



Australian Government

SCREEN
AUSTRALIA

FACT SHEET: Fees for Provisional Certificate Applications

JULY 2010

Please note: Screen Australia cannot provide legal or accounting advice and strongly recommends that all potential applicants for the Producer Offset seek competent independent professional assistance. The information in this fact sheet is general information only, not tailored to any project in any way, and not intended to be relied on in place of professional advice.

Screen Australia provides a service to industry in issuing provisional certificates for the Producer Offset. To assist Screen Australia in providing such a service, fees are payable with the lodgement of an application for a provisional certificate. No fees are payable when applying for a final certificate.

Application fee

Applications for provisional certificates lodged with Screen Australia on or after 1 July 2010 are required to pay a processing fee, based on the estimated budget of the film. The fees for 2010–11 (GST inclusive) are below:

- **\$110** – If budget total is less than A\$1m
- **\$550** – If budget total is A\$1m to less than A\$5m
- **\$1,100** – If budget total is A\$5m to less than A\$15m
- **\$2,200** – If budget total is A\$15m to less than A\$30m
- **\$3,850** – For budget totals A\$30m or more
- **\$220** – Re-consideration fee (see below)

These fees must be paid by EFT (see details below) before sending in an application to the Producer Offset and Co-production Unit. A receipt of payment of the fee is part of the application documentation required. Applications will not be assessed until the processing fee has been paid.

The fees will increase by CPI at the commencement of each financial year.

Re-consideration fee

Once a project is certified, if the applicant requires Screen Australia to re-consider any aspect of the film, such as re-considering the QAPE claim, or to seek confirmation that changes to the film do not impact on the project's claim against the significant Australian content (SAC) test, an additional fee of **\$220** (inc GST) is payable.

- Please note that the re-consideration fee only applies to projects which initially applied on or after 1 July 2010, so if you didn't need to pay a fee to apply for the original provisional certificate, you do not need to pay a reconsideration fee.

Adjustment of fee at final

Since the fee levied is based on the budget of the film, if a film is provisionally certified based on a projected budget, but the final budget of the film has increased to the extent that the fee would have been higher, the applicant will have to make good the difference on lodgement of the final certificate application.

Example:

- The budget of a feature film is \$14m.
- The producer applies for a provisional certificate, lodging the fee of \$1,100 (inc GST).
- The producer makes the film, but just before production, raises sufficient extra finance to shoot an additional action scene and some more complex VFX. The budget of the film increases to \$15.7m.
- When the producer applies for his/her final certificate, an additional fee of \$1,100 will be payable, because the provisional application fee would have been \$2,200 if the final budget had been known at the time.
- Please note that the provisional certificate is still valid, and the additional fee is only payable when lodging a final application.

How to pay

Fees are payable only by electronic direct debit. When finalising your provisional certificate application form, you should transfer the relevant fee to:

BSB: 06 2018
Account: 1022 5528
Account Name: Screen Australia – General

Your description of the transfer, should be noted as:

'[OFF_(applicant company)_(project title)]:

where 'applicant company' is the applicant company's name and 'project title' is the film's title (or an acronym or abbreviation of it, so if your production company is Screen Australia and the film is titled 'The Producer Offset', you should notate the transfer as, for example, '**OFF_ScreenAus_TPO**' or '**OFF_SA_ProducerOffset**'. The 'Off' indicates to Screen Australia that it is an Offset fee.

You must then fill in the relevant part of the application form and **attach a record of the transfer to the form**. Screen Australia will issue you a tax invoice for the payment when the fee is confirmed and received.