**ILBF PRIORITIES**

The Irish Language Broadcast Fund’s aims are to fund promote production and broadcast of quality Irish language content for an audience in Northern Ireland and beyond & to help grow the Irish language production sector in Northern Ireland.

We fund around 60 hours per year of programming.The ILBF welcomes applications for content that ensures prominence of the Ulster dialect, geography, history, society and culture. A minimum of 75% of the spoken word must be in the Irish language.

* The ILBF will consider any genre that meets our funding criteria, but particularly welcomes content that is aimed at children and young people (preschool - teens) including both original and re-versioned content from other languages. This could take the form of, for example, drama, magazine series, animation, documentary, light or factual entertainment.
* The ILBF would welcome applications for factual and lifestyle programming, including new and existing formats.
* Irish language learners make up a significant part of our audience and we welcome applications to fund educational programming aimed at any age group. Applicants should have some experience in producing educational content and be knowledgeable of the Northern Ireland curriculum.
* The ILBF wishes to support low-budget drama based in Northern Ireland with an aim to support one series over a two year period. Therefore the ILBF would like to support a new drama series with a production model that would provide training and experience to Irish speaking actors, writers, producers and directors.
* The ILBF welcomes enquiries regarding funding for mobile phone applications, digital games and website content, particularly those aimed at a youth audience and language learners. Consideration could be given to the translation to Irish of existing applications and games which have proven market success and/or reached a wide audience. In all cases applicants will have to provide evidence of extensive audience reach, and, if appropriate proven audience need or desire for this content, particularly if a traditional broadcaster is not attached.
* The ILBF recognises the crossover of skills in radio and television production and therefore welcomes enquiries regarding funding for a training and content production scheme. It currently supports an Irish language radio content production and broadcasting scheme with strong training elements at its core and would seek to emulate this scheme.
* Landmark Documentaries – The ILBF will only consider applications for landmark documentaries/documentary series with tariffs exceeding those set out in the joint commissioning documents if the following information can be provided: evidence of broadcaster support (support from more than one broadcaster encouraged); significant audience reach (could the series reach a wider audience in a different territory?); evidence that other funding sources are being sought (BAI’s Sound & Vision Scheme, Irish Film Board etc.) evidence that the proposed project necessitates the significant & extensive use of the following: drama reconstruction, archive, animation/graphics, travel, filming in areas with risk attached.

Interested applicants are also encouraged to examine the jointly produced commissioning documents which are updated on an annual basis. These documents provide more detail on the slots available and the specific genre and type of content that the individual broadcasters (BBC NI, TG4 & RTÉ) are seeking.