



MONTANA BIG SKY FILM GRANT DEVELOPMENT GRANT PRE-SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Projects being filmed in Montana by a Montana filmmaker or resident film company may be eligible for Development Grant funding if they create Montana centric content that can be screened exclusively on the Montana Office of Tourism and/or Montana Film Office YouTube Channels. *

Prior to applying for development grant funding, applicants must submit a preliminary pitch to **ONE** of three YouTube channel producers. * The channels are divided into the following:

The Montana Experience: Stories from Big Sky Country: Interesting Montanans, local businesses, happenings, celebrations, historical figures, and Montana icons.

Epic Montana: Hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife interaction, extreme sports, racing, open road stories, and outdoor activities.

The Film Channel: Montana film stories, behind-the-scenes, featurettes, trailers, film festivals, original webisodes, and film-related productions.

*If you have an existing YouTube channel with significant subscription and engagement you may submit directly to the Montana Film Office a pitch and grant application for Montana-centric content to be hosted on your own channel.

The Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development or any of its designated partners may use any image, sequence, or part of this content as promotion for the state on any platform deemed necessary.

Preliminary Pitch Requirements: Interested parties must create a preliminary pitch that includes the following information:

- Company name, email, phone number, and address.
- A complete filmography with title, date, running time, links to viewable media, awards, reviews, and credits (e.g. director, producer, camera, editor, grip).
- A one paragraph professional biography (NOT a resume) that details work in the film and/or video industry.
- Letter(s) of commitment from any production entity partner on the project.
- A budget breakdown including production costs and funding partners secured.
- A one paragraph (no more than 250 words) treatment for each proposed episode to include basic form and style of the episode, a brief synopsis of the subject, and an estimated per episode budget total.

Visit the Montana Film Office [Submittable page](#) to prepare and submit your preliminary pitch.

A PRELIMINARY PITCH IS NOT A GRANT APPLICATION. If your pitch is approved, you may be encouraged to apply fully for YouTube grant funding.



Proposals judged to be professional, presenting original and unique Montana centric content, and fitting the programming schedule may be encouraged to apply for grant funding. After initial approval, a letter of commitment between the producer and the interested party will be created. All development grant applications must include the letter of commitment to be considered.

YouTube proposal grant awards are limited to \$50,000 per proposal, per company, per year.