



Illinois Public Media - Research and Development Fund, Fall 2015

Illinois Public Media invites documentary filmmakers from all over the world to submit their story ideas for consideration in the new Research and Development Fund. This Fund will support documentaries at the earliest stages of development and will be used to finance trailers and the proposals that accompany each. Ideas containing content about the state of Illinois are encouraged, but not required. Our mission is to aid in the development and creation of great stories, regardless of where it takes place.

Illinois Public Media's goal is to get in on the ground floor of promising productions and provide talented filmmakers with the initial financial support needed to bring his or her production to fruition. While the fund is open to everyone, we strongly favor seasoned documentary filmmakers with examples of his or her work.

Each submission should focus on a documentary and/or documentary series ideas. Ideas covering all genres are welcomed. Please note, special consideration is given to story ideas related to global science, nature, technology, and engineering related topics.

The amount of our Research and Development investment will be dependent of the needs of each story idea. Illinois Public Media will be awarding up to thirty R&D grants over the next thirty months.

Illinois Public Media is a not-for-profit public media service, educating, entertaining, inspiring and empowering by airing the best of public television and radio programs, producing local and international content for broadcast and the Web.

The Illinois Public Media team is comprised of several veterans in the production community. Key members have a combined resume of completing more than 320 hours of broadcast television and digital content. The team has brokered co-productions in over 20 countries and has proudly managed productions that went on to win awards for filmmaking, including 7 national Emmys.

How to Apply

All applicants are required to send a two-page PDF document of his or her documentary series or one-hour idea to ipm-proposals@illinois.edu. This fund is for new ideas only. Please do not submit already completed proposals or trailers. Illinois Public Media is interested in co-producing films at the beginning stages with filmmakers awarded the R & D funds, with the ultimate goal of assisting filmmakers in acquiring the funding necessary to complete each project.

In addition to the two-page document, please provide the following information listed below.

Filmmaker information

- Name of person submitting the proposal
- Biographical information for the filmmaker
- Email address
- Mailing address
- Phone number

Samples of Producer/Director's past work (*this is optional but strongly encouraged*)

- Please submit links to one completed documentary/visual storytelling project that you feel best represents your work. Digital links should be provided with information presented in the submission. For examples on DVD, please mail to the address provided here: **Illinois Public Media, Attn: Sarah Nolan, 300 North Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801**

All applicants will be reviewed and receive a detailed response within 30 days of submission. Filmmakers are allowed to submit multiple ideas for consideration. Deadline for the Fall R&D fund is October 1st, 2015.

Illinois Public Media also considers completed proposals and trailers outside of this development fund. If you'd like to share with us proposals and trailers that you've already developed, please send them to ipm-proposals@illinois.edu .

Thank you for sending your ideas for R & D funding consideration. For questions regarding the fund, please contact ipm-proposals@illinois.edu .
Best,

John Lindsay
Director: National/International Productions
Illinois Public Media
300 North Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801