

CALLING ALL ASIAN YOUNG FILMMAKERS
BRING YOUR SHORT FILM TO LIFE!

2026
INTERNATIONAL
FILM CAMP
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

18-22 SEPTEMBER



Asian Film Awards Academy

International Film Camp (IFC)

The **Asian Film Awards Academy (AFAA)**, with the support of Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency (CCIDA), the Film Development Fund of the Hong Kong SAR Government and Sands China Limited, will organize the International Film Camp (IFC) between 18-22 September, 2026.

The IFC aims to develop the next generation of young filmmakers in the Greater Bay Area (including Hong Kong and Macau) and the Asian region. Sixteen filmmakers will be selected to attend the IFC in Macau to develop their short film projects (narrative fiction only) to production level. They will attend panel discussions, masterclasses and mentorship to equip them with the knowledge to advance their careers and future projects in the industry.

The programme will end with 16 filmmakers pitching their short film projects to a panel of industry experts which will award eight of them with production funds of HK\$300,000 (approx. US\$ 38,000) each to make their short films.

THE THEME FOR IFC 2026 is

“When Strangers Meet”



16
FILMMAKERS

5 DAYS
IN MACAU

PITCH
TO A PANEL

HK\$300,000
TO EIGHT SELECTED PROJECTS

Entry Fee
(per submission)



Early bird (on or before 18 July 2026): **Free**
Regular (between 19 July to 7 August 2026): **HK\$200**
Entry fee is non-refundable.

Deadline



All entries must be complete.
Submissions should reach us no later than
Friday, 7 August 2026, 23:59 (GMT+8)
Any submission received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Shortlisted
and Selected
Projects



Shortlisted applicants will be required to submit an extended treatment and will be invited to an online interview in the **second week of August**. The IFC will notify 16 selected participants of their acceptance into the camp by **end of August 2026**. Selected participants are required to accept **within three days** upon receipt of notification.

The IFC does not provide individual explanations on the non-selection of any project.

Prior to production, selected projects must sign the production and usage-rights agreements.

Once the disbursement has been given, the selected project cannot be withdrawn from the IFC or a full refund will be required.

Ownership of written materials and final short film produced will belong solely to the applicant.

Selected projects must include credit and/or reference to IFC and its patrons, sponsors and supporters in any subsequent publicity materials, and in credits of the completed films. AFAA will provide filmmakers with logos to be included in credits and materials where applicable.

Eligibility



Applicants must fulfil **all** of the following criteria:

- Be the director of the film
- Be of Asian nationality or origin
- Be between the age of 21 to 40
- Have prior experience as a creative principal in making films, short films and/or other video works, and demonstrate a talent and potential in film
- Have not made more than ONE feature-length film
- Have the ability to communicate in English
- Be able to attend the full duration of the IFC in-person
- Must not have participated in any previous edition of the International Film Camp

The narrative short film must meet **all** of the following criteria:

- Duration of 15-20 minutes
- Include English subtitles
- Reflect the theme of “When Strangers Meet”

Films must be completed and delivered by **31 December 2026.**

Application

All applications must be submitted in **English**. All non-English language projects can be submitted in original languages supported by English translated materials.

Applications to submit through **FilmFreeway**, along with **ONE PDF file** comprising:

- Completed **Application Form**
- Copy of passport or other identification document proving Asian origin or nationality
- Director's résumé and headshot
- Producer's résumé and headshot
- One-page treatment
- Proposed production timeline
- Estimated broad production budget, including any secured funding (if applicable)
- Demo reel (10-minute maximum in English or with English subtitles)

Provision

16 selected applicants will participate in the International Film Camp supervised by AFAA staff members and led by industry professionals.

For each participant, the AFAA will arrange and cover the costs of:

- One set of round-trip economy-class air tickets and/or standard-class ferry tickets and/or train tickets from origin location to Macau, whichever applicable (Arriving on 17th and Departing on 23rd September); and
- Accommodation in Macau for the entire camp period

Participants must be responsible for their own insurance and visa.

Submit
through





Step 1: Create or Log in to Your FilmFreeway Account

1. Go to <https://filmfreeway.com/InternationalFilmCamp>
2. Click “Log In” at the top right corner, or “Sign Up” to create a free account

Step 2: Add Your Project

1. Once logged in, click “My Projects” on the top.
2. Click “Add a Project”
3. Choose **“Script”** as the project type.
4. Fill in the form fields
5. Click “Save Project”

Step 3: Attach Required Documents

1. On your project page, under “View Project” or “Project File” tab you will see a **“File & Attachments”** section on the right.
2. Upload the required documents in ONE PDF file

Step 4: Submit to International Film Camp

1. Return to the [IFC submission page](#)
2. Click “Submit Now”
3. Select the project you just created
4. Select the Category “Short Film”
5. You will be asked two questions. Make sure you have completed the required actions before you select “Yes” and proceed
6. Click “Add to Cart & Checkout” and proceed with payment

Step 5: Confirmation

- You will receive a confirmation email from FilmFreeway once your submission is received
- You can also check your submission status under “Submissions” in your account

Definitions



A **treatment** is a one page outline describing the general story and style of the film.

