



CANADA
MEDIA FUND

FONDS DES MÉDIAS
DU CANADA

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY COMMUNITIES PRODUCTION FUNDING GUIDELINES 2024-2025

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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Section 1 of the [Linear Content - Core Production Guidelines](#) shall apply to the Official Language Minority Communities (OLMC) Production Funding Guidelines, unless otherwise specified.

2. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY COMMUNITY PRODUCTION FUNDING - OVERVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

In addition to the requirements set out in these Guidelines, Applicants must comply with (i) the rules and requirements of the [Linear Content – Core Production Guidelines](#) and (ii) the applicable policies and definitions in [Appendix A](#) and [Appendix B](#).

The Canada Media Fund's (CMF) mandate includes encouraging production funding to Projects across all of Canada by both majority and minority official-language sectors. The CMF recognizes the unique circumstances of producers in these distinct communities and supports their growth.

The Official Language Minority Community Production Funding (“**OLMC Production Program**” or the “**Program**”), which forms part of the CMF's Linear Programs, ensures that Canadians have access to French-language content reflecting Francophone culture outside the province of Quebec under the Francophone Minority Program (**FMP**) and English-language content reflecting Anglophone culture in the province of Quebec under the Anglophone Minority Incentive (**AMI**).

While the respective budgets, applicable rules and deadlines will remain distinct, beginning in 2024-2025, the CMF will consolidate the AMI and the FMP (the AMI and FMP, collectively, “**Official Language Minority Communities (OLMC) Production Funding**”) into this one set of Guidelines.

Beginning in 2024-2025:

- Eligible Canadian Distributors may contribute to the Eligible Triggering Commitment Threshold amount needed to trigger support in OLMC Funding (see section 3.2.4 of the [Linear Content – Core Production Guidelines](#)).
- No more than 35% of funds in each OLMC Production Program will be allocated to feature films in the Drama programming genre.

2.2 DEFINITIONS

Please see [Appendix A](#) for definitions on the following terms found in these OLMC Production Funding Guidelines:

- Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming
- Canadian Broadcaster
- Eligible Canadian Distributor
- In-house Programming
- Related Party

3. OLMC PRODUCTION FUNDING - ELIGIBILITY

3.1 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

An Eligible Applicant to this Program must meet:

- The Eligible Applicant criteria in section 3.1 of the [Linear Content – Core Production Guidelines](#);
 - Any applicable specific eligibility criteria noted in this section; and
 - Any applicable further requirements/qualifications noted in Addendums A and B below.
- a. An Eligible Applicant to the **Anglophone Minority Incentive** must meet the following criteria:
- Must operate and have its head office in the province of Quebec for at least three (3) years prior to the date the CMF funding application is submitted (unless the company is an emerging one).
 - Must initiate and meaningfully participate in the Eligible Project's development and must exercise control of the creative, artistic, technical and financial aspects of the Project.
 - Must own and control the copyright, the distribution rights to the Project and retain an ongoing financial interest in the Project.

Where the control and central decision makers in the Eligible Project are located outside of the province of Quebec, the Project is not considered to be an Anglophone Minority Project.

In addition, an Eligible Applicant to AMI that meets the below additional requirement (“Additional Requirement Applicant”) will be able to qualify for the designated funding allocations and separate Contribution Amounts (noted in Addendum B below):

- Must use English as the original language of production for the majority of its development and production slate¹.

- b. An Eligible Applicant to the **Francophone Minority Program** must meet the following criteria:
- Must operate and have its head office outside the province of Quebec for at least three (3) years (unless the company is an emerging one) and with all its shareholders residing outside the province of Quebec for at least three (3) years prior to the date the CMF funding application is submitted.
 - Must use French as the original language of production for the majority of its development and production slate.
 - Must initiate and meaningfully participate in the Eligible Project's development and must exercise control of the creative, artistic, technical and financial aspects of the Project.
 - Must own and control the copyright, the distribution rights to the Project and retain an ongoing financial interest in the Project.

