

Grant Programme for Japanese Film Screening Projects in the UK 2021-2022 Guidelines and Instructions

1. Purpose of this programme

In order to encourage an understanding of Japan, and increase general public interest towards Japan through quality yet relatively lesser-known Japanese films, to be screened outside Japan, the Grant Programme for Japanese Film Screening Projects in the UK is designed to give financial support to those UK organisations which are planning to organise film festivals or film screenings that will take place and be completed in the UK **between April 2021 and March 2022** (*i), and which will give **prominence to Japanese films**. (*ii)

**i As the Japan Foundation runs this programme on a financial year basis and needs to close the annual account by the end of March 2022, it is best advised that the project should be finished by mid-March 2022 in order for us to be able to release our grant in a timely manner. Please consult us before submitting your application should your project be likely to take place in March 2022.*

**ii The definition of Japanese films here is either works created by Japanese directors, or otherwise those that involve Japanese staff/cast, and films of which the dialogue is primarily Japanese.*

Due to the circumstances surrounding Covid-19, the Japan Foundation will accept Japan related screenings taking place online or screening projects which combine physical screenings and online screenings for this financial year. For further information and Terms & Conditions regarding the online element, please see end of this document.

2. Who can apply to the programme and what are the eligibility requirements?

Film festivals or not for profit programmes in the UK run by UK organisations that wish to screen a substantial number of Japanese films for non-profit purposes. Foreign governments and international organisations to which the Japanese government makes financial contributions are not eligible for this grant programme.

The following projects are NOT eligible:

- Individuals who do not have an organisation/company bank account
- Film clubs where regular film screenings take place throughout the year as part of their activities or only members are admitted
- Screenings at schools or universities for educational purposes
- Film screenings that promote a specific political or religious agenda
- Film screenings which have been completed or have already commenced
- Film screenings of which the main purpose is other than introducing Japanese cinema (for example, charity or fund raising events where Japanese film screenings take place as means toward a different aim).
- Film screenings which only contain films directed and produced by the applicants (or promotional screening events for the applicants' productions)

Although applications from the following will still be accepted, please note that those organisations which received our grant three times in the past three consecutive years through the same programme are not qualified to receive our grant this time, unless the Japan Foundation believes there is a compelling reason for them to continue receiving such support. This rule does not apply to applicants who have received our grants for three years running in the past, but did not receive it last year.

3. How much can the grant be?

The amount allocated will depend on the size of the Japanese film screenings and impact that they can make upon the wider public. The maximum grant will be no more than £1,500 per project and the amount will not exceed 50% of the total project budget. Higher priority may be given to projects with a higher

proportion of Japanese films included and those screening projects which take place outside London, where Japanese films are rarely available, or tour multiple cities. Additionally, screening Japanese films which have been rarely screened in the UK will be preferred.

4. How can the grant be used?

This grant can be used to cover costs related to Japanese film screening(s) that fall under the following categories:

- a) Film shipping costs: the cost of transport (domestic or international, return or one-way) of the Japanese film materials, including customs fees in the UK, to the project venues within UK (excluding insurance costs).
- b) Travel expenses: for Japanese directors and/or Japanese critics relevant to the festivals and screening projects, invited by the applicant

NB: We cannot support any project which involves invited guest travel that goes against the travel advice and regulations set out by the Japanese government. If your project involves guest travel, please be advised that we will review our decision 2 months before the commencement of your project, taking into account the most up to date travel advice issued by the Japanese government, and subsequently we might withdraw our funding depending on the guidelines in place at the time.

- c) Screening fees: All/part of the screening fees (licence fees paid to distributors) for the Japanese films
- d) Production costs for subtitling: if a Japanese film is considered to be in great demand in the future but it is not accompanied by subtitles, our grant can be used to cover the costs of the translation of the script and printing the subtitles onto the film.
- e) Catalogue costs: All/part of the production costs of the festival catalogue but not marketing materials such as flyers etc.

Please note: venue and equipment hire are not eligible.

5. When can we receive our grant?

The grant is paid by cheque retrospectively to the applying organisation's bank account in the UK, only upon project completion and upon receipt by the Japan Foundation of a Final Report, along with payment proof of the cost items which the Japan Foundation has agreed to cover with our grant. (*iii)

**iii The proof of payment should be objective such as receipts, a copy of grantee's bank statement, showing the payment was made, or remittance advice from the grantee's trading bank. Invoices only are not sufficient as proof of payment. For the proof of airfare, a copy of the E-ticket may be required.*

6. When and how to apply?

There is no specific deadline. Please however complete the application form available from the Japan Foundation London and return it to us by post at least two months before the start of your project, in order for us to assess your application in good time. Your application must contain the information which is as accurate as possible to the final plan for your project. We will try to give you our answer within 6 weeks of receiving your application, although please note that it may take longer to get back to you.

7. Other remarks

The grant amount awarded may be decreased if the size of the project, relevant to the Japanese film screening, has been reduced. There are no conditions in which the grant amount awarded will be increased.

Our support should be properly credited in your project regardless of the grant amount.

The Japan Foundation cannot be responsible for securing prints the applicants wish to screen nor obtaining screening permissions from the relevant distributors on their behalf.

The Japan Foundation retains the right to refuse our support if, upon completion, the final project is found to differ from the contents of the application and/or the screenings we gave support for are identified as illegally conducted, including any activities which might be held in breach of the Covid-19 regulations set out by the British government.

The Japan Foundation may keep applicants' contact details for the purpose of notifying them of our future activities and will be obliged, under Japanese law, to disclose the contents of the application, if publicly demanded.

Grant Programme for Japanese Film Screening Projects in the UK (for those projects which contain online elements)

Due to the circumstances surrounding Covid-19 and the potential continuation of social distancing, the Japan Foundation London will accept applications from UK organisations which aim to screen Japan related films as part of their online programmes.

Most of the eligibility requirements and Terms & Conditions for online screenings under the grant programme remain the same as for the standard physical screenings (see above) with the following exceptions:

1. For online screenings of Japanese films, the grant can be used to cover costs that fall under the following categories:
 - a) Screening fees: All/part of the screening fees (licence fees paid to distributors) for the Japanese films
 - b) Production costs for subtitling: if a Japanese film is considered to be in great demand in the future but it is not accompanied by subtitles, our grant can be used to cover the costs of the translation of the script and printing the subtitles onto the film.
 - c) Catalogue costs: All/part of the production costs of the festival catalogue but not marketing materials such as flyers etc.
2. The Japan Foundation London will not cover any online platform subscription fees or any technical costs, including the costs of converting physical screening materials into a streaming compatible format.
3. The Japan Foundation London will not be held responsible for any technical problems or violations resulting from the use of online platforms, including piracy of content in any form. If the platform the applicant intends to use for their project is deemed to not be sufficiently secure and potentially risk any security breaches, then we may not be able to support the project or may be forced to withdraw our funding.
4. The applicant is solely responsible for abiding by the UK laws applicable to hosting online screenings and must strictly observe all and any rights related to their project. Again, if a breach of law is identified, we may withdraw our funding.

For further information and an application form, please contact:

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