



*The Mark Jaffee Film Fund (MJFF) was developed  
to help committed Maryland filmmakers  
create and produce commercially viable independent films.*

## **FOR FILMMAKERS:**

MJFF will finance outstanding, independent, low budget, feature-length films. The Fund is uniquely focused on supporting young filmmakers who have demonstrated an active pursuit of filmmaking. MJFF has already financed three independent productions, "A Modest Suggestion" ([www.amodestsuggestion.com](http://www.amodestsuggestion.com)), "PolePole" ([www.polepole123.com](http://www.polepole123.com)) and "Bacon Bits" MJFF intends to encourage production of strong, commercially viable, independent films.

### The Basics:

MJFF is prepared to completely fund its next film. The Fund will also consider bridge financing for productions that have already raised some capital. Ultimately, MJFF is interested in one thing: To enable great filmmakers to make commercially viable films.

### Requirements:

- Preliminary budget must be within \$200,000, to comply with SAG Ultra-Low-Budget definition.
- Screenplay must be 80-120 pages long, properly formatted of course.
- Film must be shot locally. (In short, we wish to see the money on the screen rather than in plane tickets and hotel rooms).
- Similarly, all actors and crew must be local. Exceptions, as reality requires, will be determined by the Fund.

At all levels, MJFF is a creative partnership. MJFF will provide help and support at every turn as a film progresses in its development. MJFF will have the final approval of the script, shooting schedule, casting and cut. While we value film as an art, we also value it as a business and aim to maximize the film's profit and the filmmaker's reputation.

### To Apply:

#### What is required for submission:

1. Script (80-120 Pages, Formatted) (the holy grail of any good film - it has to be a good idea)
2. Treatment and/or Synopsis (1 page)
3. Estimated Budget (top-sheet only)
4. Resume/Filmography of submitter(s)

From the date of submission it generally takes MJFF six to eight weeks to thoughtfully and thoroughly evaluate a proposed project (depending on the number of applicants, it could take

longer). If there are questions during the evaluation, MJFF will contact the applicant for clarification or additional information.

If MJFF is interested in a submission, it will request the following additional materials:

1. Proposed Cast (including filmographies)
2. Proposed Crew (including filmographies)
3. Proposed Locations
4. Director's Statement on Vision (1 page – if director attached)
5. Marketing/Distribution Plan

If, after receiving these materials, MJFF is still interested in the production, a meeting will be scheduled between MJFF and the submitter(s) to discuss further details, and to address any remaining questions.

All of this may seem overwhelming to a young filmmaker, but MJFF is prepared to advise and help in this difficult process of developing the film's functional and creative underpinnings. Films are an expensive business, and the quality of a film hides not only in the idea or concept, but also in the details that bring this idea to life. The creative and logistical experience of MJFF will ensure that these great and commercially viable ideas come to life on the screen on time and on budget.

Once the Film is Selected for Financing, a Joint Venture Agreement will be negotiated, and the submitter's production responsibilities will be defined.

Submissions should be made to the following email address: [markjaffee@mac.com](mailto:markjaffee@mac.com). Please include "MJFF SUBMISSION" in the SUBJECT line.

#### **FOR SCREENWRITERS:**

Mark Jaffee Films, LLC is also seeking excellent screenplays for consideration. If you are a writer, and would like to submit your screenplay, please send it, with a synopsis to [markjaffee@mac.com](mailto:markjaffee@mac.com), or, mail to:

Mark Jaffee Films, LLC  
1261 Dockside Circle,  
Baltimore, MD, 21224

Screenplay Requirements:

1. 80-120 pages.
2. Must be registered with the Writers Guild of America or the US Copyright Office
3. Synopsis must be up to 1 page long.

The Mark Jaffee Film Fund Development Team:

Mark Jaffee, Producer  
Israel Orange, Producer  
Arnon Z. Shorr, Producer