

Television Production Funding Guidelines

How we make a funding decision

NZ On Air's mission is to fund programmes that reflect the diverse nature of New Zealand and its culture. We look for strong ideas that have a clear New Zealand identity and are supported by a solid investment case.

You can read more about our current funding priorities on our [Television Strategy page](#) on the website.

Checking Funding Levels

Our financial year runs from 1 July to 30 June. If your application is intended for late in the financial year, you should contact the Television Manager to check if we have sufficient funds remaining.

Information we need in your application

See the Application Checklist overleaf. Please also note that funding applications are subject to the Official Information Act (as is any information you supply to us) and may be released to third parties.

Budget

Please attach a detailed budget to the Budget Summary Sheet. We pay careful attention to this and look for competitive budgets that ensure the best use of funds. Factors we consider include whether the budget is realistic and how much broadcasters and third parties will contribute. Once the budget is set, NZ On Air will not agree to increase it unless extraordinary circumstances exist.

Above and Below-the-Line Costs

Budgets should be split between above-the-line and below-the-line costs as per the categories in the Budget Summary Sheet.

Once contracted, the producer may not vary the above-the-line categories without the written consent of NZ On Air.

Above-the-line costs **exclude** the Production Company Overhead and Contingency (see below).

Production Company Overhead (PCO)

The PCO is the margin the production company takes on the production and may not exceed 10% of the below-the-line costs. The producer may not increase the PCO once it has been set, unless extraordinary circumstances arise and written permission is obtained from NZ On Air.

Contingency

Contingency may not exceed 10% of the below-the-line costs unless otherwise agreed by NZ On Air to acknowledge extraordinary circumstances. A lesser contingency is expected for large budget or long-running series. Unspent contingency must be returned to NZ On Air in accordance with the funding contract.