



West Coast Re-Visioned

To assist in capability development to advance culture by bringing Western Australian stories and identity to screen for the benefit of the community.

What is it for?

Screenwest's West Coast Visions (WCV) initiative is a screen industry talent development and production program that provides funding for low budget features to be produced in Western Australia. Its primary goal is to offer first time feature film directors their first theatrical feature film credit.

Ideally a successful grant of WCV production funding will enable a project to complete the financing of the film. We expect to see projects developed with creative and practical elements, budgets and finance plans with this key objective in mind.

Screenwest is committed to creating further development pathways for Western Australian creative teams. In 2020 to build from the success of Screenwest's talent development programs, the West Coast Visions initiative has now been redesigned to incorporate a six-month intensive development period. This model ensures fast tracking the development of a number of teams and projects at once, rather than just one team.

This year Amanda Duthie, (Head of Scripted (Acting) SBS) and James Hewison, (International Film Consultant) will be coming on board as external industry assessors. Their market-based insight will ensure scripts are production ready and can fast track into financing and production. The aim of the revamped, two stage initiative is to develop a slate of high-quality production and finance ready projects.

Stage One: Development

Up to 3 projects will be selected to participate in a targeted six-month development period, which will include:

- A Screenwest Development Grant of up to \$20,000
- A development plan to be shaped with the assistance of Screenwest and the industry assessors.

Stage Two: Production

At the end of the six-month development period, one project will be selected by Senior Screenwest staff and the external industry assessors to move into production. Production finance will include:

- A \$750,000 grant from Screenwest

To be competitive:

- The project needs to be distinctive and marketable, with a clear intended audience.
- Applicants will need to demonstrate they have a team that can deliver the creative and logistical challenges of the project submitted.
- The applicant producer needs to have adequate experience, or have an experienced executive producer attached.
- The director needs to be able to show examples of work/short films that clearly demonstrate their ability to be able to direct this project.

How much can I apply for?

- **Stage One – Development:** \$20,000
- **Stage Two – Production:** \$750,000

Who is it for?

An application must first meet the following eligibility criteria in order to be competitively assessed for funding through this program.

The applicant must:

1. Meet the general eligibility requirements set out in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
2. Have a first time Western Australian feature film director attached (who has not had a theatrically released feature film credit or equivalent and will be credited in this position on this film).
3. Have the key creative team consist of a Western Australian Producer and writer, as a preference. Screenwest will consider proposals with at least one of the key creatives (producer or writer) from outside the state, however a compelling argument will need to be put forward in your application materials to be considered during the assessment process.
4. Hold the underlying rights to the project at the time of application.
5. Complete all production and post-production in Western Australia.
6. Have all Heads of Department and Crew be Western Australian residents, unless approved by Screenwest.

The project must:

1. Be a developed feature film intended for theatrical/appropriate platform release.
2. Be achievable in Western Australia within the proposed time frame.

General:

- Funding will not be awarded retrospectively, for example, fees for drafts written prior to funding assessment.

- If an application has been previously unsuccessful or, it cannot be re-submitted for assessment unless it has been substantially and satisfactorily changed, developed or reworked since its last official assessment. If this is the case, a document should be included, highlighting the specific changes. If a re-submitted project application has not changed substantially, it may not be accepted.
- The applicant will need to warrant that they have all relevant Chain of Title documents in place. Screenwest will request the COT opinion letter at the time of contracting, if successful.

What do I need to apply?

You will need the following:

Stage One - Development

- **Completed Application Form**, including any additional information, documentation and materials listed.
- **The latest draft of the screenplay**. Screenplay to have title page with project name, draft number, full date (day/month/year), writer name and, if applicable, producer's name/company.
- **Proposal to include:**
 - Logline, one paragraph synopsis and a one-page detailed synopsis.
 - Document highlighting specific changes to the project if it's been previously unsuccessful.
 - Director's vision statement.
 - Director's creative support material (eg. story boards, concept drawings - if relevant).
 - Examples of the Director's previous work (via online link only).
 - Please submit no more than two examples via link and limit your material to under 20 mins.
 - Assessors will watch no more than two examples.
 - Please check your link/s work when submitting, as Screenwest may not have the opportunity to follow up on corrupt links.

- A summary of why this work best reflects the directorial voice and tone of the feature film.
- A producer's statement which includes a pathway to audience strategy with:
 - a summary of the target audience, marketing and social outreach strategy
 - Draft Finance plan
 - Distribution plan
- A detailed development plan outlining how the development grant will be spent and the areas of focus needed to move the project toward being production ready within the six-month period.
- Completed Screenwest development budget template, including a line by line rationale for the Screenwest funding
- A Preliminary draft production budget (preferably a Screen Australia A-Z budget), including:
 - A highlighted column that shows Qualifying WA Expenditure (QWAE).
 - Allowance for the repayment of any prior development investment and interest occurred. To note, this would not include West Coast Visions development if successful, as this is a grant.
 - Allowance in the budget for National Film and Sound Archive delivery items.
 - If relevant, allowance in the budget to adequately cover the cost of cash-flowing the Producer Offset.
 - To note: the production budget can and will be further refined during the course of the development period
- **CVs of key creatives** (e.g. producer, director, writer) and any other committed Head of Department.
- **Resubmission** A document must be included with the application listing specific changes made to the re-submitted application. Screenwest may not accept a re-submitted application if Screenwest Management determines the project has not changed substantially

- **To note:** A COVID risk management plan may be requested at any time during the application or assessment process.