Where the control and central decision makers in the Eligible Project are located inside the province of Quebec, the Project is not considered to be a Francophone Minority Project.

¹ Majority” shall be interpreted to mean the Applicant's development and production projects that received CMF funding must be **mainly** and **predominantly** in the English language. The CMF will look at the following fiscal years to evaluate: 2020-2021 to 2023-2024 (inclusively), with exceptions made for emerging companies without a sufficient track record.

In the case of a coproduction with a company that is not eligible for OLMC Production Funding (either AMI or FMP), the Eligible Applicant exercises control of the creative, artistic, technical and financial aspects of the Project in proportion to its copyright ownership, which is at least 51%, shares equitably in fees payable to producers and corporate overhead, and the markets and potential revenues are shared equitably in proportion to the financial participation of each coproducer.

3.2 ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

An Eligible Project to this Program must meet:

- The Eligible Project criteria in section 3.2 of the [Linear Content – Core Production Guidelines](#);
- Any applicable specific eligibility criteria noted in this section; and
- Any applicable further requirements/qualifications noted in Addendums A and B below.

3.2.1 Eligible Triggering Commitment Threshold

An Eligible Triggering Commitment Threshold (“**Threshold**”) is the minimum amount of Eligible Licence Fees (and, if applicable, Eligible Market Contributions) that an Eligible Project must receive from one or more Canadian Broadcasters (and, if applicable, Eligible Canadian Distributors) to be eligible for CMF funding.

Eligible Projects for OLMC Production Funding must meet the respective Program Thresholds for Projects noted in Addendum A below.

3.2.2 Maximum Terms

Eligible Projects in this Program will be assessed by the CMF to determine the maximum allowable period of all broadcast windows granted in consideration for Eligible Licence Fees (“**Maximum Term**”) in production. The Maximum Term for an Eligible Project, in the aggregate and including both exclusive and non-exclusive terms is:

- Children and Youth, Documentary, and Variety and Performing Arts: 6 years
- English-language Drama: 7 years
- French-language Drama: 5 years

3.2.3 Miscellaneous Requirements

- a) Projects that received CMF funding in previous fiscal years are not eligible for the 2024-2025 OLMC Funding².
- b) All other sources of financing must be confirmed at the time of Application. Projects that have already applied for other CMF funding may be required to adjust their financing and/or budget if support from a Program offered in OLMC Production Funding would result in a project being over-financed (more than 100% of Eligible Costs).

²Suitable exceptions may be made for 2024-2025 episodes for split-cycle Projects funded through AMI that were produced and funded over two CMF fiscal years.

4. OLMC PRODUCTION FUNDING – CMF CONTRIBUTION

A CMF Contribution to an Eligible Project will follow:

- the criteria in section 4 of the [Linear Content – Core Production Guidelines](#);
- any applicable specific criteria noted in this section; and
- any applicable further requirements/qualifications noted in Addendums A and B below.

4.1 NATURE OF CONTRIBUTION

The nature of contribution for both AMI and FMP are noted in Addendum B below.

For FMP, Applicants should note that if an Eligible Project accesses funds between multiple CMF Programs, or is co-produced with an ineligible Applicant, the Licence Fee Top-Up / Equity Investment split allocation will be applied to the Eligible Project's entire budget according to the same Maximum Contribution percentages noted in Addendum B .

4.2 AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION

The Maximum Contribution shall be the lesser of a percentage of an Eligible Project's Eligible Costs (as defined in section 4.2.1 of the [Linear Content – Core Production Guidelines](#)) or the dollar amount listed for the respective Program in Addendum B below.

In the AMI, Eligible Applicants that meet the Additional Requirement Applicant definition will have distinct Maximum Contribution amounts.

