

NFDC SCREENWRITERS' LAB 2026

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. The Screenwriters' Lab shall accept applications only from either **Indian passport holders** residing in India or from valid **Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders**.
 2. Participant's scripts must be registered with **Screenwriters' Association (SWA)** or any equivalent body in your state or country. Unregistered scripts will not be accepted.
 3. Applications will not be considered complete without payment of the application fee.
 - Application fee upto **28 July, 2026** (11.59 pm IST), is **INR 8000**.
 - Application fee upto **04 August, 2026** (11.59 pm IST), is **INR 9000**.
- (Please note: the date of receipt of fee will be considered as the date of submission of your application.)
4. The application fee is a one-time, **non-refundable fee**. No fee will be charged for subsequent stages of the lab.
 5. All the submissions including the **script and dialogues must be in English** at the application stage and throughout the lab process. However, the **final film** can be in any **Indian language**.
 6. The information on the application form cannot be edited once submitted.
 7. By submitting the application, the applicant agrees to the **Undertaking** Statement adjoined with the application.
 8. The **decision** of NFDC on selection of an application will be **final and binding**.
 9. **Feedback or reasons for not selecting** an application **will not be provided** to participants who are not selected for Screenwriters' Lab 2026.
 10. **Selected participants** will be required to sign the **Undertaking** in person.
 11. The Lab will be held in three parts. Attending all three parts of the lab, as well as, NFDC Film Bazaar is mandatory. This year, the **first SWL sessions will be held on-ground**, the **second session** will take place **online** and the **third session** again take place **on-ground**. Details of each session will be shared **only with selected participants**, closer to the dates of the session.
 12. Once selected for the Lab and after the first session, the participants will have to submit **full scripts/assignments** before the second and third session of the Lab.
 13. Selected participants will be provided with **double occupancy accommodation** for the on ground part of the Lab.

14. All the facilities are extended towards the participants of the lab only. **No companion** will be allowed to attend any SWL sessions with the participants or make use of the accommodation under any circumstances. In the event that a participant is accompanied by a companion or shares accommodation with anyone else other than the member of the lab, they will be liable to be evicted from the lab.

15. The **second and third sessions** of the Screenwriters' Lab **involve further submissions** - a reworked draft of the script, synopsis, CV and marketing materials or any additional material. Non submission of these requirements will disqualify the writer from attending the third and final session which includes pitching at NFDC Film Bazaar.

16. It is mandatory for NFDC Screenwriters' Lab participants to **credit the NFDC Screenwriters' Lab as stated in the Undertaking**.

17. NFDC Screenwriters' Lab & Film Bazaar reserves the right to change Terms & Conditions of the programs without prior intimation.

18. Rights of admission reserved.