

Key information

Who is it for: Writers and Writer/Directors from any creative discipline with an idea for a short film under 15 minutes in length. We encourage applications from artists and writers working in other mediums who want to move into screenwriting. Applicants must be based in the North of England.

Duration: The programme will run between May – November 2021. Participants will need to commit to attending 6 online sessions and an Industry Mixer event at the end of the programme. A draft schedule is provided below. In addition to attending Lab sessions, there will be some assigned writing work.

Location: The sessions will happen online, so to take part you only need a reliable internet connection and access to a device that supports video conferencing.

Application deadline: Friday, 23 April, 17:00.

About the Lab

Script Lab helps Writers and Writer/Directors develop an early stage idea for a short film into script form over the course of six months.

Up to ten writers will be selected to take part in the Lab and will then be split into two groups. The groups will meet through online discussions where they will collaboratively develop their narratives from initial ideas to short treatments to step outlines and, finally, completed drafts.

The process will be facilitated by Film Hub North's BFI NETWORK Talent Executives Amy O'Hara and Roxy McKenna. Guest industry mentors will also be invited to the sessions to share their insights. All participants are expected to engage creatively with their peers' work within the group; offering up feedback and receiving notes on their own work in exchange. We hope to foster a supportive, lively and creative environment. The Talent Executives will be on-hand to guide and supervise the development of the projects during and outside of the sessions, as well as offering broader professional development advice.

At the end of the programme, Script Lab participants will attend an Industry Mixer event showcasing their work and connecting them with potential collaborators who can take their projects forward.

Who can apply?

We are looking for writers from any creative discipline based in the North of England who have an idea for a short film script under 15 minutes in length.

Applicants should be based in one of the following areas: Cheshire, County Durham, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northumberland, North and North East Lincolnshire, Tees Valley, Tyne and Wear, Yorkshire and the Humber.

Applicants should be 18 or over by 1 May 2021 and must not be in full-time education.

We welcome applications from individuals as well as co-writing teams.

You do not need to be working with a producer or director in order to apply.

We are unable to consider projects based on novels, short stories or other published literary works.

This programme is for early stage ideas that are ripe for development and are not already in script form. If you have a more developed idea with an existing script, please consider applying for our [Short Film Funding](#).

Script Lab is free to attend.

How to apply

Please complete our online application form.

If you'd like to prepare offline before completing the form, a [downloadable list of the questions](#) asked is available for reference.

If you have any issues with the online form, require application support or would like to apply in another way, please email bfinetwork@filmhubnorth.org.uk using the subject line "SCRIPT LAB APPLICATION."

Application deadline

Friday, 23 April, 17:00

Applicants will be notified week commencing 10 May.

Draft Schedule

- **Kick-off session:** 20 May, 3-4:30pm
- **Introduction to Screenwriting:** 10 June, 10am-1:15pm
- **Writing workshop #1:** 17 June, 10am-1:15pm
- **Writing workshop #2:** 8 July, 10am-1:15pm
- **Writing workshop #3:** 19 August, 10am-1:15pm
- **Writing workshop #4:** 9 September, 10am-1:15pm
- **Delivery of script:** Late-September
- **Industry Mixer:** November (date TBC)

Script Lab is supported by National Lottery funds awarded by BFI NETWORK and Film Hub North.