



First Nations Low Budget Television Fund

Provides production funding to eligible Indigenous Western Australian television productions in the form of a grant.

All guidelines are to be read in conjunction with the [Screenwest Terms of Trade found here](#).

What is the fund?

Screenwest can provide limited funding for Indigenous low budget television productions. Where an Indigenous project is to be produced for an eligible national television broadcaster, Screenwest can provide funding of up to \$25,000 to the Western Australian Resident or Western Australian Resident Company with eligible productions.

How much is available?

- Up to \$25,000 (subject to available funds) per project

Deadlines

Applications for this fund can be submitted at any time. Screenwest does not fund retrospectively.

Who is eligible?

Indigenous Western Australian Film Practitioners and Production Companies.

The Applicant must be a Western Australian Resident or Western Australian Resident Company as per the Terms of Trade.

The applicant must own or control 100% of copyright in the project or be in a genuine co production (as defined by the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#)).

Applicants who have an outstanding acquittal report and/or deliverable(s) or have not fulfilled their contractual obligations relating to prior Screenwest funding are not eligible to apply unless an alternative arrangement is agreed with Screenwest prior to application. Please contact Screenwest directly for advice on your specific situation.

What projects are eligible?

The key eligibility requirements of the Indigenous Low Budget Television Fund are:

That the project must have Indigenous Australians in key creative roles. Funding is not intended for projects by non-Indigenous filmmakers with Indigenous content.

All applicants must have already obtained a written offer of funds from an eligible national television broadcaster recognised and approved by Screenwest, including but not limited to National Indigenous Television (NITV), ABC and SBS. The broadcaster's funds may consist of a cash license fee, an investment, any related cash distribution advances or guarantees recoupable from gross receipts. Screenwest will match the type of funding that is offered, up to \$25,000. Any in-kind contributions such as resources, facilities, stock footage or similar offered from the broadcaster should be in addition to the cash contribution in the project and must be at an acceptable level to Screenwest. Screenwest will not financially match an in-kind contribution from a broadcaster.

Supported by

The majority of the project must be undertaken in Western Australia.

Screenwest encourages Indigenous film practitioners to apply under the most appropriate funding initiative. This may not be an Indigenous funding program.

Required application materials and how to apply

Prior to submitting an application, it is preferred that the applicant discuss the application with the Indigenous Project Manager.

Applicants are required to submit:

- A completed Application Form;
- Indigenous Low Budget Television Fund Application Summary Form;
- Copy of Letter of Offer from the broadcaster (with details of cash and any in-kind contribution);
- Project Outline including:
 - a) One (1) sentence log line
 - b) One (1) page synopsis and/or treatment
- Finance Plan and details of intended expenditure of the Screenwest grant;
- A-Z Production Budget (with a column detailing non-WA and WA expenditure);
- Production Schedule;
- Full crew list indicating WA practitioners;
- Evidence that the applicant owns or controls 100% of the copyright in the project; and
- CV of the key creatives.

Please download and complete the Application Form and Summary Form and email **ALL** required application materials in **ONE** email to: funding@screenwest.com.au.

Screenwest reserves the right to not accept an incomplete application.

If you are submitting an electronic application allow for system down time or service provider problems. Please note pro forma or late applications cannot be accepted. An application receipt will be sent to you within two working days as confirmation that Screenwest has received your application. **It is the applicant's responsibility to contact Screenwest if you do not receive an application receipt.**

Application material will **not** be returned by Screenwest.

Hard copies can be hand delivered to:

Attention:
Funding Team Coordinator
Screenwest
30 Fielder Street
East Perth 6004

Or via post:

Attention:
Funding Team Coordinator
Screenwest
PO BOX 3275
East Perth 6892

Assessment Criteria and Process

Applications will be assessed by Screenwest Management and reserve the right to not accept an application if the materials provided do not meet the program's guidelines. Applications that do not include all the requested information risk not being recommended for assessment.

The assessors consider all the materials provided with a specific focus on the following:

- Level of support from a broadcaster and other funding e.g. Screen Australia;
- Skill development or employment opportunities for other emerging Indigenous practitioners;
- Overall cultural importance to WA and the Indigenous community.

Funds are limited and demand on Screenwest's resources outweighs its ability to assist all applicants. Applications will be competitively assessed; as a consequence funding is not assured even where an application meets the above criteria.

Screenwest seeks to reflect the diversity of Western Australia's community on screen and behind the camera, through projects funded and practitioners supported. The funding panel will take into consideration diversity elements of a submission during the assessment process.

Payment of Funding

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a formal Production Grant Agreement with Screenwest.

The Production Company will also need to enter into a separate Production Investment Agreement or equivalent with the eligible national television broadcaster.

Screenwest funding will be allocated on Screenwest's standard terms for grant funding, which include but are not limited to:

- a) A credit on the production;
- b) Delivery items on completion of the project;
- c) Regular cost reporting during all production stages including on Western Australian expenditure;
- d) A final audit and cost report itemizing Western Australian expenditure;
- e) A Solicitor's Letter of Opinion on satisfactory terms, stating that a thorough examination of the chain of title for the Script has been made, and that use of the Script by means of the Film will not constitute infringement of copyright etc;
- f) Screenwest may request to view a copy of all chain of title documents or other Transaction Documents such as license or distribution agreements deemed necessary;
- g) Screenwest require an opportunity to view the rough cut at the appropriate time; and
- h) Compliance with ICPI rights and clearances as per the Screen Australia protocols.

On returning the executed agreement to Screenwest, payments will be made to the recipient in installments as negotiated in the agreement, likely in a minimum of three drawdowns:

- 80% within 14 working days on Screenwest's receiving the signed grant agreement;
- 10% within 14 working days of Screenwest viewing and approving the rough cut;
- 10% within 14 working days of Screenwest receipt and approval of all deliveries and final audit and cost report.

Acquittal and Deliverable Requirements

All successful Screenwest funding recipients must provide detailed acquittal information and/or deliverables, by the Delivery Date/s, as specified within the Production Grant Agreement.

All acquittal reports should be emailed directly to: funding@Screenwest.wa.gov.au or posted to the Screenwest postal address (listed above).

Acquittal reports and delivery items enable governance of Screenwest funding and are also an important source of information on industry trends and opportunities.

Failure to fulfill acquittal and/or deliverable requirements as specified within the funding agreement is a breach of contract. If contractual obligations are not met Screenwest has the right to recoup any funds paid out to the applicant and it may disqualify the recipient from being eligible for future Screenwest funding.

Program Contacts

General Enquiries

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