

THE STAN AND FILM VICTORIA DEVELOPMENT FUND

About the initiative:

This joint initiative between Stan and Film Victoria aims to support [Victorian](#) writers and producers to develop premium Australian drama with world-class scope and scale. We're looking for highly-marketable concepts that are a fit with Stan's premium first-run licensed international exclusives. We want stories that respond to Stan's [Creative Brief](#) and feature complex characters with unique dilemmas, fascinating or unique worlds and story engines that will fuel multi-season arcs.

Before applying:

- / Read these guidelines and Film Victoria's [Terms of Trade](#). Terms [underlined in green](#) appear in the website glossary.
- / Read the [Creative Brief](#) provided by Stan.
- / Review the online application form.
- / Read Film Victoria's [Gender & Diversity Statement](#). Film Victoria is committed to promoting and supporting gender equality, diversity and inclusiveness in the Victorian Screen industry.
- / Check the [deadline date](#) for this initiative.

Funding available:

- / Up to four teams will be selected to develop their projects to a pitch-ready stage and present their materials to Stan for commissioning consideration.
- / Up to \$25,000 per project is available as a development [investment](#) to cover writer and producer fees, the costs of holding a development workshop and other expenses (such as a consultant or note taker).
- / Selected projects may also be invited to apply to Film Victoria's Development On Demand program for funding to further develop their projects.

Eligibility:

Applications will be accepted from eligible writers and producers. To be eligible:

- / Applicants may be an individual or a company.
- / Writer applicants must be Victorian.
- / If the producer is not Victorian, a Victorian writer must be engaged and the project must be substantially shot and/or completed in Victoria.
- / Applicants may only submit one application to this funding round.
- / Prior credits are not required but applicants must demonstrate they have the skills required to realise their project. Stan and Film Victoria reserve the right to team less experienced practitioners up with more experienced personnel.

At the time of application, the entire writing team need not be finalised. Film Victoria will accept applications where some members of the team are still to be confirmed.

The project

In order to be selected for this opportunity we are seeking projects that:

- / are highly original, strongly serialised and returnable;
- / meet the [Creative Brief](#) as set out by Stan and have not been pitched to another broadcaster; and
- / have sufficiently developed project materials.

Application materials:

Applicants must submit:

- / A pitch to camera no more than three minutes long and supplied as a video weblink
- / A 5-10 page pitch document detailing:
 - The concept and creative vision for the project
 - The major characters and their potential arcs
 - The elements that make the world/setting of the series unique and distinctive
 - The series engine and the shape of a typical episode
 - The target audience and the hooks of the show that will engage this audience
 - The creative team and their experience to date

Applications may also include additional materials such as episode outlines and/or sample scripts.

Assessment:

Funding is competitive. When assessing applications, Film Victoria and Stan will consider:

- / Story – The strength and distinctiveness of the narrative, with an emphasis on bold, innovative and fresh storytelling concepts. The execution and quality of the submitted materials.
- / Talent – The ability of the individual or team to develop the project and ultimately realise the production.
- / Diversity – How the content/storylines and creative team (confirmed or planned) promote and support gender equality, diversity and inclusiveness.
- / Audience and Budget - The project's potential to appeal to the marketplace and a target audience appropriate to the project's budget size.

Preference will be given to all [Victorian](#) teams.

Successful applicants:

Successful applicants will enter into a Development Agreement with Film Victoria, setting out the terms and conditions of the approved funding, including deliverables and repayment obligations.

Contacts:

For **initial queries**, contact the Program Services Officer [Sarah Pratt](#) on 03 9660 3229

To **discuss the project**, contact the program manager [Erin Bretherton](#) on 03 9660 3232