

Scripted Production Fund Guidelines

This fund provides grant finance to Western Australian producers for scripted feature length projects and series which will be made in Western Australia. Projects must have bonafide marketplace attachments from traditional and/or new distribution platforms with significant audience share.

Read these guidelines together with the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#) and [Glossary of Terms](#). The Terms of Trade outlines our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as the terms and conditions on which we do business.

Eligibility

Applicant

The Applicant must:

1. Meet the eligibility requirements in the Terms of Trade.
2. Be a Western Australian Resident or a Western Australian Resident Company as defined in the Terms of Trade.

Project

The Project must:

1. Be a feature film; or
2. Be a scripted series for traditional television broadcast, streaming or online platform.
3. Have a:
 - a. Current letter of intent or deal memo from a bonafide distributor, broadcaster or streaming platform for one or more of the following:
 - i. Theatrical release;
 - ii. Television broadcast; or
 - iii. Online release with significant audience share.
 - b. Distribution plan for Australian domestic and Rest of World (ROW) sales.
4. Reach a minimum of 10 points in the Western Australian Elements Table:

Table 1 Western Australian Elements Table

Ref	Position	Points
A	Producer (with a reasonable and material share of creative control, copyright and profit entitlement)	2
B	Underlying Western Australian IP (original concept, book or play created by a Western Australian)	2

Ref	Position	Points
C	Identifiable, major Western Australian location/setting or character (identifiable to the national audience)	2
D	Writer	2
E	Director	2
F	Director of Photography	1
G	Line Producer or Production Manager	1
H	1st AD	1
I	Production Designer or Costume Designer	1
J	Editor	1
K	Composer	1
L	Sound Design	1
M	**Flexible Points	2

Important information:

- To qualify as Western Australian for points, practitioners must meet the Western Australian Resident definition in the Terms of Trade.
- Each position has a maximum number of points (see 'Points' column). For example, a project with two Western Australian Producers attached can receive a maximum of two points.
- Individuals can earn points in more than one category.
- Writer/Directors can receive full points in both positions if they receive full credits and make up at least 50% of the writing or directing team.
- **Flexible Points: These points can be awarded to outcomes that align with Screenwest's Strategic Plan priorities but have not been accounted for in other areas of the points table (e.g. diversity and inclusion outcomes, significant expat attached, high profile talent attachment). The Producer must make a case for these points.

How much funding is available?

Up to \$700,000 per project.

Funding is provided as a grant and is made up of Base Funding plus any additional Funding Incentives.

Base funding

Base Funding is calculated at 10% of the [Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure](#) (QWAE) of a project, capped at \$500,000.

Funding incentives

Funding Incentives are calculated via the Funding Incentives Table, capped at \$200,000.

Table 2 Funding Incentives Table

Ref	Incentive Category	Criteria	Potential Funding
A	Underlying Western Australian IP	- WA content derived from, or profiles, a significant work, character or event specific to WA either historically, artistically, scientifically or socially. - A recognisable WA setting. - WA authorship and/or adaptation. - Other significantly identifiable WA element in the content of the production.	Up to \$50,000.
B	Western Australian Directors	- A WA Director receiving full credits for a feature film. - A WA Director receiving full credits for scripted series.	Up to \$50,000. Up to \$75,000 (pro rata if more than one director). Maximum cap per person \$50,000
C	Key Western Australian Heads of Department	Incentive applies to the following roles: - Line Producer - Production Manager - Director of Photography - Unit Manager - Production Accountant - Location Manager.	Up to \$100,000 (capped at \$20,000 per role).
D	Diversity & Inclusion	- WA First Nations ATL Key Creative. - WA ATL Key Creative who identifies as being culturally and linguistically diverse or identifies as living with a disability.	Up to \$25,000.

