

Western Australian Regional Screen Fund (WARSF) Guidelines

This fund is invitation only and supports productions to deliver screen production activity in regional Western Australian locations, building local skills and capacity, increase employment opportunities and showcasing the state's regional locations to audiences around the world.

Read these guidelines together with the [Screenwest Glossary of Terms](#).

Eligibility

Applicant

Australian and international producers and production companies can apply for this fund.

Project

The Project must:

1. Have genuine commercial marketplace interest or a distribution offer for the Project at the time of application.
2. Have a minimum [Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure \(QWAE\)](#) of \$1,000,000.
3. Have a minimum [Qualifying Western Australian Regional Expenditure \(QWARE\)](#) threshold of:
 - a. \$500,000 for scripted feature films or series for theatrical release, traditional television broadcast, streaming platforms.
 - b. \$100,000 for all factual productions for theatrical release, traditional television broadcast, streaming platforms.

QWARE and QWAE must be calculated according to the QWARE and QWAE definitions as linked above. Do not include budget contingency in the total estimated QWARE.

Multiple Projects cannot be combined to meet the minimum qualifying spend threshold; however, one season of a television series is considered a single Project.

Applicants with eligible WA Regional Screen Fund Projects may also be eligible for our other funding streams, which can be discussed with us.

If applying across multiple funds, PDV QWAE cannot also be claimed as QWAE or QWARE. Each type of qualifying expenditure must have its own separate calculations and entries within an A-Z budget.

How much funding is available?

Funding is provided as a grant, and as a guide, is calculated on a:

- 2:1 spend ratio based on the Project's QWARE; and
- 3:1 spend ratio based on the Project's QWAE.

The Screenwest board and Western Australian State Government have discretion to decide the final funding contribution subject to availability of funds.

This fund does not count towards the film and television production funding cap listed in the Terms of Trade.

Regional Outputs and Outcomes

The Applicant, in consultation with the relevant Western Australian Regional Development Commission (Commission), must prepare a [Regional Outputs and Outcomes \(ROO\)](#) agreement that outlines the Project's expected regional benefits.

We will introduce you to the appropriate Commission if you are invited to apply for the fund.

If the Project is successful, the ROO will need to be agreed upon and signed by both the Funding Recipient and the Commission before the funding agreement is finalised.

Production Budget Requirements

Below-the-Line (BTL) Crew Capacity Program

Projects that receive over \$100,000 in Screenwest production funding must budget for attachment or mentorship opportunities agreed with Screenwest. The number required depends on the amount of production funding a Project receives.

For more information, read the [BTL Crew Capacity Program - Production Company Guidelines](#).

Fees

Productions must budget for any repayable Screenwest development investment and/or slate fees.

Screenwest administration fees are not applicable to this fund.

Assessment Criteria

We will assess all eligible applications using the following criteria:

1. **Team:** Track record of the applicant(s) and key creatives.
2. **Cultural:** Cultural benefits of the Project to Western Australia.
3. **Economic:** Economic benefits of the Project to Western Australia, including the amount of QWAE.
4. **Commercial:** Strength of the marketplace and Project attachment, including any likely audience reach.
5. **Quality and feasibility:** Quality of the overall proposal and likelihood of the Project being fully financed and realised.

6. **Strategic alignment:** How the Project aligns with the relevant strategic priorities as set out in the [Screenwest Strategic Plan](#).
7. **Diversity and inclusion:** How the Project supports our commitment to driving greater diversity, inclusion and equity in the Western Australian screen industry.
8. **Funding:** Availability of WA Regional Screen funds.

We reserve the right to prioritise the assessment criteria that best aligns with the organisations goals and priorities.

When reviewing applications, we also consider whether the applicant has multiple ongoing Projects that could affect the quality or timely delivery of additional Projects.

Terms of Funding

Funding Recipients will enter into a Production Grant Agreement (PGA) with Screenwest.

Funding offers are valid for three months unless otherwise approved by us. Any specific funding conditions will be outlined in the letter of offer.

Application Process

Applications are by invitation only and can be submitted at any time, at least three months prior to production commencing.

Read the [SmartyGrants](#) application form which lists the materials you will need to submit as part of your application.

We recommend you discuss your application with the [program contacts](#) to discuss your Project's eligibility and let them know if you require any accessibility assistance to complete your application.

How to apply

9. If your project is eligible, an invitation will be sent to the Applicant through SmartyGrants.
10. Submit the online application form in SmartyGrants.
11. Upload all required documents and supporting materials.

We may ask for additional information that shows that services provided by third parties are arm's length transactions.

After you apply

- Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements above.
- Your application will be assessed by a panel of Screenwest management, a board director, experienced industry representatives and a representative from the Department of Creative

Industries, Tourism and Sport who assess all eligible applications against the assessment criteria.

- The panel funding recommendations are presented to the Screenwest board for endorsement.
- Once endorsed by the Screenwest board, funding recommendations are progressed to the Minister for Creative Industries for final approval.
- We will notify applicants of the outcome of their application by email or phone within 10 weeks after the application submission.

Ready to start your application?

[Apply here](#)

Contact the team

Contact the team listed [here](#), or by emailing funding@screenwest.com.au.

Phone: +61 8 6169 2100

Toll free for WA regional callers only: 1800 463 043

Screenwest (Australia) Ltd ABN 43 620 492 300

Screenwest sincerely thanks all its valued partners for their committed and ongoing support of our organisation and the Western Australian screen industry.

This program is supported by