Stage Two - Production

- All three successful development recipients will automatically be invited to apply for production funding at the end of the development period.
- Further production application materials will be advised by Screenwest towards the end of the development period, but will include:
 - Shooting schedule.
 - A detailed, updated A-Z production budget.
 - An achievable finance plan.
 - Market Interest/Pathway to Audience.
- Each team will be expected to have evolved a practical approach to the realization of the story within their budget.
- In the course of the application process, if any of the credits are being shared with a non-WA resident(s), the team will be required to define the collaborative nature of the project
- An updated A COVID risk management plan may be requested at any time during the application or assessment process.

How is my application assessed?

Screenwest will assess all eligible applications against the following criteria:

Stage One - Development

1. The quality of the overall proposal including script and all supporting materials.
2. Evidence of a distinctive directorial voice and compelling storytelling style in the Director's Vision Statement and in the example/s of the Director's previous works.

3. Cultural and creative benefits of the project to Western Australia.
4. The team's track record and their likely ability to deliver the project to a high standard.
5. Achievability of the project within the timeframe taking into consideration the projects potential, finance plan and working to the budget.
6. Support for Screenwest's commitment to the creation and growth of diverse representation as further described below.

Stage Two - Production

1. The marketability of the project and strength of the script.
2. The strength of the Director interview and likely ability to execute the project to a high standard.
3. The strength of the team interview in demonstrating a united vision for realising the project.
4. The producer's vision for realizing the project within budget, including a methodology for production and an ability to move the project into production within a year timeframe.

In evaluating the application Screenwest will take into account any information and weight the above criteria as it judges appropriate to best serve the purpose and strategy of the organisation.

Screenwest will follow the following process in assessing the application:

Stage One - Development

1. Screenwest will check the application's eligibility.
2. Any applications found ineligible will be reviewed by a Screenwest Manager.
3. Screenwest Management will shortlist applicants at an assessment meeting.
4. If shortlisted, applicants will be notified as soon as practicable and may be required to interview or provide additional material on request.

5. Final applicants will be approved at an assessment meeting with Screenwest Management and two external industry assessors.

Stage Two - Production

1. All successful development recipients will have their application materials reviewed by Screenwest Management and two industry assessors.
2. The materials will be discussed and reviewed at an assessment meeting.
3. These recipients will be invited to outline their vision for the project with the assessment panel, including, but are not limited to:
 - a. an interview with the director and
 - b. an interview with the team (e.g. writer, director, producer).
4. Final production funding approval will be made by the Screenwest Board.
5. The two/three unsuccessful teams will be invited in for a feedback session, post Board sign-off.

Diversity

Screenwest is committed to reflecting the broad diversity of Western Australia's community on screen and behind the camera, through stories funded and practitioners supported.

Screenwest recognises diversity as differences in gender; age; Aboriginal identity; cultural and linguistic diversity (CaLD); disability; sexuality and gender identities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and ace (LGBTQIA+); location (including regional and remote regions) and socio-economic status.

Indigenous Content and Participation

Where there is Indigenous content or participation in any project, Screenwest requires that each applicant complies with protocols related to the treatment of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property Rights (ICIP). For more information on ICIP, please refer to the Arts Law Centre of Australia.

Written confirmation of the willingness of both the subject(s) and the community to be involved in the project is essential.

There must be strong indigenous representation on all projects that tell indigenous stories, through the involvement of an indigenous key creative or through thorough consultation and collaboration that is adequately budgeted for.

Please ensure you allow sufficient time for consultation so that people giving consent can more fully understand what they are consenting to.

Please note, these requirements apply equally to Indigenous and non-Indigenous filmmakers.

For information on what Content, Consent and Consultation means, please refer to the Screenwest website for more information on [Filming with Indigenous People, Content and Land](#).

For more detailed information on Indigenous Content and Participation protocols, please refer to [Screen Australia's Pathways & Protocols: a filmmaker's guide to working with Indigenous people, culture and concepts](#).

What are the Terms of Funding?

- Funding will be provided as a grant.
- Successful applicants will enter into written agreements with Screenwest, Development Grant Agreement (DGA) for Development and a Production Grant Agreement (PGA) for Production, specifying the terms of the funding.
- Recipients are required to provide a written acquittal report detailing the outcomes achieved as a result of the funding. Aspects of these may be published on the Screenwest website following consultation with the applicant.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain and keep current, all necessary permissions, permits and Chain of Title documentation for the development, production and exploitation of the Project. Screenwest reserves the right to sight and approve the above at any time, upon written request to the Producer.

What is the application deadline?

Monday, 11 May 2020 at 5:00pm AWST.

How do I submit my application?

Email all application materials in a single email to: funding@screenwest.com.au. Please note:

- Do not email applications directly to individual Screenwest staff members.
- For emails larger than 8MB, send via Screenwest's Hightail Account by following this link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/screenwest>.
- An application receipt will be forwarded to the applicant within two working days to confirm receipt. **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.
- Posted or hand-delivered hard copy applications are also accepted.

Who can I speak to about this program?

Eva Di Blasio, Talent Development Manager

Screenwest

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Applicants should note that just prior to a closing date, consultations can be in high demand. Consequently, it is best to telephone or email program contacts for an appointment or general advice well before the advertised closing date.