



SoundWAVes - an Audible and Screenwest Audio Development and Production Initiative.

What is it?

Audible and Screenwest have partnered to provide a first of its kind opportunity for Western Australian creatives - to develop and produce premium audio projects (non-fiction or fiction) for potential release on Audible. Audible is the world's largest producer and provider of original spoken word entertainment.

Part of the Audible and Screenwest *SoundWAVes* initiative, this opportunity aims to see up to two original, binge-worthy, and globally appealing audio projects of 3-6hrs in duration produced, that also have future path-to-screen possibilities.

Project ideas should have a sense of 'why now' – what makes this idea or execution new, distinct, and why will it stand out? And how will it entertain a wide listenership from across the globe?

Additional project support will also be provided to the teams selected, including a 'Writing for Audio' workshop with script editor and story developer, Jamey Claffey.

Following the development period, Audible and Screenwest will then select up to two projects for production.

There will be a Western Australian industry wide online Q&A event with Screenwest and Ben Naparstek, Head of Content for Audible Australia, to discuss the initiative overall, what Audible is looking for and you will have the chance to submit questions, live. To register for this event, please do so [here](#).

What Can I Apply For?

- Up to \$100,000 in development and production funding per project.
- Funding is not automatic, even if an applicant can demonstrate they meet all the assessment criteria.

- Screenwest and Audible may approve funding less than the requested amount, as guided by the recommendations made during the assessment process and the total demand on available funds.

Am I Eligible?

To be considered eligible for this initiative, the below general minimum eligibility applies.

Applicant / Company Eligibility

The applicant / company must:

1. Meet the general eligibility requirements as set out in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
2. Be a Western Australian resident / Production Company as defined in the Screenwest Terms of Trade.
3. Use all Western Australian crew and key creatives, though cast may be non-Western Australian.
4. Be 18 years and over.
5. Include a WA based Writer, Creator and/or Producer. (WA-based means that they must be residing in and working in WA and have lived in WA for at least six months continuously prior to the date of the application).
6. If an individual, be the copyright holder.
7. Be an individual or a team.

Applicants may submit or be attached to multiple applications; but we do advise you to put your most competitive projects forward.

Project Eligibility

The project must:

- Be a narrative-focused documentary or fiction audio project.
- Not be a straight 1:1 interview show format.

- Present clear potential for a pathway to screen.

What Do I Need to Apply?

Applicants will need to provide:

1. A completed application form on SmartyGrants, including any additional information, documentation and materials listed in the form.
2. A pitch document that outlines:
 - a) The overall idea, genre, audience – what is the ‘elevator pitch’?
 - b) Log line, one paragraph and one page outline
 - c) How you will ‘tell’ the story
 - d) Why the story needs to be told now – what makes it distinct and new?
 - e) Any access that you may have to creatives, cast or people that will make this project ‘cut through’ and be heard
 - f) An analysis of comparable projects already or soon to be in the marketplace.
3. Any relevant credits or experience that you feel demonstrates you and your team have the capability to develop and produce an audio script.
4. A short bio for all members of the creative team. For applicants with no commercial credits, documentation of significant, related professional experience.

After the development period, teams may be asked to provide further /updated project materials to Audible, including a production budget / quote.

Note: A COVID risk management plan may be requested at any time during the application or assessment process.

How is my Application Assessed?

Assessment Criteria

Screenwest and Audible will assess all eligible applications against the following criteria:

1. The quality and vision of the overall idea, including its global appeal.
2. The audio-first nature of the idea – a clear reason to exist in the audio format – as well as its potential pathway to screen.
3. The applicant’s and team’s track record, including perceived ability to produce an audio script to a high standard.
4. The opportunity it presents for the Western Australian applicant / company / team.
5. Support for Screenwest’s commitment to the creation and growth of diverse representation as described in the Screenwest Diversity Statement, below.
6. General alignment with [Screenwest’s current Strategic Plan](#).

In evaluating the application Screenwest and Audible will take into account any information and weight the above criteria as they judge appropriate to best serve the purpose and strategy of both Screenwest and Audible.

Assessment Process

Screenwest and Audible will follow this process in assessing applications for this program:

1. Screenwest will check the application meets the general minimum eligibility.
2. Any applications found ineligible will be reviewed by another Screenwest Program Manager.
3. Depending on the number of applications, Screenwest Management reserves the right to shortlist applications, prior to formal panel assessment.
4. Applications will be assessed by a selection committee consisting of Screenwest and Audible representatives.
5. The assessment timeline will be approximately xxx weeks from application deadline to final decision.

Timeline

- Applications open: Thursday 3 June 2021
- Q&A Event: Thursday 24 June 2021
- Applications close: Monday 12 July 2021 and up to 2 projects selected for development

- **Development Phase.** Additional materials may be required by Audible and/or Screenwest following the development phase
- Up to two projects selected for production: By 6 September 2021
- Contracting phase: 1 month
- Production period: 6-7 months
- Delivery to Audible: May / June 2022

Diversity Statement

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
- Indigenous 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](#).

There must be strong Indigenous representation on all projects that tell Indigenous stories, through the involvement of Indigenous key creatives and 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.

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](#).

Terms of Funding

1. Funding will be provided jointly by Audible and Screenwest.
2. Successful recipients will enter into a Development Services Agreement during the development phase and a Production Services Agreement during the production phase with Audible, specifying the terms of the funding and what the applicant will need to deliver to receive their scheduled payments.
3. 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.
4. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain and keep current, all necessary permissions, permits, insurances and Chain of Title documentation for the development, production and exploitation of the Project. Screenwest and Audible reserve the right to sight and approve the above at any time, upon written request to the Producer.

Deadlines and How to Apply

Application materials must be complete and submitted in full by **5:00pm AWST Monday 12 July 2021**

Acceptance of any additional application materials after this date is subject to Screenwest's discretion.

Applications will be accepted through the Screenwest SmartyGrants Portal. Do not email applications directly to individual Screenwest staff members.

You can start your application at any time once the portal opens. You can save your progress and return to it at any time before the deadline. **Do not start your application the day it is due.**

An application receipt will be automatically forwarded to the applicant from SmartyGrants 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 two working days.**

If you are unable to submit an application online or having difficulties, please call Screenwest on [+61 8 6169 2100](tel:+61861692100) or [1800 463 043](tel:1800463043) (WA regional callers).

Please note: the submission portal for all funding programs close automatically at **5:00pm AWST sharp** on the specified due date.

Allow plenty of time to submit your application in case of unanticipated problems. **Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

Who can I speak to about this initiative?

For more information about this program, please contact:

Barbara Connell, Drama Development Manager

Screenwest

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Monique Hammond, Development & Production Coordinator

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Please note that meetings with program contacts can be in high demand. It's best to telephone or email for an appointment or general advice well before planning to submit an application.

Applicants are **strongly** encouraged to discuss their applications before applying.