

CREATE48 Fiscal Sponsorship (Model-C)

Frequently Asked Questions

What Is Model C Fiscal Sponsorship?

CREATE48 provides **Model C (Pre-Approved Grant Relationship) fiscal sponsorship**. Under this structure, CREATE48 remains the legal nonprofit entity receiving all charitable contributions, while supporting independent projects that advance our charitable mission.

In a Model C arrangement:

- Donations are made to **CREATE48**, not directly to the sponsored project.
- Funds are held in a **restricted account** and used exclusively for the approved project.
- CREATE48 maintains **legal and fiduciary responsibility** for the funds, including IRS compliance and donor acknowledgment.
- The sponsored project retains **full creative ownership and operational control**, operating independently while using CREATE48's nonprofit status solely for fundraising and compliance purposes.

This model allows creators and programs to raise tax-deductible funds without forming their own nonprofit, while ensuring transparency, accountability, and alignment with CREATE48's mission of equity, workforce development, and community-centered storytelling.

Who is eligible for CREATE48 fiscal sponsorship?

CREATE48 offers fiscal sponsorship to:

- Independent filmmakers and creative media projects (narrative, documentary, episodic, experimental, digital).
- Creative workforce development programs (training, workshops, mentorship initiatives).
- Visual arts/media projects connected to storytelling.
- U.S.-based **48 Hour Film Project City Producers** and their official organizations.
- Projects connected to CEWC (Creative Economy Workforce Coalition) or Montana Media Coalition members.

Note: CREATE48 does not provide sponsorship to other 501(c)(3) nonprofits.

What does CREATE48 provide?

- Nonprofit status for fundraising: Tax-deductible contributions through CREATE48's 501(c)(3) designation.
- Donation processing: We receive, track, and disburse funds to your project according to our agreement.
- Compliance: We ensure IRS regulations are followed, donor acknowledgment letters are issued, and funds are managed transparently.
- Visibility: Your project may be listed as part of CREATE48's network of fiscally sponsored projects.
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What doesn't CREATE48 provide?

- **Human Resources (HR):** We do not hire staff or contractors for your project.
- **Insurance:** We provide our own general liability and D&O insurance for CREATE48 activities, but not production insurance for your project. Filmmakers may need to secure their own.
- **Fundraising for you:** We don't raise the money directly; you and your team are responsible for outreach, proposals, and sponsorships.
- **Creative control:** We don't run or manage your project — you retain ownership and control.
- **Grantmaking:** We are not a grant funder. Our role is to sponsor and process funds you raise.

How do the fees work?

CREATE48 retains an **administrative fee** from donations to cover processing and compliance costs.

- **Standard Rate:** 8% of all donations.
- **48HFP Alumni Projects:** Flat 7% rate.
- **Underserved/Underrepresented Community Projects:** Eligible for a discount.
- Fees are deducted before disbursement.

What kinds of expenses are eligible?

Eligible expenses include:

- Production costs (crew, equipment, editing, locations).
- Event costs (venues, marketing, screenings, awards).
- Professional services (accounting, legal, design).
- Community engagement and outreach activities.

Ineligible expenses include:

- Personal expenses unrelated to the project.
- Political or lobbying activity.
- Projects not aligned with CREATE48's mission of equity, workforce development, and community building.

How are funds disbursed?

- Donations are deposited into CREATE48's restricted account within 3 business days of receipt.
- Funds are disbursed to your project within 3 weeks via ACH transfer, minus the administrative fee.
- As a proud sponsor, CREATE48 welcomes project updates that we can celebrate and share with our community, but we do not require formal financial reporting.

What does CREATE48 expect from sponsored projects?

- Use funds only for the purposes described in your application and agreement.
- Keep accurate records for your own project's accountability.
- Acknowledge CREATE48 in project credits and promotional materials:
"Fiscal Sponsorship provided by CREATE48 Media Network."
- Share updates with CREATE48 when possible, so we can help amplify your work.