

Northern Territory Government Screen Territory Funding Program Guidelines

2026 – 27

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1. GENERAL

1.1 Introduction

The Northern Territory Government (NTG), through Screen Territory, supports screen projects, screen businesses and people in order to:

- Foster the development and production of distinctive and marketable Territory screen stories.
- Increase production levels by attracting production finance to the Northern Territory (NT).
- Extend the creative and professional skills of Northern Territory screen practitioners.
- Provide opportunities for audiences and Northern Territory screen practitioners to engage with screen culture through targeted events and activities.

1.3 Information for applicants

Screen Territory operates in a creative and dynamic environment and aims to offer funding programs that are capable of responding to the evolving demands of industry.

Funding is available for:

Story Development

- Seed funding
- Project development

Production Finance

- Grant
- Investment

Production Attraction Incentive

Industry Partnerships

Travel Support

- Markets
- Awards and festivals
- Skills development

Career Development

Attachments, internships and mentorships

Games Development

If you wish to apply for Screen Territory funding you must read the:

- [General Eligibility guidelines](#)
- [Funding Guidelines](#) for the specific program you are interested in, to confirm whether or not you/your project is eligible.
- [Terms of Trade](#) (the Terms of Trade) and the relevant definitions therein defined

Eligible applications are competitively assessed against published assessment criteria. This competitive process means funding is not assured even where an application meets the criteria.

Further, receipt of previous funding does not guarantee the success of any future applications.

1.4 Eligibility criteria

[Screen Territory's Terms of Trade](#) contain the general eligibility criteria for these programs.

1.5 Key Dates

Round One - opening date for applications	Monday 27 July 2026
Round One - closing date for applications	Monday 24 August 2026
Round Two - opening date for applications	Monday 12 October 2026
Round Two - closing date for applications	Monday 9 November 2026
Round Three - opening date for applications	Monday 8 February 2027
Round Three - closing date for applications	Monday 1 March 2027
Travel Support - opening date for applications	Monday 27 July 2026
Travel Support - closing date for applications	Monday 3 May 2027
Career Development - opening date for applications	Monday 27 July 2026
Career Development - closing date for applications	Monday 3 May 2027
Production Attraction Incentive - opening date for applications	Monday 27 July 2026
Production Attraction Incentive - closing date for applications	Monday 3 May 2027
<i>Note: Please check GrantsNT for the closing hour for submissions.</i>	

1.6 Acknowledgement and acquittal

Grant recipients will be required to acknowledge the assistance provided by the NT Government.

Information on how to do this will be detailed in the funding agreement.

Acquittal requirements will be stipulated in the funding agreement.

1.7 How to apply

All applications must be submitted online at <https://grantsnt.nt.gov.au/>

Before applying, you should:

- Read the relevant Funding Guidelines section
- Read the [Terms of Trade](#) to make sure you meet all requirements and that you have an understanding of definitions; and
- If you have questions, [contact Screen Territory](#) to discuss your proposed application. We are happy to advise you about appropriate funding programs and eligibility.

To be eligible for Screen Territory grants, you must be up to date with acquittals of all NTG grants, including funding received from Screen Territory.

You must ensure you submit your application by the deadline date. There will be no extensions given past the advertised closing dates for submissions.

1.8 Responsibility of applicants

It is your responsibility to ensure:

- That your application is complete.
Applications that do not include all the requested information will be ineligible for consideration.
- That your application is submitted to the appropriate program 'funding type' in the Grants NT System.
Applications cannot be assessed under any other category once submitted.
- That your application has been lodged in Grants NT prior to the advertised closing date and time.
- That you have no outstanding acquittals.

1.9 Assessment

Assessment of all applications is based on the information supplied in the application and the accompanying support material.

Each application is assessed on its merits and funding decisions are not subject to appeal.

1.9.1 How are applications assessed?

Applications are considered by members of the Screen Grants Assessment Panel.

Members of the Screen Grants Assessment Panel are appointed by the Minister and provide industry involvement and specialist advice to ensure a transparent and accountable process for the allocation of funding. A Probity Advisor is present during funding assessments with the Screen Grants Assessment Panel.

Find out more about the Screen Grants Assessment Panel on the [Screen Territory website](#).

1.9.2 How does the process work?

1. Receipt

- Applications are received via the NTG's grant management system Grants NT.

2. Assessment

- Applications are assessed by at least three members of the Screen Grants Assessment Panel, with the exception of Travel Support and Career Development applications.

- Assessors receive applications and assess eligible applications against the published assessment criteria, completing notes and scores for each based on the ratings scale below.
- At least one Panel Member and Screen Territory assesses Travel Support applications and recommends funding.
- Screen Territory assesses Career Development applications before making a recommendation to the delegate for funding.

Whether an application is recommended for funding and the amount of funding to be provided are determined based on the total ratings score for all criteria as well as other factors such as competitiveness of a funding round and availability of funds.

3. Recommendation and decision

- The Screen Grants Assessment Panel meets, discusses applications and individual assessments and provides recommendations for funding.
- Recommendations are forwarded for independent approval to the Department.

4. Notification:

- The Minister will notify successful applicants for Story Development, Production Funding, Production Attraction Incentive Program, Games Development, Career Development and Industry Partnerships.
- Screen Territory notifies successful applications for Travel Support.
- Screen Territory notifies unsuccessful applicants.
- Screen Territory follows up all successful applicants with a funding agreement for signature, following the Minister advising successful applicants.
- Funding approvals are listed on the Screen Territory website.

1.9.3 Rating

Eligible applications are rated against the assessment criteria for the particular program, with each criterion graded against the following scale:

0 – 10	Grading	Justification
9 to 10	Superior	The assessment criterion is met to a very high standard and claims are fully substantiated. Relevant and concrete evidence or examples are provided.
7 to 8	Good	The assessment criterion is met to a high standard. Claims are well substantiated.
5 to 6	Acceptable	The assessment criterion is met to a consistent and acceptable standard with no major shortcomings. Claims are adequately substantiated.
3 to 4	Marginal	The assessment criterion is not fully met. Some claims are unsubstantiated and some strategies appear inadequate.
1 to 2	Poor	The assessment criterion is inadequately addressed. Most claims are unsubstantiated and a number of strategies appear unworkable.
0	Non- compliant	The assessment criterion is not met. Proposals are unworkable.

1.9.4 Feedback

Applicants can obtain verbal feedback about their application by contacting Screen Territory.

1.9.5 Publication

Details of grant recipients are published on the [Funding approvals](#) page on the Screen Territory website, and in the Department's Annual Report for the relevant financial year.

1.10 Contracting

1.10.1 Contracting process

Successful applicants across all funding programs will be required to sign a funding agreement between themselves and the NTG prior to the release of funds.

Applicants will be responsible for any legal costs they incur in relation to checking the agreement prior to signing.

Extensive amendments to the funding agreements will generally not be agreed to.

1.10.2 ABN and GST

Successful applicants are required to have an Australian Bank Account and ABN, otherwise tax will be withheld as obliged by law from amounts due to the applicant. The tax will be remitted to the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

Withholding tax does not apply where the applicant qualifies for exemption from the requirement to have an ABN. Prior to the release of payment, the applicant will be required to establish their exemption by providing a completed ATO 'Statement by a Supplier' form (NAT3346-04.2008) setting out their reason for not requiring an ABN.

GST is payable on NTG funding where the applicant is registered for GST and makes a taxable supply to Territory.

1.10.3 Promotional material

The NTG requires the right to use pre-approved excerpts from the project and promotional materials for its own corporate and promotional purposes, including for research, reporting and any activity that promotes the government's support for the screen sector.

1.10.4 Crediting the Northern Territory Government and Screen Territory

Recipients of funding are required to credit the NTG and Screen Territory on the terms set out in the signed agreement. Credit requirements vary according to the nature of the support.

Please contact Screen Territory for specific credit requirements.

More information is available on the [Screen Territory website](#).

1.10.5 Reporting regarding funding

Recipients of funding are required to provide Screen Territory with reports regarding application of funding, which includes delivery materials and reports, including financial reports.

The requirements vary depending on the type of funding and are clearly detailed in funding agreements.

Failure to provide these items by the due date constitutes a breach of the agreement.

1.11 Contacts

For further information or advice on the Screen Territory Grants Program contact Screen Territory:

- Phone: +61 8 8 8999 3976
- Email: screen.territory@nt.gov.au

Please visit the [Screen Territory website](#) for full contact details.

2. STORY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Objectives	Skilled Territory creatives Resonant Territory stories Successful Territory screen businesses
Program Purpose	Support Northern Territory screen practitioners to demonstrate their talent and build their capacity by supporting the development of distinctive Territory screen stories that are capable of reaching and engaging audiences.
Program Structure	Seed Funding • Open to both emerging and experienced Northern Territory resident producers, writers and directors • Up to \$5 000 per application, with a streamlined application process, to explore the potential of creative ideas through the development of a treatment or proposal and support materials.
	Project Development • Open to experienced Northern Territory resident producers/production companies, writers and directors. • Contributing to a significant development work appropriate to the stage of the project, up to \$10 000 per application or up to \$20 000 per application, depending on the level of experience.