Ref	Incentive Category	Criteria	Potential Funding
E	Western Australian Flexible Incentive	This incentive can be attributed to outcomes that haven't been accounted for. For example: • Employment of a WA Key Creative or HOD who receives a full credit in a position for the first time. • Employment of a WA Expat Key Creative. • Significant WA profile cast attachment. • Outcome/s aligned with Screenwest's Strategic Plan priorities. The Applicant must present a compelling case for this Incentive.	Up to \$25,000.

Applicant production funding caps apply. Caps are listed in the Terms of Trade.

Western Australian Producer: Project Development Investment and Travel Funding

After receiving production funding through this fund and upon approval of the post-production drawdown milestone, the Western Australian Resident Producer with projects that have exceeded \$5 million in QWAE will be invited to apply out of round for:

Project development investment funding

Funding available: up to \$50,000 across a maximum of three Screenwest Development Investment Agreements. Funding will be provided in tranches of up to \$35,000.

- Our Scripted Project Development Fund guidelines and agreement terms will be used to assess and contract this funding.
- Development funding caps apply as per the Terms of Trade.

Travel funding

Funding available: up to \$20,000 provided in a single tranche.

Travel funds can be used as a contribution towards the cost of attending meetings or events that fall outside of the current travel guidelines.

Screenwest's travel fund agreement terms will apply.

All agreements must be executed within 12 months of commencing post-production on the Project that was supported through this fund.

In exceptional circumstances applications that are outside the above WA Producer Project Development Investment eligibility criteria may be considered.

Funding is not automatic and is subject to the availability of our funds.

Completion Funding

Projects are eligible to apply for completion funds where:

- a rough cut or equivalent has been produced; and
- the project has received bonafide market or significant festival interest or support by way of a presale and/or a distribution agreement.

Completion funding must be used to help meet the costs of post-production yet to be undertaken.

Production companies will need to show that any deferred payments, options or clearances have been paid or have been funded. Screenwest will not fund retrospective deferments.

Projects are not eligible for completion funding if they have already received Screenwest production funds.

Projects that receive completion funding are not eligible for the Western Australian Producer: Project Development Investment.

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.

Read the [BTL Crew Capacity Program - Production Company Guidelines](#) for more information.

Fees

Productions must budget for any repayable Screenwest development investment, slate, administration and/or legal fees, as outlined in the Terms of Trade.

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 and Creative:** Cultural and creative benefits of the project to Western Australia.

3. **Economic:** Economic benefits of the project to Western Australia, including the amount of QWAE and the employment of key Western Australian crew and post personnel.
4. **Commercial:** Strength of the market attachments.
5. **Quality and feasibility:** Strength of the script, creative statement and production methodology, including the appropriateness of the finance plan.
6. **Strategic alignment:** How the project aligns with the relevant strategic initiatives as set out in the [Screenwest Strategic Plan](#).
7. **Diversity:** How the Project supports our commitment to driving greater diversity, inclusion and equity in the Western Australian screen industry, including overall diversity of projects funded by us.
8. **Funding:** Availability of our funds.

We will weight the above assessment criteria as we deem appropriate to best support our strategic purpose.

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

Application Process

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](#) before applying and let them know if you require any accessibility assistance to complete your application.

How to apply

- Submit the online application form in SmartyGrants.
- Upload all required documents and supporting materials.

After you apply

- Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements above and in the Terms of Trade.
- Your application will be assessed by a panel of Screenwest management, a Screenwest board director and experienced industry representatives who will assess all eligible applications against the assessment criteria.
- The panel funding recommendations are presented to the Screenwest board.
- The Screenwest board makes the final funding decisions.

- We will notify Applicants of the outcome of their application by email or phone within 10 weeks after the application funding round closing date.
- Production funding and travel funding are provided as a grant.
- Project development funding is provided as a repayable investment.
- Funding Recipients will enter into a Production Grant Agreement (PGA) with Screenwest.
- Production funding offers are valid for three months unless otherwise approved by us. Any specific funding conditions will be outlined in the letter of offer.

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.

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