

Criteria for qualifying for a European Certificate of Irish Nationality

To be eligible films must meet the following criteria:

- The film must be made by a company registered in an EU/EEA state. The address given for the production company in the application form should be the address of its principal place of business, rather than the address of its registered office.
- Location shooting may take place anywhere in the world if required by the subject of the film. Where there is no location shooting outside of the EU/EEA, all studio filming must take place in studios situated in an EU/EEA State. If location shooting takes place outside of the EU/EEA then up to 30% of studio filming may be shot in that country.
- An original recording of the film must be in one of the Ireland's recognised languages. If required by the narrative of the screenplay, parts of the film may be recorded in another language.
- As a general rule, the director, scriptwriter, any composer and the majority of the personnel in categories (3) to (9) must be Irish nationals or residents.

- (1) the director
- (2) the scriptwriter
- (3) the composer
- (4) lead actors
- (5) executive producer
- (6) director of photography
- (7) sound engineer
- (8) editor
- (9) production designer / art director
- (10) costume designer

Exceptions to this rule:

- (i) the director, scriptwriter, any composer and the majority of the personnel in categories (3) to (9) may be EU/EEA nationals or residents; or
- (ii) personnel in categories (1) to (9) may be non-EU/EEA nationals provided that such nationals are not more than 40% of the total of the personnel in those categories; or
- (iii) the director may be a non-EU/EEA national provided that: (a) the scriptwriter and any composer are EU/EEA nationals or residents; and (b) at least 80% of the personnel in categories (3) to (9) are EU/EEA nationals or residents.

Residency means a person ordinarily resident in the Republic of Ireland.

The key cast and crew shall be determined as follows:

- Director – the applicant will be asked to determine who the lead director is, taking into account factors including: the person who takes the credit on the film, the creative input and time spent working on the film.
- Scriptwriter – the applicant will be asked to determine who the lead scriptwriter is, taking into account factors including: the person who takes the credit on the film, the creative input on the script and time spent working on the script.
- Composer - the applicant will be asked to determine who the lead composer is, taking into account factors including: the person who takes the credit on the film, the creative input on the original music score (not including source music) and time spent working on the score.
- Lead Actors – the applicant will be asked to determine who the 6 lead actors are, taking into account factors including: the number of days worked in front of the camera and the importance of the actor's role in the film.

For animations only: this will include actors voicing characters.

For documentaries only: this will include the presenter, narrator, subject or other person who participates and appears in the documentary.

- Executive Producer – the application will be asked to determine who the executive producer is. It should be the individual with decision-making authority who plays an active role through the pre-production and production of a film and assumes responsibility for the physical process of production and carrying through practical and financial arrangements for the making of the film.
- Director of Photography/Sound Engineer/Editor/Production Designer – shall be taken to mean the most senior person working on the film in those roles.

When to Apply

Applications should only be made after the film has been completed and is ready for copies to be made and distributed for presentation to the general public. A temporary version is not finished and in the case where further work needs to be done on a film, it will be deemed incomplete.

How To Apply

Application forms are available to download on the following page

http://www.irishfilmboard.ie/financing_your_film/Certificate_of_Nationality/31 or alternatively email Aileen McCauley at aileen.mccauley@irishfilmboard.ie