Support is focused on outstanding projects that:

- Can demonstrate why Screen Territory funding is essential to the stage of development being applied for, and how the funding will be directed to significantly advance the project; and
- Have a strong Northern Territory angle, whether through the story, subject matter, settings or characters, or through unique Northern Territory perspectives on universal themes provided by Territory creatives; and
- Are already well thought out, even in their early form:
 - Drama projects should already have a clear premise, the main beats of a strong core story worked out in short document form, and a relationship to a specific audience.
 - Documentary/factual proposals need to be more than an idea. We'll be looking for a clear narrative structure, argument or line of enquiry, as well as your particular stylistic approach.
 - Direct-to-audience projects should already have a clear premise, the main beats of a strong core story worked out in short document form, and a relationship to demonstrable audience analytics.
 - Where a project proceeds to production any development funding will be part of Screen Territory's total project investment, which may be deemed an equity investment.

2.1 Seed Funding Grants

The objective of this program is to prioritise support for Northern Territory writers, directors and producers to explore the potential of creative ideas through the development of a treatment or proposal and support materials.

2.1.1. Funding available

Up to \$5 000 per application.

2.1.2. Eligibility

All applications must meet the general eligibility requirements as outlined in the [Terms of Trade](#). Seed funding is available for Northern Territory residents only. A project can only receive seed funding once.

Who is eligible?

- Seed funding is available to experienced practitioners as well as to emerging practitioners (i.e. *who do not yet have an [‘eligible screen credits’](#) of at least 10 minutes in duration*).
- Emerging practitioners will need to submit additional materials in order to demonstrate their capabilities (see ‘Application materials’ below), and Screen Territory may require the attachment of a mentor or story consultant where appropriate.

What projects are eligible?

The following formats are eligible for funding through this program:

- Feature films.
- Adult and children’s drama and narrative comedy including television series, miniseries, telemovies
- Direct-to-Audience (online and suitable social media platforms hosting narrative content)
- Content-rich factual/documentary television, features or Direct-to-Audience (online) content.

What can I apply for?

The following delivery materials are indicative of what seed funding can be used for:

- A treatment aiming to engage collaborators or marketplace interest
- Development of a treatment into a bible
- Re-drafting or refining an existing script or existing treatment
- Conducting key interviews for factual projects
- A sizzle reel or concept reel
- A pitch deck

2.1.3. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

1. The strength and distinctiveness of the concept or story idea, and its potential to engage an audience.
2. The significance of the project for the Northern Territory.

3. The track record and demonstrated potential of the individual applicant or creative team.
4. The feasibility of the development plan, the level of work evident already in the materials and appropriateness of the use of Screen Territory funds to develop the project further.
5. Application budget detailing funding expenditure (please note as per the Terms of Trade that the purchase of capital goods are not eligible).

2.1.4. Application materials

All applicants must submit the following:

1. Current one-page CVs for the applicant, and key creative team where applicable.
2. One-sentence log line, a one-paragraph premise, and a synopsis.
3. A short document that communicates the concept and the main points of the story and evokes the experience of the film.
4. An [itemised budget](#) outlining the seed funding and any other contributors to the development of the project
5. A simple 'talk to camera' video pitch of up to three minutes describing:
 - The concept for the project and its significance for the Northern Territory.
 - The potential audience for the project.
 - The current stage of the project (e.g. treatment, draft script or whatever form your project is in if your development plan is utilising more non-traditional approaches).
6. A brief development plan, setting out what will be done with the requested funding, including what the funding will be spent on, and (where relevant) details of relationships with any mentors or more experienced practitioners who have volunteered to provide support.

In addition, where the applicant and/or key creative team does not have an 'eligible screen credit' of at least ten minutes in duration, applicants must submit:

7. An excerpt of script or treatment from any current or previous screen project (maximum five pages in total); and/or
8. Any other appropriate materials – such as links to short films or previous screen work – that demonstrate the storytelling style and abilities of the writer or writer/director.

2.1.5. Reporting and acquittal

Successful applicants receiving a seed funding grant will have a grant agreement that sets out the reports and materials agreed to be delivered in order to acquit the grant (based on the development plan), and an agreed project end date. You will be required to acquit the grant one month after the agreed project end date.

Reports and deliverables vary from project to project.

However, in general you will need to provide the following:

- Deliverables relevant to your project development plan.
- A report detailing:
 - The work undertaken during this stage of development.
 - The proposed next steps for developing the project.
- A signed breakdown of income and expenditure for the project including financial support received from the Territory, and/or a third party (including the applicant's contribution).

2.2. Project Development Grants

The objective of this program is to make an essential contribution towards a significant development of work appropriate to the stage of the project.

2.2.1. Funding available

- Up to \$10 000 per application for First Stage Project Development.
- Up to \$20 000 per application for Late Stage Project Development where marketplace interest is confirmed and attached, or where matched funding or greater is secured for this stage of development. Matched funding does not include any previous development investments into the project

A project may be funded more than once, as long as:

- The project progresses from the its previous stage of development to a subsequent stage of development; and
- The previous grant has been successfully acquitted, and significant development has taken place; and
- Market feedback and/or additional market interest has been acquired in the interim period; and
- The project has not exceeded a total cap of \$30 000 of Screen Territory development funding over the life of an individual project, unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated and where it is agreed by Screen Territory.

Where projects progress to receive Production Finance Funding by way of a recoupable equity investment, any development funds will be considered as part of Screen Territory's total equity amount.

2.2.2. Eligibility

All applications must meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in the [Terms of Trade](#).

Applications may be from an individual writer or writer/director, or from a production company or producer on behalf of a team including at least a writer and a producer.

After one round of development funding for a particular project, Screen Territory generally expects a producer to be attached for any subsequent applications for that project.

The applicant must be a Northern Territory resident or a Northern Territory company.

Applications from an NT production company on behalf of a co-production between it and a non-NT production company, will only be accepted where the arrangement is a genuine co-production and the application is for a project that has been generated in the Territory and has a Northern Territory writer or writer/director (unless prior discussion with Screen Territory for approval).

The applicant or at least one member of the applicant team must have the following credits, depending on the amount being sought:

- **First stage applications up to and including \$10 000:** at least two '[eligible screen credits](#)' each of which is at least ten minutes in total duration.
- **Late stage applications between \$10 001 – 20 000:** at least two '[eligible screen credits](#)' each of which is at least one hour (or broadcast hour, 1x60 or 2x30) in total duration.

Less experienced practitioners may be part of the team, as long as at least one key principal is eligible as above. The intention is not to exclude new talent but encourage them to team up with more experienced practitioners.

Outstanding applicants or projects that emerge through the Seed Funding strand or Screen Territory's Special Initiatives may be invited to apply to the Project Development strand. This provides the opportunity for talented practitioners to access single-project development funds even where minimum credit requirements are not satisfied.

2.2.3. Rights, Clearances and Options

The applicant must either hold the rights necessary to make the project (as the writer/originator, or through appropriate agreements), or have an option to the rights in any and all works on which the project is based.

If you are seeking funds to purchase an option, evidence of the obtained option will form part of your acquittal deliverables.

If your project relies on the participation of a particular person or people, you will need to have evidence of their consent to take part.

2.2.4. What projects are eligible?

The following formats are eligible for funding through this program:

- Feature films.
- Adult and children's drama and narrative comedy including television series, miniseries, telemovies and Direct-to-Audience (online and suitable social media platforms hosting narrative content).

2.2.5. Eligible screen credit

An 'eligible screen credit' is defined as a 'produced by', 'directed by' or 'written by' credit on a documentary or fiction project that has:

- Been selected for an eligible event [\[section\]](#); or
- Had a theatrical release [on a minimum of five screens, excluding festival screens, in one major territory]; or
- Been broadcast on a recognised television network or channel; or
- Made available via a major SVOD, BVOD or AVOD online content provider.

Note: Corporate, education, training, museum or art gallery installation projects, or community access programs are not acceptable credits for eligibility purposes, as per: Terms of Trade

2.2.6. Market interest for funding requests over \$10,000:

- **For Late Stage Development applications Screen Territory requires** evidence of strategies for audience engagement and marketplace interest.
- **"Market interest"** is commonly demonstrated through a letter of interest, issued by a recognised national Broadcaster or a major online content provider and signifies that they are aware of your project and believe that it has market potential pending further development. For the purposes of applying for funding, this must be current, usually no more than six months old at the time of application. Narrowcasters will not be accepted as market interest.
- **Evidence of market interest** ([required for late-stage development](#)) either in the form of a deal memo, a minimum guarantee, a letter of intent, or a letter of interest. In the case of the latter, the letter of interest is from a recognised sales agent, distributor or exhibition platform.

