair across the crew.

Cast should be paid appropriate rates.

### **Q: Classifications**

Don't have to be PG but should not be XXX! Remember that the funder is a local authority aiming to increase awareness of the DLR region as a film making location and to support employment in the film industry in the area also.

It doesn't have to be for the scheme but should be possible for your film to be IFCO (Irish Film Classification Office) classified

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## **Q: Screening/Premier:**

Dlr premiere will take place in The Studio, dlr Lexicon. This is not a festival. If you've had own country premiere or screened at small film festivals, you can usually look to screen at international festivals without that being a problem.

## **Q: Financial returns**

DLR must be credited (in the credit roll) as main financier of the film but they are not looking for financial return on the investment should the film get picked up for terrestrial, broadcast, etc.

NB: Important to credit and include the funder in the success of the film.

## **Q: Animation**

Not open to animation for this scheme – as it has to include filming in dlr region locations, however, there could be animated elements in the film if time and budget allowed. Animation not ruled out for future funding considerations.

## **Q: Combined Producer / Director**

Not advised – too difficult to achieve. Combined Writer / Director is okay though.

## **Q: Mentoring support**

Will be available if required to successful applicants, about 7 hours per award. Type of support will be depending on type of film you are making. Will be available between announcement and completion date.

## **Q: Is residing in DLR a pre-requisite?**

No

## **General Comment regarding relationship between applicants and interview panel:**

Remember that the interviewers want your script and project to succeed – i.e. they are on the same side and hoping for a successful collaboration for all.

## **Q: Equipment & Studio availability at IADT's, National Film School, Kill Avenue, Dun Laoghaire**

See indicative list below of available equipment subject to IADT management being satisfied that the crew list are experienced and capable of handling and using the equipment. The NFS is in constant use by IADT students during term time so availability for successful applicants will be during June, July and August – by arrangement in advance with [dlrfirstframes@iadt.ie](mailto:dlrfirstframes@iadt.ie)

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## National Film School Indicative Equipment List:

### 2 x Arri Alexa, large and small green screen studio

Nos. Available	DESCRIPTION
1/1	720T AUDIO RECORDER
2/1	720T AUDIO RECORDER
3/1	720T AUDIO RECORDER
4/1	Zoom H4N AUDIO RECORDER
4/1	Zoom H4N AUDIO RECORDER
6/1	Zoom H4N AUDIO RECORDER
7/1	Zoom H4N AUDIO RECORDER
8/1	Zoom H4N AUDIO RECORDER
9/1	Zoom H4N AUDIO RECORDER
10/1	Roland/r44 4TRACK AUDIO RECORDER
	AUDIO MIXERS
11/1	SQN 4S
12/1	SQN 4S
13/1	LM 1
14/1	LM1
	MIC-BOOM POLES
15/1	Panamic boom pole
16/1	Panamic boom pole
17/1	Panamic boom pole
18/1	Panamic boom pole
19/1	Panamic boom pole
20/1	Panamic boom pole
21/1	Panamic boom pole
22/1	Panamic boom pole
	LAPEL MICROPHONES
23/1	Byerdynamic CV-PV-N(C)-R
24/1	Byerdynamic CV-PV-N(C)-R
25/1	Byerdynamic CV-PV-N(C)-R
	Rifle Mic's
26/1	SENNHEISER MKH 416
27/1	SENNHEISER MKH 416
28/1	SENNHEISER MKH 416

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29/1	SENNHEISER MKH 50
29/1	SENNHEISER MKH 50
30/1	SENNHEISER MKH 70
31/1	SENNHEISER MKH 70
32/1	SENNHEISER MKH 60
33/1	SENNHEISER MKH 60
34/1	SENNHEISER MKH 60
	TRANSMITTER MIC'S (Total 5 kits)
1/2	UTX – B1 -SONY
2/2	UTX
3/2	UTX
4/2	UTX
5/2	UTX
	RECIEVER MIC'S
6/2	URX-P1 - SONY
7/2	URX
8/2	URX
9/2	URX
10/2	URX
17/2	Panasonic AF101 KIT AVCCAM -SD card + zoom lens+charger+batteries
18/2	LENS -LUMIX 35 – 100 MM
19/2	Sony F3 KIT XDCAM Ex card-Full HD
20/2	SONY-F3 LENS KIT 1 BY 35 MM
21/2	1 BY 50 MM
22/2	1 BY 85 MM
23/2	1 BY 135 MM
33/2	5 by 64 gig pro sxs cards
	ARRI 16mm film cameras
13/3	Arri SR3 camera +KIT
14/3	1 by Extension eye piece
15/3	1 by Camera plate
16/3	1 by Follow focus
17/3	1 Matt box plus bars

