

NIFCO First Time Filmmaker Program 2026

Program Information & Application Form

NIFCO's First Time Filmmaker Program is designed to give access to production equipment, volunteer crew and mentorship to first time filmmakers. The goal is to produce a short film with as minimal a cost to the filmmaker as possible. Films can be narrative, short documentary (must be able to shoot in one day) or experimental.

As well, filmmakers are granted in-kind use of **NIFCO's** production equipment, which includes the following:

- Camera
- Camera Support
- Grip/Electric Kit
- Lighting Kits
- Sound Kit (including recorder, mixer, slate, mics, etc.)

Finally, filmmakers are granted in-kind use of **NIFCO's** post-production facilities to picture edit their projects. Other **NIFCO** facilities (Pro Tools suite, sound studio, etc.) are also available, pending separate approval by **NIFCO**. An experienced Filmmaker Mentor is also provided to help you prep, shoot and complete post-production on your film. You will also be provided with additional mentors for post, camera and sound.

Application packages should include:

- a completed application form
- a completed script or treatment of your film - **ideal length is 3-5 pages**
- an updated resume or CV

NIFCO's Board of Directors will review applications at Board Meetings. Filmmakers are asked to produce their films no later than six months from date of approval. If the film hasn't been shot in that time, filmmakers may be asked to reapply.

You will be expected to screen your film at **NIFCO** and provide us with a copy of the finished film for the purpose of reporting to funding agencies.

If you are a novice to film production, you are encouraged to take the **NIFCO** introductory filmmaking course. This will provide you with a solid understanding of the filmmaking process and will help you greatly when it comes to making your first film.

Feel free to contact Program Director Anna Petras if you have any questions!

C: (709)691-0087

picturestart@nifco.org

See next page for Application Form

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Working Title of Project:

*****PLEASE ATTACH YOUR SCRIPT TO YOUR SUBMISSION*****

Brief Description of proposed film: (Do not write 'see attached script,' a brief synopsis is needed) – 50 words MAX

Have you done the **NIFCO** introductory filmmaking course?

Have you studied filmmaking elsewhere or worked in the film industry? If so, please describe briefly:

Will other people be helping you with the project, in any particular production-related capacity? If so please list:

Applicant Signature:

Date: