

media box

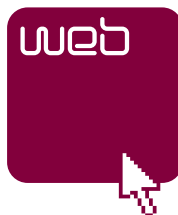
General information – Getting started

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What is it?

Mediabox is a new fund that offers disadvantaged 13 to 19 year olds the opportunity to develop and produce creative media projects, using film, television, print, radio or online platforms. Mediabox is for young people to; express their own opinions, ideas and views, gain new skills, encourage creativity, boost personal development and get their voices heard.

What's on offer?

Mediabox offers three different types of grants ranging from £100 to £80,000 to create and distribute youth-led media projects that express young people's ideas and/or views in a creative way, using their preferred media platform.

Who is Mediabox?

The Department for Education and Skills has invested £6 million in Mediabox which is run by a consortium consisting of First Light Movies, Media Trust, Skillset and the UK Film Council.

Who can apply?

There are three types of grants offered by Mediabox:

My Mediabox – open to individual young people and groups of young people

Mid Mediabox and Big Mediabox – open to youth and/or media focussed organisations

Mediabox can only award grants to organisations and young people in England.

The Grants

Below is an overview of the three types of grant available. Detailed guidelines and application forms for each type of Mediabox grant will be available from 8 January 2007.

My Mediabox Grants from £100-£1,000

My Mediabox is for 13 to 19 year olds to apply individually or in groups for one-off project funding. It has a simple and quick application process – applications can be made anytime, as long as the projects are finished by March 2008. We aim to make a decision in about two weeks.

Who is eligible and for how much?

- 13 to 19 year olds, either as individuals or as groups.
- Individuals can apply for up to £500.
- Groups of young people can apply for up to £1,000.

Young people can get money for:

- Making a film, programme, magazine, newspaper, website, comic, game – or any other media project.
- Getting a completed project made by young people seen or heard.

Additional help for young people:

- Mediabox can advise young people how to get their work out into the media – by offering help with all the practical arrangements and legal issues.



Mid Mediabox Grants from £1,000-£20,000

Mid Mediabox grants are for organisations with a strong track record of working with young people and which may or may not have delivered media projects in the past. Experienced youth media organisations that want to work on a smaller scale project may also want to apply for the Mid Mediabox grant. Mid Mediabox application deadlines run until November 2007 and all projects must be capable of being finished by March 2008. Deadline dates for applications are given at the end of this leaflet.

Who can apply?

- Open to legally constituted organisations (e.g. limited companies, local authorities, educational institutions, co-operatives) and unincorporated associations (e.g. charities, clubs and societies with a constitution and a bank account).
- Organisations must have experience of engaging and enabling disadvantaged young people to create and manage their own projects.
- Partnership funding is not required.

What we want:

- Youth-led creative media projects – from a single film, website, game or magazine to longer programmes of activity on one or more media platform, including plans for their distribution and exhibition.

and/or

- Near completed or completed youth-led creative media projects that need help to be seen and heard by a wider audience.

Additional support will be available to funded organisations. This will include:

- Membership to a network of Mediabox organisations in your region.
- Help and advice from Mediabox in distributing and exhibiting finished projects.
- Business support advice.
- Continuing professional development & links to a professional mentoring scheme for youth workers.
- Career and educational advice for young people.



Big Mediabox Grants from £20,000-£80,000

Big Mediabox grants are for organisations with a strong track record of working on media projects with young people and which are able to deliver a new or expanded programme quickly. Big Mediabox application deadlines run until November 2007 and all projects must be capable of being finished by March 2008. Deadline dates for applications are given at the end of this leaflet.

Who can apply?

- Open to legally constituted organisations (e.g. limited companies, local authorities, educational institutions, co-operatives).
- Organisations must have experience of engaging and enabling disadvantaged young people to create and manage their own projects.
- Partnership funding is not required, but it will enhance an application.

What we want:

- Creative projects using one or more media platforms.
- A programme of outreach work which targets the most disadvantaged young people using existing and new networks.
- Effective distribution, publication, broadcast and exhibition of produced work.
- Guidance to young people on how to continue their involvement in the media – e.g. through careers/further education guidance, building links with media businesses, etc.
- A bursary scheme that uses a minimum of 5% of the Mediabox grant to fund creative projects led by individual young people or small groups.

Additional support will be available to funded organisations. This will include:

- Membership to a network of Mediabox organisations in your region.
- Help and advice from Mediabox in distributing and exhibiting finished projects.
- Business support advice.
- Continuing professional development & links to a professional mentoring scheme for youth workers.
- Career and educational advice for young people.



What happens when a project is finished?

Mediabox wants all the projects it funds to be seen and heard by as many people as possible. All applicants must consider how to do this locally, regionally and potentially nationally.

Guidance and support will be available to ensure projects meet media requirements such as copyright laws, intellectual property rights and broadcast standards. Mediabox will offer the necessary advice and information on its website.

To sum up:

Mediabox will fund the creation and distribution of youth-led media projects that express young people's ideas and/or views in a creative way, using their preferred media platform.



What do we mean by 'media'?

Moving Image

- Music and/or dance videos
- Shorts (any genre, documentary, live action, drama, animation) up to 10 minutes
- TV programmes
- Feature films (any genre, documentary, live action, drama, animation) up to 90 minutes

Print

- Magazines
- Comics
- Illustrated books
- Short fiction
- Newspapers (journalism, features, etc.)
- Photojournalism and creative photography projects

Radio

- Making programmes in all genres including drama, documentary, music, news and features
- Setting up an RSL or online station

Interactive Media & Games

- Development of interactive games for any platform
- Websites & CD Roms

Advertising

- Campaigns on important issues affecting young people

What we will not fund

- Purely promotional work about an organisation and its functions for marketing purposes (including websites, flyers, advertising materials, video etc.)
- Novels
- Straightforward recordings of live performance (including plays, music etc.)
- Training videos
- The production of music demos, albums, singles, etc.
- Projects as part of the National Curriculum

In exceptional cases, Mediabox will consider awarding grants to projects using media outside of this list, given that the project meets the objectives of the fund. This will be at the discretion of Mediabox.

Projects can be distributed and exhibited on one or more of the following reproducible media platforms: television, cinema, radio, online, podcast, mobile, print, CD Rom.



How to apply?

Each type of Mediabox grant has its own Guidelines and Application Form. Application packs are available on the Mediabox website and can be submitted online.

My Mediabox has a rolling application programme – you can apply at any time up to January 2008. The process is quick and simple.

Big Mediabox and Mid Mediabox have a series of fixed deadlines – see 'When to apply'. You will need to fill in an application form and provide us with information about your organisation and your proposed Mediabox project.

Application for all Mediabox grants is competitive and we will not be able to support all of the applications we receive.

When to apply?

These deadlines are for Big Mediabox and Mid Mediabox only: decisions will be announced eight weeks from the deadline date.

Round 1 Deadline 30 January 2007

Round 2 Deadline 27 March 2007

Round 3 Deadline 22 May 2007

Round 4 Deadline 17 July 2007

Round 5 Deadline 18 September 2007

Round 6 Deadline 20 November 2007

More information

From the Mediabox website:
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