Funding is competitive. If the project has previously been declined for development funding, evidence of substantive changes must be provided.

2.3. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

The applicant and creative team

- The track record and demonstrated potential of the individual applicant or creative team in areas relevant to the project submitted.

The project

- The strength and distinctiveness of the concept or story idea, and its potential to engage an audience.
- The cultural and/or economic significance of the project for the Northern Territory.
- The strength and quality of the submitted story materials (outline/short document, script, treatment etc.).
- The feasibility of the project and its likelihood of reaching an audience, including the strength of any marketplace interest, market trends or commitment already in place.
- The development notes and the degree to which they articulate the issues to be faced in the next stage of development. Outline the strategies to address them and the appropriateness of the proposed delivery materials.
- The plan for use of the Screen Territory grant funding, and the contributions of any other investors.
- The impact Screen Territory funding will likely have on the development of the project and its progression into physical production.

Industry/business impact

- The percentage of copyright to be held by Territorians.
- The career benefits to Northern Territory key team members.
- Evidence of marketplace interest, including the interest of potential creative partnerships

2.4. Application materials

In order for your application to be assessed, you must submit the following:

About the team:

- Current one-page CVs for the applicant and any key creatives attached.
- A current production company CV (if applicable).

About the project:

- One-sentence synopsis (logline).
- One paragraph (three – four sentence) synopsis.
- A story document (see below) appropriate to the project and its stage of development:
 - **For features:**
 - An outline or 'short document' with a clear beginning, middle and end, including key dramatic beats and pivotal story points (up to eight pages); or
 - Treatment (up to 20 pages, ten pages preferred); or
 - Draft script (up to 140 pages, 12 point courier font).
 - **For documentaries:**
 - An outline/short document (up to eight pages) outlining your subject matter, your

intended narrative/line of enquiry, your intended audience; or

- Treatment.
- **For online (direct-to-audience) and TV drama** (series, one-off):
 - An outline/short document with a clear beginning, middle and end, including key dramatic beats and pivotal story points (up to eight pages); or
 - Treatment or Mini-bible and draft episode script (12 point courier font).
- **Optional:** Any other materials that helps to evoke the tone, mood and style of the project, including:
 - Photographs, artworks, a mood reel, a look book, storyboards, a pilot episode, a sample filmed scene, or music
 - A pitch to camera, maximum three minutes (via downloadable and/or password-protected link).

The plan:

- **Development plan** (up to four pages) including:
 - Your creative vision for the project.
 - Progress to date, your assessment of the issues you face in the next stage of development, your strategies for addressing them and why Screen Territory development funding is critical to achieving this.
 - What you propose to deliver with the Screen Territory funding.
- **Producer notes** (up to three pages) – A statement setting out the business case for the project, why the project is important to the Northern Territory, and the strategy for moving the project towards financing and audience.
 - If a producer is not attached at this stage, you should address these points to the best of your ability; you must also explain why you have applied without a producer and outline your strategy and timeframe for securing one.
- **Development budget breakdown** for your submitted development plan, reflecting Screen Territory's contribution and that of other investors including the applicant (template available on the [Screen Territory website](#)).

2.4.1. Supporting materials

- **Where applicable, agreements for key creatives** attached to the stage of development applied for (e.g. writer's agreement, script editor/developer's agreement) – *see 'Chain of Title documents' below.*
- **If a project is based on an underlying work**, evidence that you hold an option (option agreement) or intend to purchase an option (e.g. you have included the cost of the option in your application for development funding) – *see 'Chain of Title documents' below.*
- **If the application involves a co-production** with a non-NT company, evidence of key deal terms setting out sharing of creative involvement, credits, copyright, recoupment and profit entitlements.
- **Evidence of marketplace interest (required for late stage development)** - Market interest is commonly demonstrated through a letter of interest, issued by a recognised national broadcaster or a major online content provider and signifies that they are aware of your project and believe that it has market potential pending further development. For the purposes of applying for funding, this must be current, usually no more than six months old at the time of application.
- **If the project relies on the participation of a particular person or people**, evidence that they consent to take part.
- **If the project is being submitted for a second time after a previous unsuccessful application**, a summary of the substantial changes made that make it eligible to be considered again.

2.4.2. Aboriginal participation or content

The following is required:

- A statement setting out how you are approaching the Aboriginal content or participation with regard to appropriate protocols, even if the content is not specific to a particular community or individual. The statement should be based on the checklists for the relevant stage of production available in *Screen Australia's guide Pathways & Protocols: a filmmaker's guide to working with Indigenous people, culture and concepts*.
- Evidence of consultation to date.
- Signed letters of consent from Aboriginal individuals or communities confirming their willingness to participate.
- Where there is Aboriginal content or participation in any project, Screen Territory requires that the applicant complies with Screen Australia's protocols, including those relating to the treatment of 'Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property' (ICIP) rights.
- Where there is Aboriginal content in a project, the producer is also required to engage a recognised Northern Territory Aboriginal consultant at both development and production stages.

The consultant must:

- Be recognised as Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent;
- Identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; and
- Be accepted as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander by the community in which they live or has lived
- Be remunerated for any work undertaken.

For further requirements refer [to Pathways & Protocols: A filmmaker's guide to working with Indigenous people, culture and concepts](#), available online from Screen Australia.

2.5. Reporting and acquittal

Successful applicants receiving a Project Development grant will have a grant agreement that sets out the reports and materials you have agreed to deliver in order to acquit the grant (based on your development plan), and an agreed project end date. Recipients are expected to adhere to funding deadlines stipulated in the agreement. You will be required to acquit the grant one month after the agreed project end date.

Reports and deliverables vary from project to project. However, in general you need to provide the following:

- Deliverables relevant to your project development plan.
- A report detailing:
 - This stage: the work undertaken during this stage of development, including how you have addressed your project's development goals.
 - Next stage: the proposed next steps for developing the project, including any specific production elements (such as key creative personnel including producer, director, on screen personnel, mentors).
- A Marketing and Finance Plan: including a proposed budget and finance plan, that explains the strategy for financing the project, including commercial or market interest you have attracted or are hoping to attract.
- A signed breakdown of income and expenditure for the project including financial support received from the NTG or a third party.

3. PRODUCTION FINANCE PROGRAM

Program Objectives	• Foster successful Northern Territory screen production businesses. • Support high-profile screen stories • Drive Economic benefit for the Northern Territory
Program Purpose	• Contribute to production finance of screen projects in order to build the capacity of the Territory screen industry as well as raise the profile of the Territory and Territory storytelling.
Program Structure	• Offers base funding plus incentives designed to support the development and sustainability of Territory production companies and Territory screen practitioners. • Open to non-NT production companies in particular circumstances and only after prior discussion with Screen Territory.

3.1. Funding available

Base funding is available up to \$20 000 or up to 10% of the project's expenditure in the Northern Territory, whichever is less.

This may be supplemented by additional incentives based on fulfilment of criteria set out in these guidelines for NT producers and official co-productions, up to a maximum of \$100 000 in total or 25% of the Northern Territory spend, whichever is less.

Applications for amounts above these thresholds may be considered in certain circumstances, with the prior endorsement of Screen Territory.

Where Screen Territory has provided development funding to a project and the combined investment, including production funding, meets or exceeds \$100,000 then Screen Territory may consider the total amount as an equity investment.

Funding of \$100 000 and above may be by way of a recoupable equity investment in the project, with an entitlement to participate in gross receipts from the exploitation of the project proportionate to the other equity investors.

Consideration may be given to a limited number of applications for completion funds to support post-production, which should be undertaken in the Northern Territory as far as possible.

For Production Finance applications, producers must budget for and engage early to mid-career professional attachment placements as stipulated below.

Attachments should be engaged for a minimum of six (6) weeks for either a 40 or 50 hours week and be compensated at a minimum of Level 2 MEAA rates.

- Projects applying for under \$200,000 must budget for at least 1 attachment
- Projects applying for between \$200,000 up to \$249,999 must budget for at least 2 attachments
- Projects applying for \$250,000 or more must budget for at least 3 attachments

Producers who are accessing Screen Territory Production Funding can apply for further funding to support attachments through the Career Development grants funding stream, however, this can only be in addition to their obligations as noted above.

Successful Production Funding applicants will be required to conduct at least one casting session in the Northern Territory at their cost for Northern Territory actors to audition for a level of roles no less than that of minor speaking roles.

Note: residents of the Northern Territory - a minimum of 6 months residency according to the AEC Electoral Roll as per [Terms of Trade](#).

Applicants and projects must meet eligibility criteria.

3.2. Eligibility

All applications must meet the general eligibility requirements as outlined in the [Terms of Trade](#).

3.2.1. Who can apply

Screen Territory expects the applicant to be a Northern Territory (NT) company or an NT company in a genuine co-production relationship with a non-NT production company, noting that the NT producer must be counted as an “Above The Line” cost.

