



First Nations Practitioner Development Fund

This Fund supports Western Australian First Nations screen practitioners by contributing funding towards professional career and development opportunities.

What You Can Receive Funding For

Professional Skills Development Opportunities

- Short courses and master classes that strategically build on the practitioner's previous experience.
- Preference is given to development opportunities in positions identified as lacking in the WA First Nations screen sector, where training in these fields is not accessible in the practitioner's current place of residence.
- If Screenwest invites a practitioner to a skills development opportunity, Screenwest may cover the practitioner's basic costs directly e.g. accommodation and flights. If this is this case an application may not be required.

Travel to National Festivals and Awards

- For practitioners with projects selected to premier at a festival and/or whose project has been nominated for an award.
- For practitioners to progress their career through exposure and networking.
- For international travel, practitioners whose projects have received Screen Australia funding will need to approach Screen Australia for international travel support.

Travel to National Strategic Meetings

- For practitioners to meet with national broadcasters and Screen Australia. The practitioner needs to prove there is strong market interest in their project and that the company has a slate of projects ready for the market.

- A practitioner is likely to receive this type of travel funding once per year unless an exceptional opportunity presents and a strong rationale accompanies the application.

Other Funding

- For industry market events and conferences, refer to the Screenwest Travel Support funding guidelines and apply as outlined in the advertised travel funding round.
- For placement funding, refer to the Screenwest Professional Development – Placements Fund.
- Speak to the Screenwest First Nations Executive for more information.

Funding Available

- Up to \$5,000, based on the professional skills development opportunity presented
- Up to \$1,500 per application for national travel destinations
 - An additional amount of up to \$500 may be granted to regionally based practitioners to assist with non-direct flights

Eligibility

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

Applicant / Company Eligibility

The applicant / company must:

1. Be a Western Australian resident First Nations screen practitioner with a registered Australian Business Number (ABN) or a Western Australian First Nations Resident Company, as defined in the Screenwest Terms of Trade.

Application Materials

All applications must include:

1. A proposal that includes:
 - a. A rationale as to why this opportunity strategically builds on your current screen experience and skills and how it will benefit your career and any future projects; and

- b. Details of the opportunity you would like to undertake including dates, location, relevant details.
2. A current CV.
3. A detailed budget including any in-kind contributions (as per budget template).

For travel to national Festivals and Awards also provide:

1. Proof of selection /invitation /nomination for the event.

For travel to national Strategic Meetings also provide:

1. A list of the applicant's project slate including a one paragraph synopsis of each project, current status and key creatives involved in each.
2. A schedule of confirmed meetings with national broadcasters and/or Screen Australia.

Assessment Criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed against the following assessment criteria:

1. Applicant's track record.
2. Identified rationale and outcomes of the opportunity as it pertains to the application and opportunity presented.
3. The current stage of the applicant's career and benefits they will gain from this experience.
4. The level of funding and support Screenwest has committed to the production, practitioner and/or production company in the past.
5. The commitment of the practitioner to their chosen field within the WA Screen industry.
6. The current needs of the First Nations WA screen sector. Screenwest will favour opportunities that Screenwest believes will address identified current needs in this sector.

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

Application Process

- Before applying, read these guidelines and the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#), and check your eligibility.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their applications with the Program Manager before applying.

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.

To note: Screenwest funding is not automatic; it will depend on the competitive strength of the application and the availability of Screenwest funds. Funding may be approved at a lesser amount than is applied for.

After you apply

- Applications will be assessed internally by Screenwest representatives and Management.
- You can expect to be advised of the outcome of your application within 2-4 weeks.
- In addition to the decision timeline keep in mind there is also contracting time before you will receive your first drawdown.

Terms of Funding

- Funding is provided as a grant.
- Successful applicants are required to enter into a written agreement with Screenwest, specifying the terms of the funding. Payments will be made on satisfactory achievement and delivery of each contracted milestone.

Program Contact

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