



Film Festivals Fund Guidelines

The objective of the Film Festivals Fund is to promote the talent and screen content of Western Australian screen practitioners to audiences and markets.

The Fund focuses on film festivals that can and do deliver the following outcomes:

- Showcase WA-made screen content and talent.
- Create an awareness of, and support for, the WA screen industry with the general public.
- Provide valuable networking, development and business opportunities to WA screen practitioners.
- Give early career WA screen practitioners important pathways to break into the global market.

Competitive application rounds will be advertised.

Screenwest encourages applications from First Nations Australians and people from historically underrepresented groups.

A condition of funding is that two of the key people responsible for running the Film Festival complete the online [SBS Core Inclusion Course](#). Screenwest will provide access to this course.

Funding Available

- Between \$10,000 and \$150,000 per financial year, per company.

Companies that hold more than one film festival in a financial year must submit one funding application that covers all festival funding being sought.

- Screenwest expects to fund no more than 30% of your total film festival costs.
- Applicants may apply for up to three years funding. Multi-year funding will be awarded at Screenwest's discretion.

Screenwest funding is limited and competitive. Funding awarded may differ from funding sought.

Successful applicants are ineligible for funding under other Screenwest Funding Programs.

What You Cannot Receive Funding For

- Fundraising, competitions, prizes, awards.
- One-off film screenings and events.
- Conferences.
- Courses, workshops, seminars and/or masterclasses that occur outside the primary film festival dates.
- Digital games festivals, expos and events.
- Retrospective, contingency or on-going operational costs.
- Activities that take place outside Western Australia.
- Development and production of screen content.
- Items/activities listed in '[What Screenwest does not fund](#)' in the Screenwest Terms of Trade.

Eligibility

Applicant / Company Eligibility

The applicant / company must:

1. Meet the general eligibility requirements in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
2. Be financially viable.
3. Be a Western Australian Resident with a registered Australian Business Number (ABN) or a Western Australian Resident Company as defined in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).

Applications from non-Western Australian companies will be considered if it can be demonstrated the Festival will deliver significant outcomes to Western Australia screen industry.

Educational and training institutions are ineligible for the Film Festivals Fund.

Festival Eligibility

The Festival must:

1. Occur in Western Australia.
2. Be open to the general public.
3. Take place within 12 months of the application submission.
4. Have a minimum paid in-person attendance of 2,000 people.
5. Be financially viable.

Application Materials

Applicants must submit the following materials:

1. Festival Event Plan that includes a timeline for producing the film festival.
2. Intended film festival Outcomes or Key Performance Indicators (should be quantifiable e.g. number of paid attendees).
3. Audience Development Plan.
4. Film Festival budget.
5. An outline of all Film Festival investors and the terms of their investment.
6. The most recent set of audited and unaudited accounts for your company.
7. Company outline that lists key staff, board members and the company's governance arrangements.

Assessment Criteria

Screenwest will assess eligible applications against the following criteria:

1. Quality and viability of the submitted Film Festival Event Plan/s and the Audience Development Plan/s.
2. Financial viability of the Film Festival and applicant company.
3. The experience and relevant track record of the applicant company and its key personnel in successfully delivering similar film festivals/events.

4. Likelihood of the Festival delivering on its Intended Outcomes, or KPIs, with a focus on its ability to:
 - a. Showcase WA-made screen content and talent.
 - b. Create an awareness of, and support for, the WA screen industry with the general public.
 - c. Provide valuable networking, development and business opportunities to WA screen practitioners.
 - d. Give early career WA screen practitioners important pathways to break into the global market.

Screenwest will weigh the above assessment criteria as it deems appropriate to best serve the strategic purpose of the organisation.

When reviewing applications, Screenwest considers if the applicant has multiple ongoing projects that could affect the quality and timely completion of additional projects.

First Nations Australian Content

Screenwest supports the telling of First Nations Australian stories by First Nations Australian creatives and storytellers.

There must be strong First Nations Australian representation on all projects that tell First Nations Australian stories, through the involvement of First Nations Australian key creatives and thorough consultation, incubation and collaboration that is adequately budgeted for.

Diversity Statement

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

Screenwest recognises diversity broadly 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.

Application Process

Prior to applying:

1. Read these guidelines and the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#). The Terms of Trade set out the core terms on which Screenwest conducts its business.
2. Review the online application form on Smartygrants and make sure you have all required documents ready to submit with the application.
3. Discuss your application with the Program Contact person if you have any questions.

How To Apply

1. Complete an online application form through the [Screenwest SmartyGrants portal](#)
2. Attach all relevant documentation and supporting material (refer to the 'Application Materials' section above).

After You Apply

- Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the general minimum eligibility criteria.
- A panel consisting of Screenwest Management and at least one industry representative will assess eligible applications.
- The panel's funding recommendations are presented to the Screenwest Board for approval.
- Final decisions are made by the Screenwest Board.
- You can expect a decision within 8-10 weeks of the funding round closing date.
- Screenwest will advise applicants of the outcome of their application via email or phone.

Terms of Funding

- Funding is provided as a grant.
- Successful applicants will sign a written agreement with Screenwest outlining funding conditions, cash flow details, and the deliverables required for scheduled payments.
- Completing diversity and inclusion training is a condition of funding.

- Receipt of funding should not lead to any expectation of continued assistance from Screenwest beyond the term of the funding agreement.

Program Contact

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