Non-NT companies are only eligible to apply for Production Finance where significant benefits to the Northern Territory can be demonstrated (see assessment criteria).

Non-NT companies considering applying must contact Screen Territory to discuss their plans at least a month before they intend to submit their application.

3.3. Project requirements

The following formats are eligible for funding through this program:

- Feature films.
- Adult and children’s drama and narrative comedy including television series, miniseries, telemovies and Direct-to-Audience (online and suitable social media platforms hosting narrative content).
- Content-rich factual and documentary theatrical, television or online projects.

Producers must be able to demonstrate that their project will be completed and delivered and has a confirmed pathway to audience.

3.3.1. Pathway to audience

All projects must be able to demonstrate a clear pathway to audience.

For content with traditional marketplace attachments such as distributor guarantees, national broadcast pre-sales, VOD platform investment or key festival investment. In all cases relevant agreements or letters of interest must be provided to Screen Territory with the application.

For Direct-to-Audience, a described pathway to audience could involve:

- Demonstrated community of interest in topic.
- Marketing plans.
- Existing database and promotional channels.
- Existing and potential partnerships with organisations tied to significant communities of interest.

- Analytics of audience engagement in existing program related content and platforms (e.g. *websites, social media channels and trailers*).

For example, a video-on-demand (VOD) release on an obscure website would not be sufficient by itself. You would need to support this with proof of an established community of interest or audience being driven to the website by a marketing campaign.

Applicants proposing alternative pathways should submit copies of any marketing plans as well as provide detail on relevant mailing lists, audience analytics and/or existing partnerships with organisations.

3.4. Assessment and funding levels

Production funding is limited, and as such the focus is strongly on achieving outcomes for the Northern Territory and the Northern Territory screen production industry.

Provision of funding, and the quantum, are determined as part of the assessment process (see 'Information for applicants'), taking into account the criteria set out below.

Base funding may be supplemented by additional incentives for NT based production companies and official co-productions up to a maximum of \$100 000 in total or 25% of the Northern Territory Production Expenditure.

Applications for incentive funding above these thresholds will only be accepted with prior endorsement from Screen Territory.

3.4.1. Base funding (for all applicants)

Projects can apply for base funding up to \$20 000 or up to 10% of the Northern Territory Production Expenditure, whichever is less.

Applications are assessed taking into account:

- Whether or not the applicant and project meet the published eligibility criteria.
- The finance plan, and the level of commitment from financing partners.
- The creative strength of the project and its key principals (generally the producer, writer, director).
- The economic benefits to the Northern Territory, including:
 - The Amount of Northern Territory spend.
 - The ratio of proposed Screen Territory investment to proposed budget.
 - The percentage of Northern Territory spend in relation to the total budget; and
 - The number of employment opportunities for Northern Territory cast and crew.
- The cultural benefits to the Northern Territory, including:
 - The uniqueness and relevance of the story to the Northern Territory.
 - The extent to which the project will raise the profile of the Territory and its people.

3.4.2. Incentive funding (for NT based production companies and NT co-productions only)

3.4.2.1. NT production company incentive

Additional funds up to \$45 000 may be available for a project where the Northern Territory producer:

- Owns 100% of the rights or an equal pro rata share with other producers in a co-production; and/or
- Was significantly instrumental in both developing the project and raising finance for the project.

The amount of funding is determined taking into account:

- The track record and demonstrated potential of the producer and production company in areas relevant to the project submitted, and the likelihood that they will deliver the project to a high standard.
- The developmental impact on the company of the project and the additional Screen Territory funds, including the extent to which they will:
 - Enhance the ongoing sustainability of the company; and/or
 - Enable strategic alliances or deals with new partners, international sales agents and/or distributors; and/or
 - Allow the applicant to produce a project in a new genre and/or through an improved business arrangement that has not previously existed for the applicant.

3.4.2.2. Industry capacity development incentive

Additional funds up to \$35 000 may be available for a project where:

- The director and/or writer are Northern Territory residents; and/or
- A significant proportion of Heads of Department are Territory residents; and
- At least one paid attachment for NT practitioners is provided. This may be in any area – directing, research, writing, camera department, sound department, art department, production department, editing and post-production (attachments must meet standards specified by Screen Territory – refer to [Attachments, Mentorships and Internships program](#)).

The amount of funding is determined taking into account:

- The extent to which the project will provide demonstrable career benefits for Territory creatives and technicians.

3.4.3. Investment funding

Where projects apply for investment funding of \$100 000 or more, applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis having regard to:

- The criteria listed for funding above;
- The potential audience for the project and expected receipts from its exploitation;
- The opportunity to partner with other funding sources, whether public sector or private sector; and
- Other benefits to the Northern Territory such as tourism, employment, infrastructure and return on investment.

3.5. Application materials

In order for your application to be assessed, you must submit the following:

Company and creative team:

- Current one-page CVs for all team members.
- Current production company CV.
- A 'business impact statement' setting out how this project will contribute to and/or help build the Northern Territory applicant's business, and the Northern Territory industry more broadly.

Project information:

- One-sentence synopsis.

- One-paragraph (three – four line) synopsis.
- Statement from the director detailing their creative vision for the project.
- Statement from the producer(s) detailing their vision for the project, including its connection with its intended audience, commercial potential and financing strategy.
- Industry-standard budget (see Screen Australia's A-Z budget templates) including an NT spend column.
- Current finance plan clearly setting out all sources of finance that add up to the project budget, and their status.
- The arrangements with the Australian and/or international distributor, broadcaster or other commissioning platform including the amount of any advance or guarantee, commission rates, expense caps, and signed letter of intent.
- A proposed NT crew list in aggregate by department
- Production schedule including key milestones.
- Marketing and release plan (at least one page), including, as relevant, theatrical release, broadcast, film festival pathway, and/or innovative distribution strategy, supported by relevant agreements or other documents (see 'Pathways to audience').
- Statement of copyright, and supporting Chain of Title documents.

For feature films and telemovies:

- Full and complete shooting script, including date and draft number, presented to industry standard.

For television drama series and web series:

- A final outline or treatment.
- A series bible and at least one episode script.

For documentaries

- A project proposal, treatment and/or scripts that demonstrate the project is production ready.
- Signed release forms for key participants.

3.5.1. Supporting materials

3.5.1.1. Aboriginal participation or content

Where there is Aboriginal Participation or content the following is required:

- A statement setting out how you are approaching the Aboriginal content or participation with regard to appropriate protocols, even if the content is not specific to a particular community or individual. The statement should be based on the checklists for the relevant stage of production available in Screen Australia's guide Pathways & Protocols: a filmmaker's guide to working with Indigenous people, culture and concepts.
- Evidence of consultation to date; and
- If the project will involve particular Aboriginal or Torres Strait individuals or communities, signed letters of consent confirming their willingness to participate.

3.5.1.2. Additional Materials

You may wish to include other materials that evoke the tone, mood and style of the project, such as:

- Photographs, artworks, a mood reel, a look book, storyboards, a pilot episode, a sample filmed scene, or music; and
- A pitch to camera, maximum three minutes (via downloadable and password protected link only).

See [Terms of Trade](#) for further details.

3.5.2. Equity Investment Funding

The following must be provided:

- Expected sales for major territories and comparable total projections based on similar projects.
- The arrangements with the Australian and/or international distributor, broadcaster or other commissioning platform including the amount of any advance or guarantee, commission rates, expense caps, and signed letter of intent.
- The arrangements with the sales agent appointed (if attached) for the “Rest of World” territory, including the amount of any advance or guarantee, commission rates, expense caps, and signed letter of intent.
- If the Producer Offset is to form part of the finance plan, the arrangement for its being cash flowed in to production, including a letter of intent from a recognised lender with experience in cash flowing the offset in the Australian market.
- An economic impact assessment setting out the number of people to be engaged on the production of the project and spend on Northern Territory goods and services.

4. PRODUCTION ATTRACTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (PAIP)

Program Objectives	• Increase the level of screen production in the Northern Territory • Increase the economic benefit and business activity for Territorian companies through screen production increase • Increase skills development and employment opportunities for Territorians working in the screen sector
Program Purpose	• Contribute to production finance of screen projects with the aim to attract footloose and fully financed screen projects to undertake • production in the Northern Territory
Program Structure	• The incentive amount will be at the discretion of Screen Territory and is subject to the availability of funding at the time of application. • The incentive is calculated in ratio to the qualifying Northern Territory expenditure.

4.1. Funding available

The incentive amount will be at the discretion of Screen Territory and is subject to the availability of funding at the time of application.

The incentive is calculated as a percentage of the qualifying Northern Territory expenditure and the level of engagement of NT crew.

Applications for a Production Attraction Incentive must be approved by Screen Territory prior to the commencement of production. Funding cannot be sought retrospectively. An application will be considered to be retrospective if production has already commenced.

