

## REGIONAL LOCATION ASSISTANCE FUND (RLAF)

### ***About the program:***

Film Victoria's Regional Location Assistance Fund (RLAF) offers [grants](#) to encourage Victorian, interstate and international film and television productions to locate specific types of production activity in regional Victoria.

Applications are assessed by the [Production Incentive Attraction Fund \(PIAF\) committee](#) in accordance with these guidelines and the objectives of the fund outlined below.

The objectives of RLAF are to:

- / Attract specific types of production activity to regional Victoria
- / Increase business and employment opportunities for regionally based companies and residents
- / Promote regional Victorian locations.

Please refer to the [map of Victorian regions](#) to determine if the proposed production activity is located in regional Victoria.

### ***Before applying for a RLAF grant:***

Applicants must read these guidelines thoroughly and:

- / Check eligibility and deliverables needed, if successful
- / Review the [RLAF application form](#).

Applicants are strongly advised to discuss the project/s with [Joe Brinkmann](#), Manager – Incentives and Investments at Film Victoria via email or on +613 9660 3255 prior to submitting an application.

### ***Eligibility:***

To be eligible to receive a RLAF grant applicants must be a production company or Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with a project which:

- / Is one of the following production types:
  - [Fiction: feature](#) film, television ([telemovie](#), [mini-series](#), [pilot](#) or series)
  - [Documentary: feature](#) film, television (one-off or series).
- / Will use regional Victorian locations for a minimum of five (5) days during principal photography where the majority of crew/cast will be accommodated in proximity to the regional filming location
- / Will meet a minimum qualifying expenditure of \$100,000 in regional Victoria on approved elements (see section below on approved elements)
- / Has evidence of genuine marketplace intent for commercial release or distribution (theatrical release/broadcast television/commercial online distribution)
- / Will employ screen industry practitioners (with credits on professionally produced projects) on, at least, minimum Australian industry award rates.

Regionally based production companies undertaking filming in regional Victoria that meet all the above criteria may be eligible for support through this program, to be assessed on a case by case basis.

Please note that the RLAF grant may form part of the project's finance plan but will need to be cashflowed by producers as the grant is not payable in full until final delivery.

### ***Approved elements***

Approved elements for a RLAF grant include:

- / Payments made to regional Victorian residents or regional Victorian companies for goods or services
- / Salaries (pro rata to the period of regional filming) and other expenses paid to, or incurred by, any regional Victorian resident for the period where that activity is undertaken in proximity to their regional residence
- / Fees for production and other services provided by regional Victorian companies
- / Per diems, accommodation and other associated living-away-from-home costs incurred by the production company.

A full explanation of Qualifying Regional Victorian Expenditure can be found [here](#).

### **Exclusions**

- / The following production types are ineligible to receive a RLAF grant:
  - [Infotainment](#), reality and magazine shows
  - Variety programs and [light entertainment](#)
  - Sports and current affairs programs
  - Television commercials
  - [Short](#) films (<60mins)
  - Community television
  - Student films.
- / Applications from federal or state government departments or entities are ineligible
- / Funding can't be sought retrospectively.

### ***Assessment process and timeline:***

The [PIAF committee](#) will consider the following in assessing applications:

- / The number of days of principal photography undertaken in regional Victoria (minimum of five days)
- / The project's total qualifying expenditure in regional Victoria (see section 5 below)
- / The number of employment and business opportunities for Regional Victorians
- / The value of the additional activity being brought to the region/s
- / The experience and track record of the key production personnel
- / The exhibition, broadcast or distribution prospects for the production
- / Previous support for the project from Film Victoria (financial or other)
- / The demand on available program funds
- / Any other aspects of the project and its production in Victoria which the Committee considers relevant to meeting the objectives of the RLAF program.

Once a completed application has been provided, the [PIAF Committee](#) will usually assess the application within six weeks and determine the level of assistance to be offered. Applicants with time critical projects should discuss their needs with the [Manager - Incentives and Investments](#).

Applications for a RLAF grant must be approved by the committee prior to commencement of principal photography.

### ***RLAF agreement:***

The agreement will set out the terms and conditions of the RLAF grant, including requirements that:

- / The project achieves the agreed production spend and shoot days in regional Victoria
- / Film Victoria must be credited on the project as set out in the agreement
- / Delivery materials are provided to Film Victoria on completion of production
- / The project information provided to Film Victoria remains true and correct.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss any aspects of Film Victoria's contracting terms with the [Manager - Incentives and Investments](#).

### ***Payment of a RLAF grant:***

A RLAF grant is generally paid in three stages as outlined below, however Film Victoria reserves the right to vary the payment schedule on a project by project basis:

- / 50% after execution of the RLAF agreement and Film Victoria's receipt of written confirmation that principal photography has commenced
- / 25% on approval of Film Victoria's agreed final credit prior to mastering of the project
- / 25% upon completion of the project and Film Victoria's receipt of all deliverables.

### ***Deliverables:***

Deliverables include, but are not limited to, a final cost report evidencing the agreed regional production spend, a RLAF questionnaire, schedules, copies of the project and production stills.

### ***Publicity:***

Successful applicants will be required to assist Film Victoria with any publicity/media opportunities for the Victorian government in relation to the project's production activity in regional Victoria.