



Australian Government



PROGRAM GUIDELINES: TALENT+

ISSUED 1 JULY 2015

UPDATED 17 February 2017

Screen Australia reserves the right to change its program guidelines from time to time. Please ensure you check the website for the latest version.

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with Screen Australia's [Terms of Trade](#).

We encourage you to contact the Program Operations team before you submit your application to discuss any eligibility questions and ensure all the required supporting material is in place. This will mean we can process your application smoothly and efficiently. The Program Operations team can be contacted on **1800 507 901**.

We receive many more applications than we can support. Inevitably, some applications will be unsuccessful and applicants will be disappointed by this result. However, our decision is final.

Specific requirements apply where there is Indigenous community participation or content involved in a project. Please refer to www.screenaustralia.gov.au/funding/business/Indigenous_Content.aspx

TALENT+

The Talent+ program provides opportunities for less experienced as well as experienced creative industry practitioners such as producers, writers, directors, animators, development executives, script editors and script consultants across feature film, television and online and interactive drama to design a professional development plan that is responsive to their particular career and business needs.

What funding is available?

When considering the design of a professional development plan, the following elements might be considered but are not limited to:

- **up to \$40,000 for an international placement**
- **up to \$20,000 for a domestic attachment to a specific project or for an industry placement** (Recipients of Enterprise People funding are not eligible to apply). Please note: the Development Department's focus will be on International placements. However, in exceptional circumstances we will consider up to three placements in Australia and New Zealand in any one financial year, with preference given for opportunities which are time critical
- **up to \$3,000 for career-specific mentorships**, this may be with a local or international mentor and might provide creative or business guidance and coaching. The fees are to be paid only to the mentor. Only in exceptional circumstances will we consider any additional funding
- **up to \$5,000 for business plan consultation**
- **training by way of non-project specific workshop or lab attendance** (that has a competitive selection process) that will help build craft and business skills.

Specific award amounts will be determined by Screen Australia. From time to time, we may identify opportunities with industry organisations that require assistance from Screen Australia in order to benefit the industry more widely, in the way of seminars, masterclasses, workshops or other non-traditional initiatives.

You need not apply for everything at once, although funding will be capped at \$50,000 for any one applicant over multiple applications. This cap will only be exceeded in exceptional circumstances.

Who can apply?

- Only individuals may apply.
- Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.
- Applicants must be:
 - a producer or director who is eligible to apply for **Story Development funding**, OR
 - an emerging writer, director or producer who has:
 - received funding from Screen Australia's short fiction programs; OR
 - received an AACTA award nomination for a short fiction film; OR
 - a short fiction film selected to screen at one of the following major international film festivals: Berlin, Cannes,

Clermont-Ferrand, SXSW, Telluride, Tribeca, Sundance, Venice, BFI London, Annecy, Stuttgart, Ottawa, Fantastic Fest, Busan, Sitges or Rotterdam; OR

- a short fiction film selected in competition to MIFF or the Sydney Film Festival; OR
- received an award at St Kilda or Flickerfest for a short fiction film including best short film, Indigenous, animation, best screenplay or best director.
- an animator with one significant key creative credit, OR
- a development executive, script editor or script consultant with recent high-level industry experience.
- Funding cannot be retrospective.
- Applicants must also meet the general eligibility requirements set out in Screen Australia's [Terms of Trade](#).

In exceptional circumstances, we will consider applications for a documentary writer, director or producer who has a slate of fiction features and can evidence substantial and meaningful crossover into drama. Contact our Program Operations team for more information on **1800 507 901**.

What materials do you need to apply?

- A professional development statement that outlines your achievements as well as your creative and career goals.
- Information about the company, mentor, workshop, lab or potential project attachment and the professional development opportunity.
- A detailed attachment, placement or mentorship plan (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, and
 - the intended professional development outcomes.
- A letter of offer or agreement from the company or mentor; OR, a letter of offer from the non-project specific workshop or lab; OR, for business consultations, a draft business plan outlining the strategic vision and information of the proposed consultation.
- The applicant's CV.

What is the assessment process?

Applications will be assessed by Screen Australia executives and/or industry specialists/peers as required. We will advise applicants in writing of the success or otherwise of their application.

Assessment criteria

When assessing applications for this program, we will take the following equally weighted criteria into account:

- The skills, experience and track record of the applicant and the quality of their previous work.
- The potential effectiveness of the attachment, professional development plan or business plan/proposal in relation to the applicant's career and/or business goals.
- The potential strategic benefits and quality of the placement, attachment, mentorship or related opportunity.
- The wider benefits to the Australian industry.

The criteria above are equally weighted. Other factors including availability of funds and the gender and cultural diversity of applications received may also influence Screen Australia's funding decisions.

What is the application timing?

Applications can be submitted at any time through the Online Application Portal and must include all necessary and relevant additional supporting material.

Maximum turnaround time for application decisions is four weeks.

Contact us

If you'd like to speak with one of our Development Executives or our Program Operations team regarding your application call **1800 507 901** or email development@screenaustralia.gov.au

Update log

17 February 2017

- due to changing the requirements of Hot Shots eligibility, the eligibility has changed.

3 June 2016

- Renamed the program from Creative Talent Suite to Talent+
- Removed Talent Pool

11 December 2015

- As part of the assessment criteria, added: Other factors including availability of funds and the gender and cultural diversity of the team may also influence Screen Australia's funding decisions.