For Production Attraction Incentive applications, producers must budget for and engage early to mid-career professional attachment placements as stipulated below. Attachments should be engaged for a minimum of six (6) weeks for either a 40 or 50 hours week and be compensated at a minimum of Level 1 MEAA rates.

- Projects applying for under \$200,000 must budget for at least 1 attachment
- Projects applying for between \$200,000 up to \$249,999 must budget for at least 2 attachments
- Projects applying for \$250,000 or more must budget for at least 3 attachments

Producers who are accessing PAIP can apply for further funding to support attachments through the Career Development grants funding stream, however, this can only be in addition to their obligations as noted above.

Successful applicants will be required to conduct at least one casting session in the Northern Territory at their cost for Northern Territory actors to audition for a level of roles no less than that of minor speaking roles.

4.2. Eligibility

This incentive program is open to all Australian and international producers, production companies and studios with screen projects that:

- Are spending a minimum of AU\$2 million on qualifying Northern Territory Production Expenditure in the Northern Territory (exceptions may be considered in prior discussion with Screen Territory).
- Are footloose (i.e. are international or Australia productions that are not already lock in to production in the Northern Territory).
- Have evidence of genuine marketplace interest for commercial release or distribution.
- Are engaging screen industry practitioners in meaningful employment, including attachments, who are Northern Territory residents as per the definition in the [Screen Territory Terms of Trade](#).

4.3. Project requirements

The following formats are eligible to receive a Production Attraction Incentive:

- Fiction feature film or series.
- Documentary feature film or series.

4.4. Assessment and funding levels

Production incentive funding is limited, and as such the focus is strongly on achieving outcomes for the Northern Territory economy and the Northern Territory screen production industry.

Applications are assessed taking into account the following criteria:

- **Economic Benefits** - Will the project deliver economic benefits to the Northern Territory (e.g. *direct investment, qualifying NT expenditure and legacy economic benefits*)?
- **Industry Benefits** - Will the project deliver industry benefits to the Northern Territory (e.g. *opportunities for businesses and screen practitioners to secure work, to promote growth and success, and for training and skills development*)?
- **Tourism Benefits** - Will the project deliver tourism benefits to the Territory (e.g. *destination profiling and publicity initiatives*)?
- **Community Benefits** - Will the project deliver wider community benefits to the Northern Territory (e.g. *community engagement, cultural opportunities and profiling, etc.*)?

4.5. Application materials

All applications must be made in [GrantsNT](#).

In order for your application to be assessed, you must submit the following:

- Business and production information including:
 - A project summary.
 - Title.
 - Filming dates and speculative locations.
 - Production company profile / current production company CV.

- A 'business impact statement' setting out how this project will contribute to and/or help build the Northern Territory applicant's business, and the Northern Territory industry more broadly.
- Any other relevant supporting materials or information.
- Evidence of genuine interstate or international production destination alternatives.
- Evidence of genuine marketplace interest for commercial release or distribution.
- The names of key creatives/personnel.
- The number of Territorian HODs, crew, cast & extras days including a proposed NT crew list in aggregate by department.
- Qualifying Northern Territory Expenditure Budget..

4.6. Reporting requirements, conditions and deliverables

The contract with the NTG through Screen Territory will set out the terms and conditions of the incentive, including the following requirements:

- The project achieves the agreed qualifying Northern Territory expenditure.
- The project engages the minimum specified number of Northern Territory crew members.
- The project provides the required number of attachment opportunities relative to the project's estimated Northern Territory expenditure.
- The project provides marketing and other delivery materials to Screen Territory during, and on completion of, the project.
- The project provides Screen Territory with an appropriate and agreed credit.

Successful funding applicants must provide detailed reporting and acquittal information on the activities undertaken. These will be negotiated between the successful applicant and Screen Territory at the time of contracting.

4.7. Publicity

Successful applicants will be expected to assist the NTG in relation to publicity and media opportunities prior to and during the production's filming in the Territory.

5. INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Objectives	Foster skilled and creative Territory practitioners
Program Purpose	To support Northern Territory screen practitioners who are at mid or advanced career level to gain further professional experience under the guidance of highly experienced practitioners, or through targeted events and initiatives
Program Structure	Industry partnerships up to \$15 000 per application for Northern Territory based organisations to create professional development and skills training opportunities for Northern Territory screen practitioners at various stages of their careers

5.1. Funding available

Organisations can apply for any amount up to \$15 000 for one-off or annual events including seminars and programs of professional development activities that will enhance the Territory screen industry and sector.

Preference will be given to initiatives that meet identified professional development needs of Territory screen practitioners.

5.2. Eligibility

All applications must meet the general eligibility requirements as outlined in the Terms of Trade.

5.2.1. Who can apply

Funding is for Northern Territory based companies and organisations or, where evidenced, for Northern Territory based companies in genuine collaboration with other organisations.

To be eligible for funding organisations must be legally constituted.

Applications may be made by consortium or a group of organisations working together, in which case one organisation must be the lead organisation.

5.3. Application materials

Applicants must submit the following:

- A one-line description of the initiative.
- A detailed event plan including:
 - A description of the initiative; dates, location/s and venue/s; and expected participants
 - Brief information about the personnel who will deliver the activity or event including their roles, relevant experience and key achievements.
 - An advertising and promotion plan.
 - Key result areas, indicators and targets for the activity or event.
- A statement setting out the professional development benefits of the initiative to the Northern Territory screen industry, including:

- Evidence of the need or demand for the activity or event and why it should be regarded as a priority for funding.
- Identification of immediate and longer-term professional development outcomes for participants and how these outcomes will be measured.
- Potential impacts of the activity on the Northern Territory screen industry beyond direct participants.
- A profile of the applicant company or organisation, including current board/committee details and CVs of key principals
- A detailed budget including:
 - Income and expenditure targets and contributions.
 - Provision for insurance and other liabilities.

5.4. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

- The merit of the proposed initiative including its potential to engage industry participants and the extent to which it addresses an industry need.
- The likely professional development outcomes for participants and the Northern Territory screen industry more broadly.
- The track record of the applicant organisation(s) and key personnel and their capacity to deliver the proposed initiative.
- The comprehensiveness and viability of the proposed budget, and the cost-effectiveness of the proposed initiative.

5.5. Reporting and acquittal

If you are successful in receiving a grant through this program, your grant agreement will set out the materials you have agreed to deliver in order to acquit the grant. These will include:

- A report on the event against the key result areas, indicators and targets identified in the event plan.
- At least ten high resolution images of the event.
- A signed breakdown of income and expenditure.

You will be required to acquit the grant one month after the conclusion of the event.

6. BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – TRAVEL SUPPORT GRANTS

Program Objective	• Provide creative and professional development of Territory Screen practitioners • Promote successful Territory screen businesses, practitioners and projects
-Program Purpose	• To support experienced Territory practitioners to maintain their skills, grow their networks, and develop their project slates by contributing towards the costs of travel to relevant markets, conferences, and skills development opportunities held intra-Territory, interstate or internationally Travel support – Markets • Contributes to costs of travel by Northern Territory Screen practitioners and production companies to eligible national and international markets and market-oriented conferences, and for strategic business development • Focused primarily on experienced practitioners; special rounds advertised during the year targeting emerging and mid-career practitioners
Program Structure	Travel support – Awards and Festivals • Contributes to costs of travel for a practitioner who has been nominated for an eligible award, or who has a key role in a project selected for screening at an eligible film festival • Eligible events have been determined to ensure that support maximises the benefits to the local industry and that the best use is made of available funds Travel support – Skills Development • Limited travel support to assist Northern Territory Screen practitioners attend craft-based conferences or other skills development opportunities that require travel interstate or within the Territory

6.1. Travel Support - Markets

Screen Territory may contribute towards the costs of travel by Northern Territory production companies or practitioners to attend key national markets and market-oriented conferences or undertake targeted business travel for exposure, experience, skills development, and networking and to help move a project or slate of projects forward.

6.1.1. Funding available

- Up to \$2 000 per traveller (up to \$4 000 per company per application and must have a minimum of two travellers from the company) for national travel
- Up to \$5 000 per application (irrespective of number of travellers) for international travel.

Eligible expenditure includes airfares (economy only), accommodation, ground transport, event registration, per diems, and other legitimate travel costs. Course fees, wages, and other fees may not be claimed.

6.1.2. Eligibility

The applicant must:

- Be a Northern Territory resident or a Northern Territory production company and meet the eligibility criteria as per the Terms of Trade.
- Hold the rights to at least two projects in development which have market potential.

The program is primarily focused on experienced producers with several long-form broadcast or released credits however special rounds will be advertised each year targeting emerging and mid-career practitioners.

