



Screenwest (Australia) Ltd
ABN 43 620 492 300

Producer Talent Accelerator Initiative Guidelines

The Producer Talent Accelerator is a year-long development initiative for an early to mid-career Western Australian producer. This initiative will accelerate a producer's career by:

- Expanding their creative development skills, production knowledge and industry experience.
- Bridging the gap between their ideas and the market.
- Growing their industry contacts.

The producer will undertake a placement opportunity, with Werner Film Productions.

Werner Film Productions is an award-winning independent television company, acquired by BBC Studios in 2024. Its acclaimed slate includes *The Newsreader*, *Surviving Summer*, *Crazy Fun Park*, *Knee High Spies* and *Goolagong*. Werner's productions have achieved significant Australian and international success, earning AACTA, Logie, SPA and international awards.

The successful recipient will assist Werner Film Productions scripted drama projects in development and production, while providing related administrative and operational support to Werner Film Productions staff members and contractors across the company. This will build the successful candidate's understanding of the business of production and provide hands on experience working within a high functioning, fast paced scripted drama production company, from project development through to production support and delivery.

For a more detailed role description, see Appendix One.

Screenwest encourages applications from First Nations Australians and people from historically underrepresented groups.

Funding Available

Up to \$100,000 for the year-long opportunity:

- Up to \$80,000 in funding for associated costs related to the placement.
- Up to \$20,000 for project development.

Screenwest funding is limited and competitive. The Funding Recipient's skills development needs and the development needs of their slate will determine the level of support provided.

Eligibility

The applicant must:

1. Meet the eligibility requirements in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
2. Be an early to mid-career Western Australian resident producer who has:
 - Received State or Federal screen agency funding in the last three years.
 - Produced at least one non-tertiary short film, web-series, or similar content that has been produced in the last three years.
 - Not produced a feature film or national broadcast series that has been theatrically distributed or commercially released.

Applicants who have an overdue acquittal for any Screenwest funding programs are not eligible to apply.

Application Materials

All applications must include:

1. Cover letter/proposal (three page maximum) outlining:
 - How will this opportunity advance your producing career.
 - What are the key outcomes to be achieved through the placement.
 - How will this opportunity advance your slate towards production outcomes.
 - How will this opportunity bridge skill and experience gaps.
2. Brief overview of your current slate of projects.
3. A development plan for up to 2 projects on your current slate, for up to \$20,000 in development funding. This plan must address:

- Project development history
 - Key personnel
 - Strategy to market and pathway to audience relative to market interest.
 - Detailed development plan outlining the objectives and tasks to be undertaken in the next stage of development.
 - A budget breakdown.
4. A current CV (two page maximum) including two professional references and a company bio (if relevant).

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by the host company to expand on their application.

Assessment Criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed against the following assessment criteria:

1. **Benefits to Applicant:** The benefit the opportunity will have in advancing the applicant's career objectives and skillset.
2. **Creative:** The quality of the overall proposal including the quality and marketability of projects on the applicant's slate.
3. **Planning and Delivery:** The strength of the development plan and the perceived ability and/or track record of the applicant and/or team to deliver outcomes.
4. **Track Record:** The applicant's track record including the level of funding and support Screenwest has committed to the practitioner historically and the outcomes achieved. The company/provider's track record and its ability to deliver on the stated placement outcomes.
5. **Benefits to WA:** The likely benefits and outcomes the opportunity will bring to the Western Australian screen industry.

Screenwest will weigh the above assessment criteria as it deems appropriate to best serve the purpose and strategic priorities of the organisation.

When reviewing applications, Screenwest considers if the applicant has multiple ongoing projects that could affect the quality and timely completion of additional projects.

Application Process

Before You Apply

- Before applying, read these guidelines and the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#). The Terms of Trade set out the core terms on which Screenwest conducts its business.
- Review the online application form on the [SmartyGrants portal](#). Make sure you have all the required documents ready to submit with the application.
- Discuss your application with the Screenwest [Program Manager](#).

How to Apply

1. Complete an online application form through the [SmartyGrants portal](#).
2. Attach all relevant documentation and supporting material. Refer to the 'Application Material' section above.

Contact the [Program Manager](#) if you require accessibility assistance.

After You Apply

- Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the general minimum eligibility criteria. Screenwest retains the right to shortlist applicants.
- A panel consisting of Screenwest Management and Werner Film Productions will assess all eligible applications.
- Final decisions are made by Werner Film Productions in consultation with Screenwest Management.
- You can expect a decision within 8 weeks of the round closing date.
- Screenwest will advise applicants of the outcome of their application via email or phone.

Terms of Funding

Screenwest funding eligibility restrictions may apply to the successful applicant based on their proposal. Possible funding restrictions will be discussed with applicants during the final assessment process e.g. during the year-long program the successful applicant may be ineligible to apply for Screenwest travel funding. All funding restrictions will be outlined in the letter of offer to the successful applicant.

Placement

- Successful applicants are required to enter a written agreement/s with Screenwest and Werner Film Productions. This agreement specifies the terms of funding and cash flow details.
- Professional skills development funding is provided as a grant to Werner Film Productions to facilitate the employment of the successful applicant.
- Werner Film Productions must employ the successful applicant under a formal employment agreement for the term of the placement.
- Werner Film Productions will be solely responsible for paying all fees, expenses and any associated fringe directly to the successful applicant for the duration of their placement.
- The Placement Provider shall be solely responsible for purchasing and maintaining all relevant insurances to cover the successful applicant during the placement term and for managing and controlling all work health and safety requirements of the successful applicant's placement.

Project Development

- Project development funding is provided as a repayable investment to the successful applicant if and when the project goes into production.
- Successful applicants are required to enter into a written agreement with Screenwest, specifying the terms of the funding. Payments will be made on satisfactory achievement and delivery of each contracted milestone

Enquiries

Email: info@screenwest.com.au

Phone: +61 8 6169 2100.

Toll Free: 1800 463 043 (WA regional callers only).

[Click here](#) to contact the Program Manager.

Appendix One – Role Description

Job title: Producer Accelerator Placement
Based: Werner Film Productions (WFP) offices in South Melbourne
Reports/Mentor(s): Tim Phillips, Managing Director, Michelle Wong, Legal & Business Affairs Executive
Term: One-year fixed term contract

The role will assist WFP scripted drama projects starting or already in production and the assistance of related support to WFP staff members and contractors while working on productions.

The role may include assistance with:

- preparing funding applications or other communications between WFP and Government funding bodies;
- liaising between WFP main office and production offices;
- obtaining clearances, chain of title, insurance and other production risk mitigation;
- obtaining visas and otherwise facilitating dealing with talent on productions;
- summarising and monitoring delivery requirements;
- managing and finalising credit requirements;
- summarising and ensuring compliance with publicity requirements;
- engaging with production accountants;
- any necessary investor audits;
- final certificate applications; and
- investor acquittals.

In addition to the production teams, the role will also involve close collaboration with the WFP Business Affairs and Finance teams.

While not the primary focus, from time to time the role may also require assisting with the management of acquiring or developing new projects, including applying for development funding, organising development workshops and managing script schedules.

This role requires identifying, driving and self-managing tasks as they arise.

The role will primarily build the successful candidate's knowledge in the business of carrying out and successfully delivering a production and also give practical experience of working within a high functioning, extremely busy scripted drama production company.