4.3 COMBINING OLMC PRODUCTION FUNDS WITH OTHER CMF PROGRAMS

Applicants should note that funding offered through the Program may be affected by funds offered through other CMF Programs:

- OLMC Production Funding may be combined with funding from other CMF Programs in accordance with Addendum B below. In such cases, it will be awarded separately and in addition to any amounts contributed to the Project through other CMF Programs, and without regard to Maximum Contribution amounts applicable to those Programs. The total combined CMF contribution from all Programs cannot exceed 84% of Eligible Costs.
- Additionally, Canadian Broadcasters may combine funds from their Broadcaster Envelope Program - English and French allocations with funding from OLMC Production Funding in the same fiscal year. The Threshold amount for each Program will then apply to the total Eligible Costs. Projects may receive amounts up to the Maximum Contribution specified for this Program; any additional funds will be taken from the Canadian Broadcaster's Envelope. The total CMF contribution from all Programs is limited to 84% of Eligible Costs.
 - For clarity, when combining OLMC Production Funding with Broadcaster Envelope Program – English and French financing, if an Eligible Canadian Distributor is contributing to the Project's Threshold, the larger share of the Threshold must come from a Canadian Broadcaster contributing an Eligible Licence Fee.

5. OLMC PRODUCTION FUNDING – DECISION PROCESS

Eligible Projects will be awarded funding on a first-come, first-served (FCFS) basis until resources for the applicable Program are depleted or until the Program’s Final Closing Date, whichever comes first. In the event that a large number of Projects are submitted on the same date, creating oversubscription, the CMF may distribute funding to those Projects deemed eligible on a proportional (pro-rated) basis, designate how many submitted Projects (per Applicant) will receive funding, or elect to distribute funding in some other equitable manner, including using the Project Assessment 5.1 for FMP, for the respective Program, to be determined in the CMF’s sole discretion.

For FCFS Programs, the CMF reserves the right to limit how many Projects are awarded funding to a single Applicant in a given funding application round.

5.1 PROJECT ASSESSMENT – FRANCOPHONE MINORITY PROGRAM

While funding in this Program will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, in the event of oversubscription, the CMF reserves the right to use the Evaluation Grid below to evaluate projects in the same genre against one another to make its funding decisions.

Evaluation Grid

Assessment Criteria	Overall Points	Points details	Notes
Market Interest	25	Market commitment (15) Audience potential (10)	<p>Market commitment is reflected by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The level of financial contributions by broadcasters/distribution platforms/other financiers (including licence fees paid by broadcasters³, market contributions paid by distributors⁴ and/or other financiers of the Project). Market commitments can include theatrical distribution, educational distribution, successful crowdfunding campaigns, etc. Financial contributions from more than one source. An Allocation of 10% or more from the French envelope allocation of a Canadian Broadcaster(s). <p>Audience potential is reflected by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed presence of marquee elements such as well-known actors/narrators/hosts/composers, significant social media following or recognizable underlying intellectual property.
Creative Elements	75	Originality, creativity and discoverability (40) Innovation in form and production values (35)	Creative elements include the subject matter, scripts, themes, issues, narrative, and digital discoverability activities which are assessed on originality and creativity. The appropriateness of the production budget size to the creative material will be considered.

³ Please note, the maximum points a Project can receive from broadcaster licence fees in this section will be limited to the highest licence fees paid by a broadcaster to a Project produced by an independent production company that is not In-house or Broadcaster-Affiliated with the broadcaster.

⁴ Please note, the maximum points a Project can receive from distributor financial contributions in this section will be limited to the highest financial contribution paid by a distributor to a Project produced by an independent production company that is not a Related Party to the distributor.

