

Rebate Program for Film, Commercials, and Music Video Production in Okinawa 2016

Film in Okinawa

~Production Center of the Tropics ~

50% Rebate on Film Production Expenses*

* Some restrictions apply.

Okinawa can offer...

- World class beaches
- Historic and **Contemporary Asian backdrops**, urban cityscapes, and an accommodating local population
- Highly skilled local production staff and capabilities

1. Purpose

This program aims to attract shooting in Okinawa from both domestic and international areas. The works are mainly commercial movies, TV programs, web contents, music videos and animations. The purposes of this program are to show Okinawa's history, culture and nature through the subsidized works and to publicize Okinawa's tourism.

2. Target entities

1. Eligible applicants to the subsidy program are Japanese entities (if a foreign entity applies, it needs to find a Japanese counterpart for co-production as a representative for application). Administrative communication related to the subsidy program should be smoothly carried out in Japanese.

*The application must be done through a Japanese entity (a co-production entity).

2. Target entities for this application should utilize the support business entities registered in Okinawa Film Office and the entities registered in Location Fixers Guild of Okinawa (FGO) for shooting as much as possible. They must hire (a) location coordinator(s) from Okinawa as a general rule.

*The entities which receive other subsidies from Okinawa Prefectural Government in the same business cannot apply to this subsidy program.

3. Requirements for target content

The target content for the subsidy program should meet the following requirements.

1. The content has been already scheduled to be screened, broadcasted or sold in Japan and/or overseas.
2. It is better that the content is in line with a distribution or broadcasting plan in the countries or the regions* which Okinawa Prefectural Government strategically chooses.
*China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea, and ASEAN countries.
3. The content shot in Okinawa should include the scene(s) that can be explicitly recognized as Okinawa's (mainly outside), and the end roll and printed material must include the credits of Okinawa Prefectural Government, OCVB (Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau) and Okinawa Film Office.
4. The content (e.g. filming locations, each scene, videos, etc.) should be effective for the promotion of OCVB and Okinawa Prefectural Government and be effective to evoke traveling to Okinawa after the completion of a work.
5. Okinawa prefectural Government, OCVB and Okinawa Film Office may use the offered content for printing materials and websites for the promotion of tourism, without confirming the licensing of copyrights of the content with the entities selected for the subsidy program.
6. In principle, the content is supposed to be widely released within one year after the completion, or two years after the completion if there is a special reason.

The amount of subsidies and eligible costs

The maximum amount of subsidies shall be within 50% of the total production costs per work and also within 30 million yen as a general rule. The eligible costs are limited to the production costs of location scouting and actual filming fees in Okinawa, or the costs used in the actual filming. The details of the eligible costs are as follows.

*Eligible costs: travel expenses from/to Okinawa (a round trip), accommodation fees in Okinawa, transportation fees in Okinawa, vehicle expenses in Okinawa, labor costs in Okinawa, equipment rental costs in Okinawa, etc.

*Costs ineligible for subsidies: food expenses, extra charges to travel expenses and accommodation fees (first class tickets, etc.), promotion costs, and advertising expenses; equipment, art works and consumables which belong to the companies or individuals after purchase; and labor costs of the applicants and producers, etc.

Examination and selection of the entities eligible for subsidies

OCVB selects the entities eligible for subsidies, following the opinions from the examination board established for this program.

Support period

The support period for the location scouting and shooting of the eligible content shall start on the date when the subsidy was adopted and end by December 1, 2016 in principle. *The end of the support date would be negotiable.

Deliverables after the completion

The content selected for support, making video, trailers and still pictures, etc. Also, videos, photos, and advertisement materials that can be used for tourism promotion of OCVB and Okinawa Prefectural Government. As for a foreign entity, its Japanese coproduction entity should deliver necessary documents and contents.

Payment method of subsidies, etc.

In principle, the payment of subsidies shall be processed by paying the eligible costs in Japanese yen within the maximum amount to a bank account designated by funding entities within one month after confirming the quality of deliverables. The payment is directed to an applicant (Japanese entity.)

Cancellation of informal decisions to pay subsidies and refund of subsidies, etc. due to the change of situations

If the content is still unreleased after two years have passed since the completion of the content, the entities which received the subsidies must promptly refund all or part of the subsidies already paid to the entities.

Duty to report box office records or viewer rate of the content etc. after the release

The selected entities shall report the progress situation of the selected content such as the released region and box office records of the movies, viewer rate of the TV programs and the number of viewers on the Internet more than once a year for five years after the content is selected for support.

Other conditions

In regard to other matters, please refer to the outline written in Japanese and consult with the (Japanese) representative entity for application and make appropriate arrangements.