



AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION (ABC) & SCREENWEST FACTUAL FORMATS INITIATIVE

Screenwest and ABC Factual and Culture have partnered for an initiative that will invite Western Australian producers to create new returnable, half hour format series with broad audience appeal for Tuesdays at 8pm on ABC TV and ABC iview.

This initiative seeks to co-develop up to three ideas, with the opportunity for at least one project to go into production in late 2022 - early 2023.

The ideas for this initiative will need to consider the following:

- It can be single location, field, ob doc or a hybrid format.
- It is a returnable format, comprised of between 4-6 episodes.
- It can be host or non-host led.
- Audience = broad, family co viewing.
- Tone = enriching, purposeful and heartfelt, that uses warmth and loveable characters to connect across generations.
- That they meet Screenwest Terms of Trade.

The successful series will premiere on ABC TV and ABC iview in 2023.

Please note: if successful in this initiative, this funding will go towards the Production Company cap allowable in the Screenwest Terms of Trade.

Funding Available

Development

Up to three applicants will be selected to develop their idea. Successful applicants will each be given up to \$50,000 each in recoupable development funding (50/50 match funded by Screenwest and ABC).

Following on from Development the intention is that at one of the ideas will be greenlit for broadcast production.

Production:

If commissioned:

- Screenwest: Up to \$400,000 per series (based on a 6-episode series).
- ABC: A licence fee of \$75,000 per half hour, and may also contribute equity investment, in the form of cash or archive contribution (subject to ABC's standard commissioning process).

Funding is not automatic, even if an applicant can demonstrate they meet all the assessment criteria.

Screenwest 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.

Eligibility

Applicant / Company Eligibility

The applicant / company must:

1. Have relevant track record to deliver a prime-time returnable documentary series.
2. Meet the general eligibility requirements as set out in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
3. Be a Western Australian resident / Production Company as defined in the Screenwest Terms of Trade who has had a broadcast credit.
4. Be an Australian citizen or resident.
5. Be 18 years of age or older.
6. Have Creative Authorship of the Project that must reside and remain throughout the production with a Western Australia based production company.

Project Eligibility

The project must:

1. Be intended to deliver a significant national and potentially international prime time television

audience and be commissioned by the ABC for production.

2. The format of the series needs to be considered returnable for repeat series.
3. Meet the minimum levels of Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure (QWAE), being a ratio of 3:1.
4. Meet Screenwest’s Terms of Trade and adhere to the ABC Governing Rules, including the [ABC Editorial Policies](#) and the [ABC’s Commissioning for Diversity and Inclusion Guidelines](#).

If a project moves through the Development phase the project will need to reach a minimum of 10 points, from the point allocation table below, to qualify for production funding:

	Position	Points
A	WA Production Company with at least joint creative control	2
B	Original concept with at least 50% copyright owned by WA Production Company	2
C	Identifiable WA location/setting or character	2
D	Series - WA Series Producer and Series Director. 1 point awarded per position. Single – WA Director attached. 2 points awarded.	2
E	WA Supervising Post Producer and WA Supervising Post Director. 1 point awarded per position.	2
F	WA Writer/s; at least 50% of the writers (receiving full credit) attached must be filled by West Australians to receive this point.	1
G	WA Editor	1
H	Post: 75% of your post budget spend in WA	1
I	75% of crew to be West Australian to get 2 points. Points cannot be prorated.	2

Please note the following clarifications for the above point allocations:

- The maximum number of points that can be attributed to a position is the number stated in the above table. For example, a project that has two WA producers attached will receive a maximum of two points.
- Individuals can receive points in multiple categories.

Please note although the number of points determines eligibility, it is not the sole criteria for assessment.

Assessment Criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. The strength, quality and originality of the concept.
2. The potential of the idea to appeal to its target audience.
3. Track record of the applicant and the feasibility of the individual or team to complete the project in the required timeframe and within the given budget, as evidenced by the submission.
4. The career development benefits of this project for the individual or team, including consideration of diversity.

Additionally, for production:

1. Cultural and creative benefits of the project to Western Australia (as highlighted in the total points accumulated in the WA Elements points table).
2. Economic benefits including the amount of Qualifying Western Australian Expenditure (QWAE) and the employment of key Western Australian crew.

In evaluating the application, Screenwest will consider all information and weight the above criteria as it deems appropriate to best serve the purpose and strategic priorities of the organisation.

Assessment Process - Development

- Eligible applications will be assessed by the ABC Factual & Culture commissioning team in consultation with Screenwest management. If shortlisted, you may be asked to provide further information.

Assessment Process - Production

- Once a project has been greenlit for commission by the ABC, a Screenwest Documentary Production funding submission can be made (outside the general production funding rounds).
- An assessment panel, including at least two experienced external industry practitioners, a Screenwest Board member and Screenwest Management, will make a funding recommendation to the Screenwest Board.
- The final funding decision will be made by the Screenwest Board.

Application Process

Development

Applications must be completed in full and submitted by 5:00pm AWST on Friday 3 June 2022.

Applicants will need to provide:

1. A completed Application Form on SmartyGrants.
2. Development budget.
3. Series synopsis that aligns with your guide finance plan.
4. Episode breakdown.
5. Details of any access requirements.
6. Suggested on screen talent (if applicable).
7. Key production creatives.

Production (if a project moves through the development phase):

Applicants will need to provide:

1. A completed Production Application Form on SmartyGrants.
2. A fully itemized A-Z budget that includes Western Australian expenditure (QWAE), using a relevant industry standard format. Budget templates can be found on the Screen Australia website.