The event must be an eligible event. If the event is not listed below, please contact Screen Territory to discuss and to seek approval prior to lodgement:

6.1.2.1. Eligible Australian conferences

- Australian International Documentary Conference (AIDC)
- Screen Forever
- Australian Children's Content Summit (ACCS)
- Games Connect Asia Pacific (GCAP)
- Pax Aus (Pax Market)

6.1.2.2. Eligible Australian pitching forums (applicant must be selected)

- MIFF 37 South Market

An application for travel funding to attend an event not on the eligible events list, or for interstate travel for business purposes outside attendance at an event, may be considered if the applicant can demonstrate that it offers significant professional development or project advancement opportunities.

In the event a conference is being held online, Screen Territory will consider funding for registration to the event. In this case you must discuss your proposal with Screen Territory before submitting an application.

6.1.3. Application timing

Applications must be received by Screen Territory no later than:

- Four weeks prior to date of travel for Australian domestic travel.
- Four weeks prior to the date of travel for international travel.

6.1.4. Application materials

Applicants must submit:

- Current one-page CVs for individual traveller/s and, where relevant, the production company
- One-page summaries for at least two (2) projects that you see benefitting from attendance at the market or conference, including a synopsis and current financing status for each
- A plan for proposed activities and meetings (both confirmed and proposed) at the event
- A budget including the Northern Territory Government's contribution
- For pitching forums: proof of selection/invitation

6.1.5. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

- The applicant's track record, current career stage, and benefits they will gain from attending the event.
- The quality of the submitted projects and their suitability for the event.
- The strategy for the event including planned activities and meetings.
- The appropriateness of the budget submitted.

Consideration will also be given to the track record and level of support the applicant has already received.

6.1.6. Reporting and acquittal

If you are successful in receiving a Travel grant, your grant agreement will set out the materials you have agreed to deliver in order to acquit the grant.

These will include:

- A brief report on the outcomes of your travel against the aims and objectives identified in the applications including:
 - A description of the activities undertaken.
 - Detailed notes on meetings held and sessions attended.
 - Information on the planned further development of your project(s) as a result of attendance.
 - Any additional information or comments you wish to make.
- A signed breakdown of income and expenditure including financial support received from the Screen Territory and any third party.

You will be required to acquit the grant one month after you return from travel and to retain evidence of receipt and expenditure of grant money for 12 months from the travel completion date, and if requested, provide copies of these documents within 14 days of such a request.

6.2. Travel Support – Festivals and Awards

Screen Territory may contribute towards the costs of travel by Territory screen practitioners nominated for key awards, or whose projects have been selected for key festivals, to progress their career through exposure and networking.

6.2.1. Funding available

- National travel: up to \$2 000 per traveller (up to \$4 000 per company per application and must have a minimum of two travellers from the company).
- Up to \$5 000 per application (irrespective of number of travellers) for international travel.

Eligible expenditure includes airfares (economy only), accommodation, ground transport, event registration, per diems, and other legitimate travel costs.

6.2.2. Eligibility

The applicant and all proposed travellers must meet Screen Territory's eligibility criteria as per the Terms of Trade, and either:

- Be nominated for an eligible award; or,
- Have a key creative role (generally a producer, writer, cinematographer or director) on a project selected for an eligible festival or nominated for an eligible award.

6.2.2.1. Eligible Australian Awards:

- AACTA Awards
- ACS National Awards for Cinematography
- ADG Awards
- ASE Awards
- AWGIE Awards
- SPA Awards
- TV Week Logie Awards
- Australian Game Developer Awards

6.2.2.2. Eligible Australian festivals:

- Adelaide Film Festival
- Brisbane International Film Festival
- Darwin International Film Festival
- Melbourne International Film Festival
- Perth Revelation International Film Festival
- Sydney Film Festival

6.2.3. Application timing

Applications must be received by Screen Territory no later than four weeks prior to the date of travel.

6.2.4. Application materials

You must submit:

- Confirmation of selection for the festival or nomination for the award.
- Current one-page CVs for individual traveller/s and, where relevant, the production company.
- A statement setting out how you plan to maximise the benefit of attending the event to enhance their career.
- A detailed budget including Screen Territory and other Northern Territory Government contributions (as applicable).

6.2.5. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

- The current career stage of proposed travellers and the benefits they will gain from the event
- The appropriateness of the budget submitted.

Consideration will be given to the track record and level of support the applicant has already received.

6.2.6. Reporting and acquittal

If you are successful in receiving a Travel grant, your grant agreement will set out the materials you have agreed to deliver in order to acquit the grant.

These will include:

- A brief report on the outcomes of your travel against the aims and objectives identified in the applications including:
 - A description of the activities undertaken.
 - Detailed notes on meetings held and sessions attended.
 - Information on the planned further development of your project(s) as a result of attendance.
 - Any additional information or comments you wish to make
- A signed breakdown of income and expenditure including financial support received from the Screen Territory and any third party.

You will be required to acquit the grant one month after you return from travel and to retain evidence of receipt and expenditure of grant money for 12 months from the travel completion date, and if requested, provide copies of these documents within 14 days of such a request.

6.3. Travel Support – Skills Development

The NTG may contribute towards the costs of travel by Northern Territory practitioners to attend key national craft conferences or other professional development events, to enhance their skills and progress their career through exposure and networking.

6.3.1. Funding available

- Up to \$2 000 per application

Eligible expenditure includes airfares (economy only), accommodation, ground transport, event registration, per diems, and other legitimate travel costs.

6.3.2. Eligibility

This program is open to Northern Territory residents who:

- Meet eligibility criteria as per the Terms of Trade.
- Can demonstrate significant commitment to a screen industry career in roles relevant to the proposed conference or event.

An application for travel funding to attend an upskilling event may be considered if you can demonstrate that it offers significant professional development opportunities.

You must discuss your proposed travel with Screen Territory before submitting an application

6.3.3. Application timing

Applications must be received by no later than four weeks prior to the date of travel.

6.3.4. Application materials

You must submit:

- A current one-page CV, highlighting your experience relevant to the proposed event.
- A description of the conference or event, including dates, venues, and program information.
- A statement setting out the how you plan to maximise the benefit of attending the event to enhance your career.
- A detailed budget including Screen Territory and other Northern Territory Government contributions (as applicable).

6.3.5. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

- The profile, significance and relevance of the event or opportunity.
- The applicant's current career stage and benefits they will gain from attending the event.
- The appropriateness of the budget submitted.

Screen Territory may also take into account the level of support and the track record of the applicant has already received.

6.3.6. Reporting and acquittal

If you are successful in receiving a travel grant, your grant agreement will set out the materials you have agreed to deliver in order to acquit the grant. These will include:

Northern Territory Government Screen Territory Funding Program Guidelines

- A brief report on the outcomes of your travel and learnings during the attendance of the skills development activity.
- A signed breakdown of income and expenditure including financial support received from Screen Territory and any third party.

You will be required to acquit the grant one month after you return from travel.

7. CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Program Objectives	To increase skilled, creative Northern Territory screen practitioners and ongoing employment opportunities for these practitioners.
Program Purpose	To foster and develop emerging talent and establish meaningful career pathways through internships and mentoring to encourage the next generation to remain in the NT
Program Structure	Up to \$15 000 per application provided to support for: An individual as: - An attachment to a department or crew role during the production of a screen project. - An internship within a post-production facility - An internship within a production company. A highly experienced film or television practitioner (mentor) to mentor an early or mid-career practitioner (mentee), engaged in a specific role on a specific project.

Screen Territory will support a limited number of Northern Territory screen practitioners at mid or advanced career level to gain further hands-on professional experience under the guidance of highly experienced practitioners or through meaningful placements within production companies or screen productions.

The program is aimed at supporting exceptional national or international opportunities made available to Northern Territory practitioners including key creatives and technicians.

Opportunities may take the form of:

- A meaningful attachment to a department or crew role during the production of a film or screen project.
- An internship within a production company.
- An internship within a post-production facility.
- A bespoke mentorship whereby a highly experienced film or television practitioner is funded to mentor an early or mid-career practitioner (the mentee) while engaged in a specific role on a specific project.

Attachments and internships are aimed at providing meaningful hands-on experience in a real-world professional environments to provide real and lasting career pathways.

Mentorships are aimed at giving practitioners in key creative and managerial roles access to high level advice and support to enhance career progression.

7.1. Funding Available

Applications can be for any amount up to \$15 000, supported by a budget.

Screen Territory funding is provided to the production company, and the company is free to supplement this with their own resources. Funds will not be drawn down until Screen Territory signs an executed agreement between the mentee and the production company/mentor.

- **For attachments and internships**, wages are to be at least Level 2 of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance Award: [view the current Award rates](#).
- **For mentorships**, funding is provided directly to the mentor, and the funding cannot be used to subsidise the wages of the mentee, or any other crew positions.

7.2. Eligibility

The application must:

- Come from the individual practitioner, who must be a Northern Territory resident and meet eligibility criteria as per the Terms of Trade; or a production company hosting the attachment.
- Have the endorsement of the host production company/practitioner or mentor.
- Represent a significant professional development opportunity in the applicant's area of expertise.
- Be an attachment, internship or mentorship of no less than six weeks in length.

