



Matched Development Investment Fund Guidelines

Program overview

Matched Development Investment funding is designed to support Western Australian companies or individuals that have secured project development funding from a nationally or internationally recognised broadcaster or distributor.

The applicant must provide a suitable letter of commitment from the broadcaster/distributor and an appropriate development plan and budget.

Funding available

Successful applicants may be offered up to a maximum of \$25,000 per project per application. The level of Screenwest's funding commitment will be determined by the market investment, the assessment process and the total demand on available funds. In cases where there is more than one market investor, Screenwest will match the highest market partner contributor only.

Funding will not be awarded retrospectively, for example, fees for drafts written prior to submitting an application.

Eligibility

An application must first meet the following eligibility criteria in order to be competitively assessed for funding through this program.

The applicant must:

1. Meet the general eligibility requirements set out in the Screenwest Terms of Trade found [here](#).
2. Be a Western Australian resident or company. Non-Western Australian productions will only be considered where the Production Company brings demonstrated strong economic and/or ongoing creative opportunities to the State.
3. Hold the underlying rights at the time of application. Screenwest's development funding cannot be used to purchase options or rights to a project.
4. Have secured project development funding from a nationally or internationally recognised broadcaster or distributor and provide Screenwest with a suitable letter of commitment from the broadcaster/distributor.
5. Submit the application within eight (8) weeks of the date on the market partner's letter of commitment.
6. Be in good standing with all previous Screenwest funds and programs. Applicants who have an outstanding acquittal report and/or deliverable(s) or have not fulfilled their contractual obligations relating to prior Screenwest funding are not eligible to apply unless an alternative arrangement is agreed with Screenwest prior to application. Applicants should contact Screenwest directly for advice on their specific situation.

Eligible project formats:

- Scripted drama/comedy series
- Features and telemovies
- Factual programs

If an application has been unsuccessful in receiving support in the past, it cannot be re-submitted to Screenwest unless it has been substantially changed, developed or reworked. A document must be included with the application listing specific changes made to the re-submitted application. Screenwest may not accept a re-submitted application if the Development Manager determines the project has not changed substantially.

Screenwest will not fund projects that contain material that will bring, or is likely to bring the Western Australian Government or Screenwest into public disrepute, contempt, scandal, or ridicule, or which might tend to reflect unfavourably on Screenwest.

Terms of funding

Funding is provided as an investment. Successful applicants will enter into a written agreement with Screenwest, specifying the terms of the funding and what the applicant will need to deliver to receive payments.

It is the Producer's responsibility to obtain and renew (i) the entire copyright in all material commissioned and/or acquired by it for the development of the Project, (ii) all necessary consents to permit the development of the Project, and (iii) all necessary consents to permit the Project to be produced and exploited.

Failure to fulfill acquittal and/or meet deliverable requirements as specified within the funding agreement is a breach of contract. If contractual obligations are not met, Screenwest has the right to recoup funds already paid to the applicant and it may disqualify the recipient from being eligible for future Screenwest funding until outstanding funds are paid back and the matter resolved with Screenwest.

How to apply

The applicant will need to submit the following:

1. A completed Application Form.
2. Cover letter listing all materials submitted.
3. If the project has been submitted and declined funding previously, a document listing specific changes made to the re-submitted application is required.
4. Letters or emails giving proof of broadcaster or distributor funding.
5. A clear development strategy outlining the objectives and tasks to be undertaken (e.g. writer's notes and a clear strategy from the producer on how they are going to move the project forward to commissioning).
6. A development budget that breaks down the investment from all investors, including the applicant.

The applicant is expected to include acceptable rates for fees when preparing the development budget. Screenwest has created guides to [Acceptable Budget Figures](#) for scripted television, factual and feature film development to assist in preparing an application.

7. A document containing a logline, one paragraph summary and one-page synopsis.
8. The latest draft script, preliminary treatment or a detailed concept document including character outlines and episode synopses (in the case of scripted drama/comedy series). Script or treatment must have a title page with project name, draft number, full date (day month year), writer name and producer/production company name.
9. CVs (one page) of the project principals and, if applicable, a company profile indicating past success in developing and producing projects.
10. A marketing/production financing strategy.

Applicants must ensure all requested material is completed and submitted together. Applications that do not include all requested material may not be accepted for assessment.

Assessment criteria

Screenwest competitively assesses eligible applications against the following criteria:

1. The applicant's and creative team's track record.
2. The quality of the overall proposal.
3. Provision of the market partner commitment / support of the project.
4. A clear and achievable development strategy.
5. Likelihood of the project being fully financed.
6. Potential economic or cultural benefits to Western Australia.

Screenwest will take into consideration whether the applicant has a number of concurrent outstanding projects in development or production that may impact on the quality and timely delivery of further projects as part of its assessment of the application.

Screenwest seeks to reflect the diversity of Western Australia's community on screen and behind the camera, through projects funded and practitioners supported. The funding panel will take into consideration diversity elements of a submission during the assessment process.

Closing date

Applications may be submitted at any time year round.

Submitting an application

Emailed applications

Applications can be emailed to funding@Screenwest.wa.gov.au. Applicants should forward all required application materials in a single email. Application materials are not to be emailed directly to individual staff members.

For emails larger than 8MB, send via Screenwest's Hightail Account by following this link: <https://www.hightail.com/u/Screenwest>.

Hard copy applications

Post applications to:

Attn Funding Admin Officer - Development
Screenwest
PO Box 3275
East Perth WA 6892

Hand deliver applications to:

Attn Funding Admin Officer - Development
Screenwest
30 Fielder Street
East Perth WA 6004

Screenwest recommends that mailed applications are sent via registered post. No responsibility is taken for unregistered mail.

Application receipt confirmation

An application receipt will be forwarded to the applicant within two working days 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 this timeframe.** Application material(s) will not be returned by Screenwest.

Program contact

To talk to someone about this fund, applicants should contact:

Screenwest Development Manager

E: funding@Screenwest.wa.gov.au
T: (08) 6169 2111
Toll free: 1800 463 043 (WA country callers only)