ADDENDUM A
ELIGIBLE TRIGGERING
COMMITMENT THRESHOLDS
2024-2025

DRAMA PROGRAMMING

LANGUAGE	PROJECT		
	TYPE	ELIGIBLE COSTS	THRESHOLD
ENGLISH	All Eligible Projects	Less than \$800,000 per hour	45% of Eligible Costs or \$315,000 per hour, whichever is less
	Series or one-offs	\$800,000 per hour or more	\$315,000 per hour
	Movies of the Week (MOW) and Mini-series	\$800,000 per hour to \$1,857,143 per hour	\$235,000 per hour
		More than \$1,857,143 per hour	12.5% of Eligible Costs
	Half-hour pilots	More than \$700,000 per half-hour	\$205,000 per half-hour
	1-hour pilots	More than \$1.75 million per hour	\$525,000 per hour
	Theatrically-released ⁵ Feature Films	All	5% of Eligible Costs or \$230,000 per project, whichever is less
FRENCH	All Eligible Projects (excl. MOWs)	Less than \$250,000 per hour	50% of Eligible Costs
	All Eligible Projects (excl. MOWs)	\$250,000 per hour or more but less than \$800,000 per hour	23% of Eligible Costs
	All Eligible Projects (excl. MOWs)	\$800,000 per hour or more	20% of Eligible Costs or \$195K per hour, whichever is less
	Movies of the Week (MOW)	All	\$150,000 per project

VARIETY AND PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMMING

LANGUAGE	PROJECT		
	TYPE	ELIGIBLE COSTS	THRESHOLD
ENGLISH	Variety and Performing Arts	Less than \$750,000 per hour	40% of Eligible Costs or \$240,000 per hour, whichever is less
		\$750,000 or more per hour	\$240,000 per hour
FRENCH	Variety	Less than \$750,000 per hour	50% of Eligible Costs
		\$750,000 or more per hour	25% of Eligible Costs
	Performing Arts	All	20% of Eligible Costs

⁵To be eligible for this Threshold, Applicants are required to provide a distribution agreement from a distributor that meets the CMF's definition of an Eligible Canadian Distributor for the Canadian theatrical release of their Project as part of their application.

DOCUMENTARY PROGRAMMING

LANGUAGE	PROJECT		
	TYPE	ELIGIBLE COSTS	THRESHOLD
ENGLISH	One-offs and mini-series (excluding feature length documentaries)	Less than \$400,000 per hour	30% of Eligible Costs or \$100,000 per hour, whichever is less
	Series	Less than \$400,000 per hour	40% of Eligible Costs or \$100,000 per hour, whichever is less
	All Eligible Projects (excl. feature-length documentaries)	\$400,000 and above	\$100,000 per hour
	Feature-length documentary	All	10% of Eligible Costs
FRENCH	All Eligible Projects (excl. feature-length documentaries)	Less than \$100,000 per hour	35% of Eligible Costs
	All Eligible Projects (excl. feature-length documentaries)	\$100,000 per hour to \$400,000 per hour	20% of Eligible Costs
	All Eligible Projects (excl. feature-length documentaries)	More than \$400,000 per hour	15% of Eligible Costs or \$60K per hour, whichever is less
	Feature-length documentary	All	10% of Eligible Costs or \$60K per project, whichever is less

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING

LANGUAGE	PROJECT		
	TYPE	ELIGIBLE COSTS	THRESHOLD
ENGLISH	All Eligible Projects (excl. theatrically-released animated feature films)	Less than \$750,000 per hour	25% of Eligible Costs or \$160,000 per hour, whichever is less
	All Eligible Projects (excl. theatrically-released animated feature films)	\$750,000 or more per hour	\$160,000 per hour
	Theatrically-released ⁶ Animated Feature Films	All	5% of Eligible Costs or \$230,000 per project, whichever is less
FRENCH	Live-action Eligible Projects	less than \$750,000 per hour	35% of Eligible Costs
	Live-action Eligible Projects	\$750,000 or more per hour	15% of Eligible Costs
	Animation	All	10% of Eligible Costs
	Theatrically-released ⁷ Animated Feature Films	All	5% of Eligible Costs or \$150,000 per project, whichever is less

⁶To be eligible for this Threshold, Applicants are required to provide a distribution agreement from a distributor that meets the CMF's definition of an Eligible Canadian Distributor for the Canadian theatrical release of their Project as part of their application.

