Due to exceptional circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, section 5.3 of the Program guidelines is amended and replaced with the following for greenlight advances provided by Telefilm Canada (“Telefilm”) between December 9, 2020 and March 31, 2021:

5.3 Greenlight financing

5.3.1 Greenlight pre-production advances

A greenlight advance is available at Telefilm’s discretion for projects submitted to the Program, regardless of budget size and whether or not Telefilm has already issued a commitment letter. Telefilm’s decision to grant a greenlight advance will be based on the same evaluation criteria set out in section 4 of these guidelines. A greenlight advance shall only be allocated to an application that has a director attached.

Please note that applicants who receive a greenlight advance from Telefilm are not guaranteed that their application to the Program will be successful or that their project will ultimately receive production funding from Telefilm.

Eligible costs for a greenlight advance include those associated with the final polish of the screenplay, closing agreements with financial participants in the project, attaching cast and early pre-production; in other words, generally those costs associated with fulfilling the various conditions that could be required in order to access financing from Telefilm, including conditions outlined in a production commitment letter.

Applicants should be aware that greenlight financing shall not be in addition to Telefilm’s offer of production financing, if any. In the event an applicant receives a greenlight advance, the amount will be included as part of Telefilm’s total financial commitment, as outlined in a commitment letter from Telefilm.

5.3.2 Greenlight financial participation and repayment

Telefilm’s greenlight financial participation will generally not exceed 80% of eligible costs, up to a maximum amount equal to the lesser of the following amounts:
• 25% of the total amount of financing requested from Telefilm for the project; or
• $150,000\(^1\).

Should the project proceed into production with financial support from Telefilm, this greenlight advance shall constitute an advance against Telefilm’s production financing under this Program and will take the same form as Telefilm’s total funding.

Should the project proceed into production without financial support from Telefilm or does not proceed into production, the greenlight advance will be treated as a non-equity repayable advance similar to a development advance. In this case, the advance will be repayable according to the greenlight financing contract that Telefilm and the applicant enter into, generally on the earlier of: the first day of principal photography (or any other use of the script) or the sale, assignment or other disposition of the rights to the project.

\(^1\) This amount may be increased to $300,000, at Telefilm’s discretion, for projects with a financial structure where the only source that has yet to be confirmed is Telefilm’s financing.