An **estimated broad production budget** outlines the anticipated total cost of producing a project from development through to completion. It should include projected expenses across all key departments—such as cast fees, equipment rental, art direction, location costs, and post-production. This estimate should reflect the realistic cost of making the project, based on industry standards and needs. It should also outline funding sources of the project. In particular, if the project budget exceeds the IFC grant of HKD 300,000, applicants should specify source and amounts of confirmed funding and how much additional funding is required.

Production Funding Terms & Conditions



The production fund will be disbursed in **two parts**
1st instalment HK\$225,000 (75% of total)

- Upon submission and approval of most updated full script, budget and production schedule

2nd instalment HK\$75,000 (25% of total)

- Upon submission of completed film with subtitles (ProRes 422 HQ and H.264)

The production fund will be disbursed in either US Dollars or Hong Kong Dollars. Selected projects must provide a bank account capable of receiving funds in one of these currencies.

Important Notes



- All submitted materials must comply with the official regulations and guidelines
- Each application is for one short narrative film project only
- A separate application fee must be paid for each submission
- Applicants not selected in a previous IFC edition can reapply if they still meet all eligibility criteria
- Incomplete, late, or unpaid submissions will not be processed
- If the project has participated in any other short film funds or programmes, please provide details in the application form. Projects that have not been submitted or selected by other funds or programmes in the current year will be given priority consideration
- Applicants may consider their applications unsuccessful if they are not notified by the end of August 2026
- Before the online interviews take place, shortlisted candidates will be required to submit a three-page extended treatment
- All materials and information provided will be kept strictly confidential and used solely for internal assessment by the AFAA, IFC committee and its designated personnel
- All submitted materials will not be returned
- AFAA and IFC reserve the right of final decision

For further enquiries, please write to ifc@afa-academy.com.

TREATMENT OF PERSONAL DATA

According to paragraph 2.3.3 of the Code of Practice on the Identity Card Number and Other Personal Identifiers issued by the Personal Data Privacy Commissioner Hong Kong (“The Code”), the AFAA may collect the ID document number of the Applicant to verify the identity of the Applicant and/or to identify applications related to the Applicant.

Personal data contained in the application documents are used by the AFAA to facilitate the processing and assessment of applications. Failure to provide such data may affect the assessment and result of the application.

If there is any amendment to the personal data on the application documents, the Applicant must inform the AFAA in writing to ensure that the personal data held by the AFAA is correct at all times. To help further promote and develop Asian cinema, the AFAA may publish information concerning successful applications in its official publications, website, newsletter and other publicity materials; the AFAA may also use such information for its own research or policy development purposes.

To facilitate the process of assessment, the applicant must allow the AFAA to reveal personal data contained in application/duplicate audio/video recordings of past performances/activities submitted by the applicant to persons/organizations authorized by the AFAA.

Selected applicants will be assessed by persons or organizations assigned by the AFAA.

The AFAA reserves the right to subcontract processing of any personal data to a data processor consistent with the applicable provisions of the Personal Data Privacy Ordinance.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY



The AFAA reserves the right, in its absolute discretion, not to accept any application submitted. The AFAA also reserves the right to amend and/or to supplement and/or to cancel the current invitation for applications and/or the details of the IFC as set out in the Application Guidelines at any time without prior notice. The AFAA will not indemnify any losses or expenses that may be incurred by the Applicant in such situations or in responding to the invitation for application.

Each Applicant acknowledges that they travel at his/her own risk and is advised to arrange his/her own insurance and visa.

The AFAA will not be held liable for any criminal offences or litigations that the Applicant commits or is involved in during the IFC, approved variation of individual dates, or during the production of their project.

The views, opinions, and content of the Applicant's work are solely those of the Applicant and do not reflect or represent the views, positions, or policies of the AFAA, IFC, or their affiliates.

The AFAA reserve the right to cancel any part of the programme due to any unforeseeable circumstances. The AFAA shall not be held liable for any loss or damage incurred by any Applicant for as a result of such cancellation, including cancellation of any part of the stay in Macau.

Under no circumstances will the AFAA be responsible for any damage or loss of the demo reel submitted by the Applicant.

Contact Us



Asian Film Awards Academy

+852 3195-0602

Phone



ifc@afa-academy.com

Email



www.afa-academy.com

Website

