

First Nations Project Development – Scripted and Factual

Program overview

Screenwest's First Nations Project Development assists Western Australian First Nations screen practitioners, production companies and game industry by providing funding assistance towards project development for scripted, factual and game sector projects

All guidelines are to be read in conjunction with the Screenwest Terms of Trade.

How much is available?

Up to \$15,000 per application (capped at \$30,000 per financial year, per applicant)

The level of funding varies depending on the project's specific needs.

Deadlines

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

Who is eligible?

The Indigenous Project Development Fund is for Western Australian Indigenous screen practitioners and production companies.

The applicant for project development funding must be an Indigenous Western Australian Resident

It is expected that the applicant owns 100% copyright in the project or is in a genuine co-production partnership ([please refer to the Screenwest Terms of Trade](#)).

In exceptional circumstances submissions will be assessed at Screenwest Management's discretion and be subject to guidance from the applicant in relevance to that specific situation

Applicants who have an outstanding acquittal report and/or deliverable(s) or who do not fulfill 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 is eligible?

The following activities will be considered:

- Creative mentor/script consultant fees
- Research fees
- Writing fees and
- Producer and Director fees.

The following projects will be considered:

- Feature film
- Animated series
- Adult drama Series
- Telemovies and
- Factual television programs.

Supported by

Projects not listed above will be considered on a case by case basis.

For projects intended for **television broadcast** it is expected that there will be a level of national market interest in the project prior to submitting an application for development funding through this fund.

It is unlikely that a **television project** will receive more than one tranche of funding through this scheme. If further development is required it is expected that the applicant will apply through Screenwest's Matched Development Funding program.

Funding for **feature films** is available where the project has market interest and/or likely audience appeal. For successive development funding, Screenwest will need to see the project continue to progress and move towards production.

If the project requires more than \$15,000 for one stage of development, it is suggested the applicant apply for funding through one of Screenwest's mainstream development funding programs.

Required application materials and how to apply

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

All applicants are required to submit the following:

- A completed Application Form
- Logline, one paragraph synopsis and one page detailed synopsis
- A development budget
- The latest script or treatment
- A clear development strategy outlining how the funding will be used to progress the project
- CV's of the creatives involved in the project and
- Any letters of market interest.

Submitting an application

Emailed applications

Applications can be emailed to funding@screenwest.com.au . Applicants should forward all required application materials in a single email. Application materials are not to be emailed directly to individual staff members.

Hard copy applications

Post applications to:

Attn Funding Team Coordinator
Screenwest
PO Box 3275
EAST PERTH
WA 6892

Hand deliver applications to:

Attn Funding Team Coordinator
Screenwest
30 Fielder Street
EAST PERTH
WA 6004

Screenwest recommends that mailed applications are sent via registered post. No responsibility is taken for unregistered mail.

Application receipt confirmation

An application receipt will be forwarded to the applicant within two working days to confirm that Screenwest has received the application. **It is the applicant's responsibility to contact Screenwest if an application receipt has not been received within this timeframe.** Application material(s) will not be returned by Screenwest.

Assessment Criteria

Screenwest staff process applications for assessment 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.

Screenwest assesses all applications competitively. The assessors consider all the materials provided with a specific focus on the following:

- Applicant's track record
- The quality of the idea
- A clear and achievable development strategy
- The ability and/or track record of the creative team involved in realising the next stage of development of the project
- Market potential or interest and likely audience appeal of the project
- Previous funding and progression of the project
- Likely chance of the project being realised in WA and
- Potential benefits to the WA industry.

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.

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.

Payment of funding

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a formal Development Investment Agreement (DIA) with Screenwest. The terms of the investment include, but are not limited to provision of the following:

- A credit (see Screenwest Terms of Trade)
- Delivery items (see Screenwest Terms of Trade)
- A 1% copyright interest (see Screenwest Terms of Trade)
- Recoupment of the development investment when the project moves into production (see Screenwest Terms of Trade)
- Provision of all Chain of Title in relation to the phase of development that funding is provided for (see Glossary Definition in the Screenwest Terms of Trade) and
- A 10% premium charge from Screenwest when the project moves into production.

On completion of contracting and returning the executed agreement to Screenwest, payment will be made to the recipient in installments as negotiated in the agreement.

Acquittals 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 DIA.

All acquittal reports should be emailed directly to: funding@screenwest.com.au or posted to the Screenwest postal address.

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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