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How do I apply to Arab Producers Lab?

The callout for applications is announced on the RFC's website & Facebook page. To apply, please visit the 'How to Apply' page.

Who is eligible to apply?

Arab Producers Lab is aimed at Arab Film producers only. Arabs who live outside of the region can also apply if their parents are from the Middle East, North Africa or the Gulf, given that they can provide proof of their Arab origins.

If I am not an Arab national but I reside in an Arab country, can I still apply?

Arab Producers Lab targets Arab producers, residents in Arab countries from non-Arab nationalities/origins are not eligible to apply.

I am of Arab descent, but I do not have any documents to prove so, can I still apply?

Yes, you can apply. The selection committee will particularly look into your case for which you will need to provide a supplementary letter for their review explaining your situation and why you lack such documents as well as the reasons behind your interest in joining the Lab.

What's the language of the Lab?

As this is a very international group, the language used is English, but you don't have to be fluent in English to participate. We do provide interpreters when needed.

Can I submit the Lab's requirements in Arabic?

No, the lab accepts only submissions in English, in addition to having English subtitles for all submitted previous work samples.

This is because members of the selection committee and the Lab's experts do not all speak Arabic, as the Lab always aims to collaborate with readers and advisors not only from the Arab region, but also from all around the world, in order to ensure that submitted projects are being reviewed from different perspectives, and fellows are

receiving diverse feedback.

I haven't produced a feature film before, can I still apply?

Yes, as previous work is a requirement for applying, however, it does not necessarily have to be a feature-length project, it can be any film project you have worked on before (short, feature, or documentary).

Can I still apply if I don't have any previous work?

No. As the lab targets intermediate and advanced-level producers, previous works is a requirement for applying, but it does not necessarily have to be a feature-length project, it can be any film project you had worked on before (short, feature or documentary).

Are there any restrictions in terms of the characters or point of views or opinions?

No, the Lab aims to strengthen Arab voices, and this cannot be achieved without securing a safe space for free expression.

Do you accept genre and hybrid formats?

While the Lab is for feature narratives, we do accept hybrid formats (Fiction with documentary elements) and stories of all genres, including animation.

Does my film have to take place within an Arab community?

While there are no strict requirements regarding your film's setting or cultural context, it's important to note that the Arab Producers Lab is dedicated to supporting Arab films. We welcome stories exploring diverse themes and settings, including those outside the Arab region. However, given the Lab's focus on promoting Arab voices in storytelling, films that delve into Arab communities, cultures, and experiences are given more significant consideration during the selection process. While we encourage all Arab producers to submit their work regardless of setting, stories that resonate with and reflect the richness and diversity of Arab heritage are prioritized in the final selection.

If I miss the deadline but I have all the Lab's requirements ready, can I still apply?

If you missed the deadline by a small margin, you could still send in your application material, but you will also need to provide a letter explaining your reasons for being late and why you must join the Lab in its current round and not the next one.

How do you select projects?

An advisory committee of experts works with the Arab Producers Lab team throughout the selection process to select the participating projects that are most eligible to take part in the program based on diversity (gender, backgrounds, stories, cultures...etc.) in addition to supporting films about the region; its people and culture, which target international audiences as well as local ones.

How many producers will be selected?

Six to eight projects will be selected each year to participate in the Lab.

When will the Arab Producers Lab be held?

The 1st edition of the Arab Producers Lab will be held in September 2024.

If my project is selected, who will cover my travel and accommodation expenses?

Arab Producers Lab is one of the programs of the Royal Film Commission – Jordan (RFC), and all expenses including participants' travel and accommodation are covered by the RFC.

If I apply, how long would it take to find out if I am accepted?

The selection and evaluation process can take up to four months from the time of the submission deadline. All applicants who have successfully submitted full applications will be contacted by the Lab team with their application status once the selection committee has made its final decision.

What does the RFC expect in return?

Participants are required to acknowledge and credit the program in the following form: "The film project was developed with the assistance of the Arab Producers Lab, a project of the Royal Film Commission – Jordan". Further details on this are provided in the Lab's terms & conditions, included in the application form, which all applicants must agree to prior to submitting their projects to the Lab.

If I apply, how long would it take to find out if I am accepted?

The selection and evaluation process can take up to one month from the time of the submission deadline. All applicants who have successfully submitted full applications will be contacted by the Lab team with their application status once the selection committee has made its final decision.

What does the RFC expect in return?

Participants are required to acknowledge and credit the program in the following form: “The film project was developed with the assistance of the Arab Producers Lab, a project of the Royal Film Commission – Jordan”.