Funding is not available through this program where a production company has undertaken to provide an attachment as part of an agreement with Screen Territory for production finance.

7.3. Application timing

Applications must be received no later than four weeks prior to the commencement date of the proposed placement or mentorship.

Screen Territory reserves the right to accept proposals outside of this time-frame where exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated.

7.4. Application materials

You must submit:

- A one-line description of the opportunity including the legacy impact of the proposed attachment upon the wider NT screen sector.
- A current one-page CV of the attachment/intern/mentee.
- A personal statement detailing your background, creative and career goals, and interest in the particular role.
- A detailed plan for the attachment, internship or mentorship (agreed to by the company or mentor) which includes:
 - A timeframe or schedule.
 - An outline of the type of experience and work to be undertaken.
 - The intended professional development outcomes.
- A letter of offer or agreement from the Production Company or Mentor confirming the opportunity and the level of involvement you will have with the company's activities.
- A draft agreement from the Production Company or Mentor confirming the opportunity, the length

of engagement, the learning outcomes and responsibilities of each party and the level of remuneration the attachment will receive.

- A detailed budget including Northern Territory Government's contribution.
- A current one-page CV for the mentor, or the company or individual offering the attachment or internship.

7.5. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

- The applicant's track record, career progression and commitment to developing their expertise in their chosen field.
- The exceptional nature of the opportunity, and the track record and experience of the host production company/practitioner or mentor.
- The identified outcomes and their relevance to the applicant's current career stage alongside the legacy benefits for the NT screen industry.
- The appropriateness of the budget submitted.

7.6. Reporting and acquittal

If you are successful in receiving a grant through this program, your grant agreement will set out the materials you have agreed to deliver in order to acquit the grant. These will include:

- A report on the outcomes of the attachment, internship or mentorship from the attachment/mentee.
- A report on the outcomes of the attachment, internship or mentorship from the production company/mentor.
- An executed copy of the career development agreement between the mentor/production company and the mentee/attachment.
- Receipts of payment to the attachment, internship or mentee from the production company.
- A breakdown of grant expenditure.

You will be required to acquit the grant one month after the conclusion of the attachment, internship or funded mentor.

8. GAMES DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Program Objectives	• Develop skilled Territory creatives • Support local game developers • Support successful Territory screen businesses
Program Purpose	• Support the development of interactive screen projects – both narrative and non-narrative – for all digital platforms. It encourages Territorians to develop, adopt and exploit new and emerging means of creating and delivering of compelling screen content, with a focus on the creation and retention of Northern Territorian intellectual property.
Program Structure	Conceptual Development • Up to \$5 000 per application to deliver micro-prototypes demonstrating innovative game mechanics and audience/market. Prototype • Up to \$10 000 contributing to a significant development work which illustrate core gameplay and key differentiators of game to market competitors. Vertical Slice / Early Access • Up to \$30 000 contributing to polished core gameplay, where players can experience a good representation of full release gameplay. • Early Access may include targeting a Kickstarter campaign or releasing an incomplete, but playable, version of the game in Steam's early access

8.1. Games Development Grant

The Screen Territory Games Development Grants Program aims to support the growth of the video games industry in the Northern Territory.

This grant funding is aimed at the development of interactive screen projects – both narrative and non-narrative – for all digital platforms. It encourages Territorians to develop, adopt and exploit new and emerging means of creating and delivering compelling screen content, with a focus on the creation and retention of Northern Territory intellectual property by supporting local games developers and studios to create digital games.

This program supports applications for projects targeting development across prototype, early access or full launch stages.

This grant stream aims to support projects where Territory games developers retain ownership of the subsequent intellectual property.

8.2. Funding available

Funding caps vary depending on the project production target.

Conceptual Development (up to \$5,000)

- Funding capped at AU \$5,000
- Development documentation showing the planned work and investment for this stage (including in-kind) and plans for securing additional funding and a pipeline plan for moving into prototyping.
- Successful applicants must deliver a minimum of 2 micro-prototypes as proof of concept. Micro-prototypes should demonstrate innovative game mechanics, art style, narrative or other game features and validating a market/audience.
- Successful applicants must also provide a learnings report, either in written or video format, and may be required to present at the NT Screen Summit.

Prototype (up to \$10,000)

- Funding capped at AU \$10,000
- Development documentation showing the planned work and investment for this stage (including in-kind) and plans for securing additional funding and a pipeline plan for moving into full Vertical Slice and/or full production.
- Concept materials showing the game's intended key elements and how the prototype will assist moving into full production.
- Prototypes should illustrate core gameplay and the key differentiator of your game. A good prototype has "found the fun" and gives a clear indication of the game's potential.

Vertical Slice / Early Access (up to \$30,000)

- Funding capped at AU \$30,000
- Development documentation showing the planned work and investment for this stage (including in-kind) and plans for securing additional funding and a pipeline plan for moving into full production.
- Detailed concept materials showing the game's key elements and how the Vertical Slice will move into full production.
- This target should see polished core gameplay, where players can experience a good representation of full release gameplay.
- Early Access may include targeting a crowdfunding campaign or releasing an incomplete, but playable, version of the game in Steam's early access.

The amount requested should be commensurate with the experience of the team, the scope of the work proposed, the market/audience for the project, and the contribution provided by the applicant and any other funding sources.

The grant amount requested must be at least matched by the applicant (*both cash and in-kind will be considered*) **and/or other funding sources.** These matched amounts and other funding sources must be included in an application for the grant.

The grant is only to be used as funding for eligible costs.

Eligible costs include:

- Staffing costs and other costs associated with the game's development and release.
- Licensing costs and legal fees. This includes assistance with distribution, licensing and publishing agreements, and intellectual property protection.

- Costs associated with marketing the project. This includes assistance with strategy, public relations, press kits, pricing strategy, app--store search engine optimisation, user acquisition, in--app purchase optimisation and localisation.
- Engagement of a highly experienced mentor to support key project personnel with creative, technical or business elements of the project.

8.3. Eligibility

All applications must meet the general eligibility requirements as outlined in the [Terms of Trade](#) and may only submit one project per round. **Note:** A project can only receive seed funding once.

Who is eligible?

- Applicants must be a Bona Fide Northern Territory game development company or individual (as defined in Screen Territory Terms of Trade).
- The Games Grants are open to applications from both emerging and established games developers.
- At least 50% of the development team must be based in the Northern Territory unless an exemption is granted by Screen Territory prior to lodgement of the application.
- Applicants must include at least one team member with a lead credit (Lead Producer, Lead Designer, Lead Programmer) in a previously published interactive screen project relevant to the application.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they are the IP creator and owner of the game. Please note that commissioned projects are not eligible.

The applicant or at least one member of the applicant team must have the following credits, depending on the amount being sought:

- **Conceptual Development up to and including \$5 000:** at least one previously published interactive screen project that has been released for public usage.
- **Prototype and Vertical Slice/Early Access between \$10 001 – 30 000:** at least one previously published interactive screen project that has been released for public commercial usage with 1000 amount of unit sales.

Less experienced practitioners may be part of the team, as long as at least one key principal is eligible as above. The intention is not to exclude new talent but encourage them to team up with more experienced practitioners.

What projects are eligible?

The following formats are eligible:

- Premium and free-to-play games
- Live-ops development
- Entertainment games for a mass audience.

The following are ineligible for funding:

- Games that are not completely digital (e.g. board games or hybrid digital/physical games)
- Gambling games
- Serious games, or games which are made for purposes other than pure entertainment
- Games that are, in Screen Territory's opinion, likely to be refused classification under the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995 (Cth)

- Games designed to predominantly or substantially market, promote or advertise a product or service
- The purchase of equipment or software
- Projects that solely re-format traditional media content.

Applications with team members who are in breach with Screen Territory, or another Northern Territory Government agency, are not eligible to apply until all previous funding has been acquitted.

8.4. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed taking into account:

- The track record of the team and their ability to deliver the project. Applications from teams of less experienced developers should spend extra time and effort on their pitch documents.
- The overall quality of the project, considering artistry, gameplay, originality, technology and any commercial potential.
- The strength and appropriateness of the marketing strategy and the project's ability to reach its target audience.
- The viability and appropriateness of the budget and schedule, and the strength of the finance plan, including contributions from the applicant and other funding sources.
- The benefits to the Northern Territory games industry and culture, including an assessment of the levels of NT expenditure, employment of Northern Territory games developers, upskilling and internship opportunities.,
- The project's impact on the long-term sustainability and broader commercial goals of the developer.

