

Post-Production, Digital and Visual Effects Rebate (WA PDV Rebate)

To develop the capacity of the Western Australian post-production sector to service regional, Western Australian, national, and international productions, in order to make Western Australia an attractive destination for post services, globally.

What is it?

The WA PDV Rebate is a Western Australian post-production, digital and visual effects sector incentive that compliments the Australian Federal Government's [Australian Screen Production Incentive](#) [Producer Offset](#) (40% or 20%), [Location Offset](#) (16.5%) and [PDV Offset](#) (30%) streams.

It is a discretionary rebate, that is subject to the availability of funds.

What can I apply for?

An **Eligible Applicant** may apply for a discretionary rebate equivalent to:

- **20% of the first \$500,000** of expenditure (up to \$100,000) and
- **a further 10% rebate** for all expenditure over \$500,000 on post-production, digital and visual effects work undertaken in Western Australia on Qualifying Tasks of at least \$100,000 on an **Eligible Project***.

***Please Note:** The rebate will be calculated on the amount of PDV Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure (PDV QWAE) on **Qualifying Tasks** on an **Eligible Project**.

How is eligibility established?

Rebate Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Applicant

An eligible applicant is:

- any producer or co-producer credited on the project and able to demonstrate they own or control the necessary rights to produce the project and/or
- an eligible applicant under the [Federal PDV Offset](#), or
- any bona fide Western Australian resident company engaged in providing post-production digital and visual effects services on the Eligible Project.

Eligible Project

An eligible project is any project eligible for funding under the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#) and in an eligible format under the Federal PDV Offset (regardless of content platform). Unlike the Federal PDV Offset however, documentaries will be considered eligible projects to apply for this rebate.

Expenditure Threshold

The expenditure threshold includes Qualifying Expenditure on Qualifying Tasks of at least AUD\$100,000 on the Eligible Project.

Qualifying Tasks

Qualifying tasks include any post-production, digital and visual effects tasks eligible under the Federal PDV Offset. Qualifying Tasks must be provided by a Western Australian resident post-production company, as defined in the Screenwest Terms of Trade, owned, and operated at arm's length from the Producer and Production Company responsible for the production.

PDV Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure

Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure (PDV QWAE) refers to spend incurred in Western Australia relating to post-production, digital and visual effects and as further defined in the Screenwest Definition of Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure.

It must not exceed amounts actually paid by the production company incurring the expenses for any of the PDV work undertaken.

Australian Federal Government's PDV Offset

Australian Federal Government's PDV Offset refers to the 30 per cent rebate for work on post, digital and visual effects production (PDV) in Australia.

Guidance can be found on the [Australian Government Office for the Arts website](#).

Multiple projects cannot be packaged together to achieve the AUD\$100,000 Expenditure Threshold; however, one season of a TV series will be considered a single project.

It is possible to combine incentives on the same project when applying separately for Screenwest Production funding, Western Australian Screen Fund Production Funding and PDV support.

Please Note: the post-production component of any project application for Screenwest Production funding and/or WASF production funding must be excluded from the calculation of Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure (QWAE) in the application, if the applicant is also applying / intending to apply separately for the PDV.

Only work undertaken and expenditure undertaken after pre-approval is received is eligible to be considered for the rebate.

What Do I Need to Apply?

Before applying

- Read the guidelines and the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
- Ensure you meet the Eligibility Requirements
- Contact the Program Manager as early as possible to determine the most appropriate time to apply

Applications should be made when the schedule for the film is relatively certain. The qualifying PDV related activities must commence within three months of their nominated start date unless otherwise agreed in writing with Screenwest.

Where an applicant is also applying for Screenwest Documentary, Scripted or Footloose Production funding, or Western Australian Screen Fund Production Funding and the WA PDV Rebate, then both /all applications should be made at the same time.

Pre-approval

- **Eligible Applicants** must first apply for a Pre-Approval Letter to determine if their project is eligible for the WA PDV Rebate and at the budget amount requested (Pre-Approval)
- The amount the project will be eligible to receive will be indicated in the Pre-Approval Letter
- Eligible applicant must apply for pre-approval before the work has begun on eligible tasks.
- The final approval amount will be determined on completion of the actual Qualifying Western Australian PDV Expenditure Qualifying Tasks. Screenwest must receive and approve a completed acquittal from the **Eligible Applicant** in order to receive the full and final rebate.

What is an Acquittal?

An acquittal is:

- An independent audited ledger/statement of qualifying WA PDV expenditure with contracts, invoices, purchases orders and change orders
- Number and category of local jobs generated by the project and attributable person days
- Full credit list of PDV crew
- Federal PDV acquittal (if applicable)
- A statutory declaration supporting the data provided.
- PDV vendor will need to provide a statement confirming that all services were provided in WA or if not, the amount attributed to non-WA services.

If the qualifying WA PDV expenditure advised at the time of pre-approval application varies by more than 10%, the applicant must request a variation to the Pre-Approval Letter.

All requests must be made in writing to Screenwest within 10 business days of the variation. Variation requests will be subject to the ongoing availability of rebate funds.

Acquittals must be made to Screenwest within 90 days of completion of the relevant post production, digital and visual effects work.

You will need the following:

- Completed Application Form, including any additional information, documentation and materials listed
- A PDV Budget for Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure
- Authentic, validated quotes from the confirmed WA PDV Suppliers that clearly outline the relevant spend.

How is My Application Assessed?

The WA PDV is a discretionary rebate that will be applied to eligible projects, subject to the availability of funds.

Assessment Criteria

Screenwest will assess all eligible applications against the following evaluation criteria:

- The availability of funds.
- Project budget.
- Benefit of the current production to develop ongoing growth of the Western Australian post-production sector.
- Support for Screenwest's commitment to the creation and growth of diverse representation as further described below.
- Potential of funds to enable post-production project to occur in WA, rather than interstate or internationally.
- Alignment with Screenwest's current strategic plan.

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

Assessment Process

The following process will be applied in assessing the application:

1. A Screenwest Program Manager will check the application's eligibility
2. A Screenwest Program Manager will confirm the availability of the funds and assess an eligible application against the assessment criteria.
3. A Screenwest Program Manager will calculate the anticipated rebate amount and issue a Pre-Approval Letter.

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
- 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.

Terms of Funding

Successful recipients will be required to enter into a written agreement with Screenwest, specifying the terms of the funding, including:

- The funding will be provided as a rebate to the applicant on completion of the work, effectively as a rebate on the eligible expenditure incurred.
- Screenwest must receive an end credit on all copies of the project in a form no less prominent than that of any other Australian government funder. The nature and extent of the PDV work undertaken will be used to determine the exact credit.
- A project that does not meet the minimum qualifying WA PDV Expenditure Threshold of AU\$100,000 at the time of acquittal will not qualify for any of the rebate. However, if contracts between the post service provider and the international production partner are issued in foreign currencies, the applicable exchange rate for determining whether the threshold has been met will be the exchange rate for the day on which the PDV activity commenced on the project in Western Australia.

When is the Application Deadline?

Applications must be complete and will be accepted at any time.

How do I submit my application?

- Applications will be accepted through the [Screenwest SmartyGrants Portal](#). Do not email applications directly to individual Screenwest staff members.
- 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](#) or 1800 463 043 (regional callers).

Who can I speak to about this program?

For more information about the Western Australian PDV, please contact:

Tenille Kennedy, Scripted Executive

Screenwest

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Please note that meetings with program contacts can be in high demand, so 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.