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18/3	Dept of field calculator
19/3	Grey Scale chart
20/3	Blimp
21/3	Masking plates
22/3	2 by 24 v BATTERIES
23/3	1 BY PANAVISION CHARGER
24/3	ARRI 4" Matt box kit
	ARRI SR3 LENS KIT
25/3	1 by 16mm prime
26/3	1 by 20mm prime
27/3	1 by 24mm prime
28/3	1 by 32mm prime
29/3	1 by 40mm prime
30/3	1 by 50mm prime
31/3	1 by 85mm prime
32/3	Arri SR2 ADAPTED SUPER 16MM Camera + lenses
	SR2 LENS KIT 1 BY 9.5mm prime 1 BY 12 mm prime 1 BY 16 mm prime 2 BY 25 mm prime 1 BY 50 mm prime
	Light Meters
1/4	Sekonic L-78C DIGI MASTER
2/4	Sekonic L-558 DIGI MASTER
3/4	Sekonic L-558 DIGI MASTER
	Grip Equipment
4/4	C stand 1
5/4	C stand 2
6/4	C stand 3
7/4	C stand 4
8/4	C stand 5
9/4	C stand 6
10/4	C stand 7
11/4	C stand 8
12/4	C stand 9
13/4	C stand 10
14/4	C stand 11



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15/4	C stand 12
16/4	C stand 13
17/4	C stand 14
18/4	Pole cat 1
19/4	Pole cat 2
20/4	Pole cat 3
21/4	Pole cat 4
22/4	Pole cat 4
23/4	Magic Arm 1
24/4	Magic Arm 2
25/4	Magic Arm 3
26/4	Magic Arm 4
27/4	Magic Arm 5
28/4	Magic Arm 6
29/4	Magic Arm 7
30/4	Magic Arm 8
31/4	Magic Arm 9
32/4	High hat large bowl
33/4	High hat small bowl
34/4	G clamp 1
35/4	G clamp 2
36/4	Libec dolly 1
37/4	Libec Dolly 2
1/5	Elemack + assesories
2/5	Elemack tracks by 10
3/5	Car clamp kit by 1
4/5	Co Operate Jib by 1
5/5	Porta Jib by 1
6/5	Poly holders by 10
7/5	K clamp 1
8/5	K clamp 2
9/5	K clamp 3
10/5	K clamp 4
11/5	K clamp 5
12/5	K clamp 6

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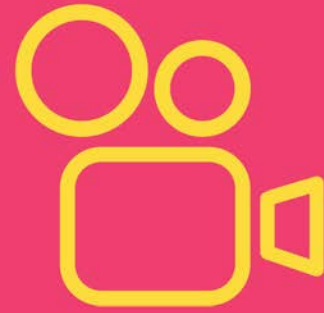
	Lights
13/5	Kino Flo 4'by 4' kit- 2 lights
14/5	Kino Flo 4'by 4' kit- 2 lights
15/5	Arri 300 watt kit- 3 lights
16/5	Arri 300 watt kit- 3 lights
17/5	Arri 150 watt kit- 3 lights
18/5	Arri 800 watt kit- 3 lights
19/5	Arri 800 watt kit- 3 lights
20/5	Arri 800 watt kit- 3 lights
21/5	Arri 800 watt kit- 3 lights
22/5	Arri 800 watt kit – 2 lights
23/5	Arri 2k blonde
24/5	Arri 2k blonde
25/5	Arri 2k blonde
	Arri 2k blonde
26/5	Mini flo kit- 2 lights
27/5	Mini flo kit- 2 lights
28/5	Mini flo kit- 2 lights
29/5	Mini flo kit- 2 lights
30/5	Spare light stands by 10
	Tripods
1/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 1
2/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 2
3/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 3
4/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 4
5/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 5
6/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 6
7/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 7
8/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 8
9/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 9
10/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 10
11/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 11
12/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 12
13/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 13
14/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 14