8.5. Application materials

All applicants must submit the following:

- CVs and bios of key team members
- Chain of Title documents
- A Creative Pitch document
 - This document focuses on key aspects of the game such as a core gameplay loop, differentiating features, artwork and other relevant details to describe a compelling game
 - As a general guide, this document should be approximately **10** pages. Applicants should research video game publisher pitch templates.
- **A Project Plan document including:**
 - Which platform(s) will the game be released on? How will it generate income?
 - Competitor and market analysis – are there similar games in the market? What demand is there for your game?
 - Established marketplace relationships.
 - Evidence of interested distributors/publishers (if relevant) – attach confirmation of attachment and deal terms.
 - Evidence of licenses, approvals and development kits (if relevant).
 - Game developer company details and ABN.
 - Audience plan – who is your audience and how will you reach them? What is your release plan?

For Experimental Development applications, the project plan document should focus on:

- Which platforms and technology will you be prototyping for?
- How will experimental prototyping funding impact your broader career and/or business strategy?

- A timeline of key milestones.
- A project advancement strategy, detailing next steps after Experimental Prototyping is completed.
- **A Development Timeline of key milestones including the completion of the work**
 - Applications for prototype funding should include a project advancement strategy, detailing immediate next steps after the prototype is completed.
- **A Budget with Northern Territory expenditure included**
 - Where team members or suppliers are reinvesting their fee, a list of budget line items and their associated position/service will be required, as well as a letter of commitment from each person that is reinvesting their fee (signed by the team member).
- **Stipulated Deliverables**

For Early Access / Vertical Access applications asking for more than \$20,000:

- Provide a video or trailer (or suitable proof of concept) demonstrating the gameplay and features of your game. Videos should be a maximum of three (3) minutes.
- Provide a guide for our assessors to access relevant prototypes safely.

8.6. Reporting requirements, conditions, deliverables and acquittal

The contract with the NTG through Screen Territory will set out the terms and conditions of the funding. Recipients are expected to adhere to funding deadlines stipulated in the agreement. You will be required to acquit the grant one month after the agreed project end date and the acquittal will including the following requirements:

- Deliverables relevant to your Project Plan.
- The project achieves the agreed qualifying Northern Territory expenditure.
- A report detailing:
 - This stage: the work undertaken during this stage of development, including how you have addressed your project's development goals.
 - Next stage: the proposed next steps for developing the project, including any specific production elements.
 - A Marketing and Finance Plan: including a proposed budget and finance plan that explains the strategy for financing the project, including commercial or market interest you have attracted or release strategies that you are proposing.
 - A signed breakdown of income and expenditure for the project including financial support received from the NTG or a third party.

9. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND SUPPORT MATERIALS

Below are some frequently asked questions and resources to assist you in your funding application.

9.1. What is an Eligible Screen Credits at Festivals and Events?

The following are the events relevant to demonstrating an eligible screen credit. If you have been selected for a major festival not on this list contact Screen Territory for approval of the credit.

Academy Awards® [nomination]	Human Rights Arts and Film Festival
AFI/AACTA [nomination]	International Documentary Festival Amsterdam (IDFA)
Adelaide Film Festival	International Film Festival Rotterdam
Annecy Animation Festival	International Emmy Award® [nomination]
Aspen Shortsfest	Melbourne International Film Festival
BAFTAs [nomination]	Ottawa Animation Festival
Berlin International Film Festival	Revelation Perth International Film Festival
BFI London Film Festival	Sheffield Doc/Fest
Brisbane International Film Festival	Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival
Busan International Film Festival	South by Southwest (SXSW) Film Festival
Cannes Film Festival	St Kilda Film Festival
Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival	Sydney Film Festival
Darwin International Film Festival [as a Director, Writer or Producer in the SPARK initiative]	Telluride Film Festival
Fantastic Fest (Austin,TX)	Toronto International Film Festival
Flickerfest [winner of Best Short Film or Best Animation]	Tribeca Film Festival
Hot Docs	Stuttgart Festival of Animation
	Sundance Film Festival
	Venice International Film Festival

9.2. What's in the Early and Late Stage Project Development plan?

Depending on you project and where it's up to, your development plan might cover:

From concept or proposal to advanced treatment or script	
Documentary Projects:	Feature films, TV,narrative comedy and Direct-to-Audience:
○ Research.	○ Purchase of rights or option on rights.

○ Writing a first or subsequent draft of an outline, pitch deck, treatment or script.	○ Significant and relevant story and character research.
○ Strategic shooting and/or editing (you should explain why shooting footage at this stage is vital to the realisation of the film).	○ Developing a treatment, scene breakdowns and/or beat sheets.
○ Visualisation materials – storyboards, etc. that help inform the creative process.	○ Writing a first or subsequent draft script.
	○ Developing a pitch deck, series bible, series outline, pilot script or first episode script.
	○ Script readings and/or workshops/writers' rooms.
	○ Visualisation materials – storyboards etc. that help to inform the creative process, or test scenes (filming/production when part of the development process).
Late stage development	
Documentary projects, feature films, TV/web drama and narrative comedy: ○ budgeting and scheduling preparation ○ consultation about digital elements, digital distribution platforms and audience engagement strategies ○ developing pitch materials, teaser trailers, sizzle reels (audio visual) to attract finance. Note that for TV drama projects, broadcasters generally like to see early-stage documents, not full drafts, before they become involved, so they can influence the project to meet their audience needs.	

9.3. Are there resources or application templates available?

9.3.1. Travel Application Template

There is a travel application template available on the Screen Territory website. When filling out the template ensure that you cite both your confirmed and your intended meetings as this will give the assessors a sense of your strategy for outcomes going into the conference or event.

The travel application template is available at <https://screenterritory.nt.gov.au/funding/applying-for-funding/funding-resources-and-templates>

9.3.2. Development Budget Template

There is a development budget template available for your use if you are applying for seed of development funding. The template is available at <https://screenterritory.nt.gov.au/funding/applying-for-funding/funding-resources-and-templates>

9.4. Is there a policy for working with children in the NT during my screen production?

All screen productions and projects must adhere to the [Care and Protection of Children Act 2007](#), specifically part 3.2.

9.5. Are there useful references or resources from Screen Australia?

- [What is a synopsis, an outline, a treatment?](#)
- [Development plans and producer's statements](#) (for drama projects).
- [Screen Australia's document library](#) contains a wide variety of useful documents and templates

9.6. Story Documents and Chain of Title Documents explained?

Helpful Information

9.6.1. Story Documents:

A good reference for understanding the different types of story document is the Screen Australia guide: [What is a synopsis, an outline, a treatment?](#)

For example, the aim of a project 'outline' or 'short document' is to depict the concept and the main points of the story, evoking the experience of the film, whether drama or documentary. The document should have a clear beginning, middle and end, and a solid structure with clear, identified pivotal story points, and a core conflict that drives the story.

If the project is an adaptation of an existing work, the document should detail the main points of the envisaged screen story and the intended point of view. The outline needs to stand on its own, and evoke the experience of the film, as we will not be reading the underlying work. We are interested in your intended take on the material, and how you are going to turn it into a screen story.

9.6.2. Chain of Title documents:

Copyright claims are usually demonstrated through a series of documents known as the 'Chain of Title', which establishes that the applicant owns or controls all necessary underlying rights in order to fully develop, produce and market their project.

At development stage, typical Chain of Title documents for a producer might be a scriptwriter's agreement, a script editor/developer's agreement, and an option agreement if the project is based on an underlying work like a book or play.

For option agreements, note that Screen Territory expects the accumulated periods of an option and its subsequent extensions to be at least three and a half years. We advise producers to have an option to acquire where possible sequel, prequel, remake, TV spin-off rights and all ancillary rights as these rights will be required at financing stage.

All relevant Chain of Title documents must be provided to Screen Territory at the time of application.

9.7. What's in the Game Development Creative Pitch document?

It is suggested that the Creative Pitch document includes the following:	
<u>Title and Introduction</u>	• Title Art / Logo / Concept Art • One-line elevator pitch
<u>Gameplay Mechanics Overview</u>	• Bullet points that summarise unique mechanics and features. Compare to existing games and how you differentiate • Describe your core gameplay loop. Ideally with a diagram
<u>Visual Overview</u>	• An in-game art image or gif is ideal • Mock-ups of in-game art from different parts of the game • Over world, level, characters • Dot points about innovative or distinguishing visuals
<u>Progression Overview</u>	• Outline in dot points about how the game moves forward, keeping the player's attention • Examples include: ○ How are levels or story linked? ○ How does the player evolve in-game?
<u>Audio/Sound</u>	• Explain how audio and SFX works with your game. Include any innovative features
<u>Development Team Summary</u>	• Who are your team and what experience/skills do they have? • Experienced teams with a history of releasing commercial games create a much stronger application • Outline any skill gaps you have and how you plan to address them • Speak to upskilling opportunities where senior and junior developers are working together on the game
<u>For Experimental Development applications, the creative pitch document should focus on:</u> • A development team/developer summary outlining experience and skills with a focus on your experience in prototyping • An outline of your processes, strategies, and experimentation structures. Explain how you will explore new mechanics and gameplay, how you will track and record your findings, and how you will validate with market/audiences	