- a. In the current climate, we would expect to see COVID costs covered in the submitted budget. Key identified risks to production are expected to be planned for in the budget submitted.
 - b. All production budgets at application stage must allow for any and all repayable development, slate and/or administration fees.
 - c. Productions that receive Screenwest Documentary Production funding over \$100,000 are also required to budget for and engage a Western Australian attachment/s in consultation with Screenwest. Please refer to the Crew Attachment Program Guidelines on the Screenwest website for more information.
3. A finance plan, including evidence of all finance sources, using an industry standard format.
 4. A completed ABC Diversity and Inclusion Plan
 5. A COVID Risk Mitigation Plan, that is expected to be in line with the Australian Screen Production Industry COVID-Safe Guidelines, and that complies with applicable State and Federal Covid Legislation.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their initial application by Monday 20 June 2022.

- Applications will be accepted through the [Screenwest SmartyGrants Portal](#).

If you are unable to apply online or are experiencing difficulties submitting your application, contact your Screenwest Program Contact during business hours.

- Please note: the application submission portal automatically closes at 5:00pm AWST sharp on the specified due date.
- Acceptance of any additional application materials after the closing date is subject to Screenwest's discretion.
- 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.**

Diversity & Inclusion

ABC Factual and Cultures content strives for diversity and representation in all its programming.

Inclusivity, diversity and gender equity are priorities for the ABC and Screenwest. There is an expectation that integrated and meaningful collaboration will occur throughout the creative process. Consider whether your team has the right to tell this particular story and whether your telling of it, and casting, will be authentic.

Indigenous Story Content and Collaboration

Screenwest supports the telling of Indigenous stories by Indigenous creatives and storytellers.

Where this is not the case, we expect meaningful collaboration with the Indigenous communities whose stories they are.

Whenever there is Indigenous content and/or Indigenous community participation in the project or when there are Indigenous members of the team who do not have the authority to speak for the people or place being represented in the story, you will need to follow the checklists from [Pathways & Protocols: a film maker's guide to working with Indigenous people, culture and concepts](#).

This includes a statement on how you are approaching the Indigenous content, (even if you believe the content is not specific to a community or individual), evidence of your collaboration to date and where relevant, signed letters of consent confirming community and/or individual's willingness to participate.

All projects involving Indigenous content or participation will be assessed by Indigenous Assessors.

Terms of Funding

1. Screenwest provides development funding as an investment and production funding as a grant.
2. Successful recipients will enter into a Development Investment Agreement (DIA) for development and a Production Grant Agreement (PGA) for production with Screenwest.
3. Projects will also enter into a standard development agreement with the ABC, and if commissioned, a standard licence and investment agreement.
4. Projects selected for development will not necessarily advance to production.
5. If a project is commissioned, the ABC will provide a licence fee of \$75,000 per half hour, and may also contribute equity investment, in the form of cash or archive contribution, and the commission will be subject to ABC's standard commissioning process.
6. If the ABC contributes equity, it will be entitled to 1% copyright and a share of underspend, recoupment, profit, and Screenrights/CAL income commensurate with the level of investment.

7. Each commissioned project will contain credits acknowledging the involvement of the ABC and Screenwest, having regard to ABC Editorial Policies, including the Editorial Policy Guidance Note on Credits, which is available at <https://www.abc.net.au/independent/handbook/credit-guidelines/>.
8. Each credit and logo must conform to standard artwork, to be supplied by the relevant party, and must conform with [ABC Credit Guidelines](#).
9. If the producer has or intends to obtain additional distribution or production funding, this should be detailed in the application (noting that ABC Commercial is interested in having a first-look deal with projects produced under this initiative).
10. The selected project will be subject to approval by ABC Commissioning and must adhere to the ABC Governing Rules, including the [ABC Editorial Policies](#) and the [ABC's Commissioning for Diversity and Inclusion Guidelines](#).
11. Once approved by ABC Commissioning, the program will be contracted on terms as described above and consistent with the terms of the ABC's standard Licence and Investment Agreement.
12. Projects are not eligible for retrospective funding.
13. If successful, an administration and legal fee of 2% of the total Screenwest Production Grant with a cap of \$5,000, will be charged to the production company and will be payable upon commencement of principal photography.
14. 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.

Summary of ABC and Screenwest Rights

Option Period	The ABC will have an exclusive option for a period of 12 months from delivery of development materials (Option Period) to further develop or commission a project
Licence period	5 years

Runs	10 free to air TV runs (including simulcast stream)
iView	Unlimited free streaming rights on iView
Promotion Rights	Ungeoblocked; excerpts up to 3 mins per episode
First and Matching Rights to re-license	Perpetual
First and Matching Rights to acquire rights in sequels, remakes and spin offs	Perpetual
Option for subsequent series	12 months from completion of first free to air TV run of the last episode
Digital Content	Unlimited free streaming rights on ABC online services and social media channels

Holdbacks

Worldwide premiere	Until midnight after first ABC free to air TV run, or 6 months after delivery acceptance
Pay Online Program Rights and Pay Mobile Program Rights, both for Download to Own and Download to Rent only and on an On Demand, Pay Per Use basis only (excluding via any service provided by or related to a Pay Television Service or FTA Television Service)	Until midnight after first ABC free to air TV run of each episode or 6 months after the delivery acceptance, whichever is earlier
Pay Online Program Rights and Pay Mobile Program Rights (except as noted above) and Pay TV and pay online	12 months from the first ABC free to air TV run of the Project or 18 months after the delivery acceptance, whichever is earlier

Free online holdback	Duration of the licence
Sequels, re-makes, spin offs	2 years from delivery acceptance

Program Contacts

Before applying, or for more information contact:

ABC

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