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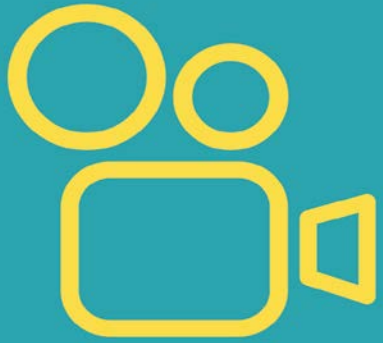
15/6	Manfrotto / pro touch 128 15
	Heads + legs
16/6	Vinten vision blue by 1
17/6	Vinten vision 12 by 1 small
18/6	F4 by 1
19/6	Large Satchler head/ quick release plate by 1
20/6	Satchler caddy by 1
	Filters
21/6	34 loose filters + 2 new purchases
	KITS
22/6	Corals by 3
23/6	Lo contrast by 5
24/6	B+W by 5
25/6	81 EF 3/9 by 5
26/7	ND grads by 5
	Flags and nets
27/6	Flags and nets by 18
28/6	Reflectors by 5
	Monitors
1/7	JVC 12"
2/7	Sony 14"
3/7	Marshall 12"
	Other items
4/7	1 by ldx battery and charger
5/7	1 by GO pro camera
6/7	Atmos Samuri
7/7	Atmos Samuri Hard drives 4 by 500 gb solid state Atmos Samuri reader by 1
8/7	Atmos Samuri Atmos Samuri Hard drives 2 by 250 gb 7200 rpm drives Atmos Samuri reader by 1
	END



**dlr First Frames**  
Short Film Scheme

# Information Session – October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019





## dlr First Frames

Short Film Scheme

### Scheme Funding

- Two commissions worth €12,000 each
- Award recipients will also be able to tap into support-in-kind next summer re. studio and equipment at the National Film School, IADT.

### Other Funding Q's

- Crowd Funding? - *No!*
- Own or family money? – *confirmation that funds are available before a formal offer.*
- Raising money through sponsorship? – *must be agreed / cleared with dlr in advance & include in credit roll – not as a main financier of the film.*
- Other bursary/prize/small finance? – *legitimate and non-competitive source re. dlr*

# Short Film Duration:

Minimum 7 minutes

Ideal 12 minutes

Maximum 15 minutes

## Stage 1 – criteria

- Creativity & quality of the script and project proposal 70/100
- Suitability of dlr locations for use in filming 30/100

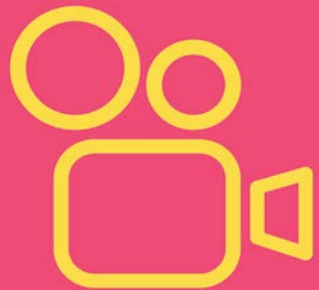
## Stage 2 - criteria

- Creativity & quality of the script and project proposal 50/100
- Suitability of dlr locations for use in filming 30/100
- Track record of team – ability to complete & deliver 20/100

# Consider DLR Locations

- Glencullen
- Killiney & Dalkey Hills
- Marlay Park
- Dún Laoghaire
- Sandycove Beach
- Glasthule
- Dún Laoghaire West Pier
- Dún Laoghaire East Pier
- Deansgrange Cemetery
- Sandycove
- Killiney Beach
- The 40 Foot
- Cabinteely Park
- Peoples Park
- Kilmashogue Forest
- Ticknock Forest
- Tibbradden wood
- Carrickgollogan
- Hellfire
- Massey's Wood
- Kilternan
- Shanganagh Park

# Application Requirements



**dlr First Frames**  
Short Film Scheme

1. Completed Application Form
2. Logline (1-2 line synopsis of the film) and short synopsis (200–300 words)
3. Completed Script
4. Director's notes (including notes on visual style)
5. Producer's notes
6. Identification of possible locations
7. Production budget, and notes on any additional funding arrangements / requirements
8. CV's of the core creative team (to include at least, Writer, Producer & Director)
9. Links to samples of previously produced work, if available
10. Any additional supporting material (add value)



# Key Dates

Closing Date: 5pm Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Interviews for shortlisted applicants: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>  
November 2019

Successful applicants notified: by first week December 2019

Delivery of completed films: end of August 2020

dlr Screening: September/October 2020

# Contact

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