⁷To be eligible for this Threshold, Applicants are required to provide a distribution agreement from a distributor that meets the CMF's definition of an Eligible Canadian Distributor for the Canadian theatrical release of their Project as part of their application.



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ADDENDUM B

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM

REQUIREMENTS

2024-2025

PROGRAM	ORIGINAL LANGUAGE OF PRODUCTION	APPLICABLE PROVINCE	NATURE AND AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION	ELIGIBLE APPLICANT	OTHER
Anglophone Minority Incentive (AMI)	English	The Province of Quebec	<p>The AMI contribution will take the form of a Licence Fee Top-Up.</p> <p>In the case of an eligible coproduction (i.e., a Canadian interprovincial coproduction or an audiovisual treaty coproduction), the amount of the CMF's contribution will be calculated on the portion of the Eligible Project's Eligible Costs associated with the province of Quebec.</p> <p>The Maximum Contribution for Additional Requirement Applicants shall be the lesser of 25% of Eligible Costs or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feature films (Live-action, Drama): \$600,000 • All other Projects: \$900,000 <p>The Maximum Contribution for all other AMI Applicants shall be the lesser of 15% of Eligible Costs or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feature films (Live-action, Drama): \$600,000 • All other Projects: \$900,000 	See section 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation for the First Closing Date: Up to 75% of the AMI budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ***A minimum of 37.5% of the AMI budget (or 50% of the First Closing Date Allocation) shall be reserved for Additional Requirement Applicants.*** • Allocation for Final Closing Date: 25% or more of the AMI budget (remaining funds). • While a licence fee from a French-language Canadian Broadcaster may be considered an Eligible Licence Fee for the purposes of meeting the Eligible Project's Licence Fee Threshold, a licence fee from an eligible English-language Canadian Broadcaster (for the Eligible Project's English-language Canadian rights) must represent the larger share of that Eligible Licence Fee. • The overwhelming majority of principal photography occurs in the province of Quebec, with suitable exceptions for Documentaries

PROGRAM	ORIGINAL LANGUAGE OF PRODUCTION	APPLICABLE PROVINCE	NATURE AND AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION	ELIGIBLE APPLICANT	OTHER
Francophone Minority Program (FMP)	French	All Provinces except the Province of Québec	<p>The first CMF contribution to the Eligible Project will be in the form of a Licence Fee Top-Up, to a maximum of 25% of the Project's Eligible Costs.</p> <p>CMF contribution amounts in excess of this 25% maximum will be in the form of an Equity Investment, up to the maximum amounts set out below.</p> <p>Lesser of 49% of the Eligible Project's Eligible Costs or the following amounts (depending on the applicable genre):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drama: \$1,400,000 • Animation: \$750,000 • Other Eligible Genres \$550,000 <p>Starting in 2024-2025: in the case of a coproduction with a company not eligible to the FMP, the amount of the CMF contribution awarded to the project will be reduced proportionally to the % of copyright held by the Applicant that is eligible to the Program.</p> <p>For clarity, a coproduction with an ineligible Applicant could not access the maximum contributions detailed above, but only up to the percentage of copyright owned by Eligible Applicant.</p>	<p>See section 3.1</p> <p>For In-house Programming and Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming: A maximum of 10% of funds in the FMP will be allocated to Broadcaster-Affiliated Programming and In-house Programming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation for the First Closing Date: Up to 70% of the FMP budget. • Allocation for Final Closing Date: 30% or more of the FMP budget (remaining funds) <p>Either the screenwriter, or the director, of an Eligible Project must reside outside Quebec. ⁸</p> <p>Must receive a minimum of 7% from a Broadcaster Envelope French Allocation attached to the Eligible Project</p> <p>The project concept, treatment, research report and outline must be written and submitted in French.</p>

⁸Case-by-case exceptions may be made for a Quebec resident to co-direct or co-write the project with an emerging non-Quebec writer or director if the Quebec resident's contribution will demonstrably foster development of Francophone talent outside Quebec.