



AFI DWW+ SEMI Foundation Grant at AFI Eligibility & Guidelines

About SEMI Foundation

The [SEMI Foundation's](#) mission is to support economic opportunity for workers and the sustained growth of the microelectronics industry through creating pathways and opportunities for job seekers, and tools and systems for semiconductor companies to attract, develop, retain, and advance a broad, skilled workforce. Founded in 2001 as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, the Foundation now has more than 50 workforce development programs worldwide. The Foundation leverages its robust networks and partnerships to serve jobseekers and influence quality recruitment, hiring, retention, and advancement on local, regional, national, and global levels. One important focus of the Foundation is raising awareness of the semiconductor industry, the extraordinary technologies that semiconductors enable, and the varied careers within it, particularly for students, young people, women, people of color, and any job seeker looking for new opportunities.

About the Grant

The AFI DWW+ SEMI Foundation Grant at AFI will award up to \$20,000 to one DWW+ film that presents a story that explores the science, technology, engineering, innovation, or societal impact of semiconductors. Designed to inspire emerging filmmakers to engage with semiconductor-related themes through a creative lens, the Grant welcomes projects across all genres, whether grounded in factual storytelling or driven by imaginative narrative approaches.

It is important to note that though semiconductors enable virtually all technologies, they are miniscule in size and not typically discussed in everyday discourse and nor is it common knowledge that they are the building blocks for the technology that powers virtually everything electronic in our world, from smart phones to cars to drones to space stations. Part of the goal of this grant is to tell stories that help viewers gain some knowledge or perspective on semiconductors and what they enable.

Grant recipients will be paired with an expert in the field through the SEMI Foundation's broad network of professionals working in the semiconductor industry to help hone the story and develop characters for accuracy and authenticity. The industry expert can range from physicists and nanotechnologists to data scientists and AI specialists.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

- AFI DWW+ Film Track: Directors must be accepted into the 2026/27 DWW+ program
- Must attend a brief seminar conducted by the SEMI Foundation
- Must be willing to work with an industry advisor to develop the science and engineering aspects of their story

How to Apply

Applicants can opt into the SEMI Foundation Grant via the main [DWW+ program application](#). Submissions will be reviewed by the AFI review committee, along with SEMI Foundation staff. Applicants will be notified in late December.