**AIM HIGH FAQs**

**When can I apply for Aim High 2018?**

Applications open on Friday 16th November 2018 and will close at 5pm on Friday 21st December 2018.

**When does Aim High commence and how long does it run for?**

Aim High starts April 2019 and runs for 18 months until the end of February 2020.

**Do I have to be from the UK to apply?**

Applicants must either be an EU citizen or possess a current UK Tier 1 General Visa which entitles the holder to take up full time employment.

**Do I have to be a student/have a degree or any qualifications?**

Aim High is open to everyone over 18, regardless of educational background. We are interested in your potential and passion.

**I am not at college/university now – but am starting or thinking of starting in Autumn 2019, can I still apply?**

Please only apply if you are not going to be in full-time education in Autumn 2019.

**I am still at college/university – can I apply?**

You can apply if you are in your final year of college or university and are available to attend the assessment centre, boot camp and can start your placements in April 2019.

**I’m 17. Can I apply?**

You can apply if you are 17 but you MUST have turned 18 by 4th March 2019

**Is there an age limit?**

No. If you’re looking to change careers we want to hear from you too.

**Can I apply if I have been previously unsuccessful?**

Yes.

**I want to be a presenter- will going on Aim High help?**

No. Aim High is about finding talented people who want to be a TV producer. Please do not apply if presenting is your career goal.

**I want to be a camera operator/editor/sound mixer– will going on Aim High help?**

No. Aim High is about finding talented people who want to be a TV producer. Please do not apply if you want to work in a craft/technical role.

**I want to be a production manager/production coordinator– will going on Aim High help?**

No. Aim High is about finding talented people who want to be a TV producer. Please do not apply if you want to work in a production support role.

**Do I need experience of working in the TV industry?**

No, Aim High is open to anyone aged 18+ who is passionate about TV and is aimed at those who have no professional experience. We select trainees purely on the responses to the online application form and their performance during the assessment centre and interview. We are looking for people with an enthusiasm and demonstrable interest in working in TV. However, previous industry experience will not hinder your application; all applicants will be treated equally.

**What type of projects will I be working on during Aim High?**

Aim high trainees will work on a range of projects during their placements from local, national and international television projects as well as shorter form digital projects for online platforms.

**When will I hear if I have been successful or not?**

You will find out on the week commencing 14th January 2019 if you have made it through to the assessment/interview stage.

**Where will the assessments take place?**

The assessments will take place in Belfast (venue to be confirmed).

**When will the assessments take place?**

The assessments will take place on the week commencing 4th February 2019

**Who will be assessing me?**

Applicants will be assessed by representatives from local independent production companies, Northern Ireland Screen and BBC Northern Ireland.

**What are the assessors looking for?**

They are looking for creativity, passion and a keen interest in the television industry.

**When will I know if I have been successful after assessment?**

If you secure a place on the scheme we will let you know by the end of the week commencing 18th February 2019

**What is boot camp?**

Boot camp is 2 weeks of intensive training. 15 candidates will be invited to take part, however only 10 candidates will make it onto the scheme. The candidates who show the most potential, enthusiasm and dedication will be the ones who make it.

**What happens at the boot camp?**

You’ll be introduced to the craft of storytelling through practical exercises and masterclasses delivered by industry professionals. You’ll also spend time team building, working on group projects and individuals tasks, all of which will be assessed by the industry professionals. You will present a group project on the last day of boot camp to help support your assessment and a place on the scheme.

**What happens next if I don’t secure a place on the scheme?**

All is not lost, you will have received invaluable training and will have met many industry representatives that will help you in securing work in the future. Previous applicants who never made it through went onto secure jobs in the industry with the training they received during boot camp. Northern Ireland Screen are also able to suggest people to Independent Production Companies who they may want to meet when recruiting for similar roles in the future.

**When does boot camp happen?**

Boot camp will take places 4th to 15th March 2019

**Will I get paid whilst attending boot camp?**

Yes, you will be paid minimum wage whilst attending boot camp.

**Do I get to choose the companies I get placed with**?

No, we will select which companies you will be placed with.

**How long does each placement last?**

Each placement lasts 4 months. Occasionally we will extend a placement to a maximum of 6 months if we feel by staying it would benefit both the trainee and the placement company to finish a project they are working on.

**Who are the mentors?**

The mentors are experienced and influential professionals who work in the local screen industry.

**Will I get a job at the end of it?**

We cannot promise that – but you will definitely be meeting key decision makers within the industry in Northern Ireland. If you stand out and impress them, they might offer you a contract at the end of your training. TV is a notoriously difficult industry to get into, so getting that foot in the door and making contacts really helps.