

Victorian Screen Incentive (VSI) Guidelines

Essentials

About this Program

- / The Victorian Screen Incentive (VSI) program is an economic development initiative that offers grants to attract footloose screen projects to undertake production and/or post-production activities in Victoria.
- / The objectives of VSI are to:
 - increase the level of screen production in Victoria
 - increase employment and skills development opportunities for Victorian based screen industry practitioners
 - build screen businesses, innovation and entrepreneurs
 - increase business activity for Victorian based companies, including screen industry services, equipment providers and related industries
 - increase screen based economic activity in the state

What are we looking for?

- / [Footloose](#) screen projects that will:
 - undertake production or production related activities in Victoria, including one or more of the following:
 - [physical production](#)
 - [post-production](#)
 - [digital games](#) production
 - [animation](#)
 - [visual effects](#) (VFX)
 - increase screen production activity in Victoria
 - employ [Victorians](#) to undertake screen production work.
- / Projects are footloose where they have genuine destination alternatives for the proposed screen production activities.

Who is eligible?

- / A production company or studio with:
 - a fully financed, eligible project where the VSI grant does not form part of the [finance plan](#); and
 - the budget includes, at least, minimum Australian industry award rates for industry practitioners involved in the Victorian work

- evidence of genuine interstate or international destination alternatives for the proposed screen production activities.

OR

- / A [Victorian](#) post-production house, animation studio, VFX facility, or games studio which has an agreement with (or invitation to tender to) an international production company or studio with:
 - A fully financed eligible project, where:
 - The proposed post-production, animation, VFX or games production work to be undertaken at a facility is yet to be confirmed
 - The budget includes, at least, minimum Australian industry award rates for screen industry practitioners engaged in the Victorian work.
 - Evidence of genuine interstate or international destination alternatives for the proposed screen production activities.

What projects are eligible?

Projects must:

- / be one of the following:
 - [fiction](#) - [feature](#) film, [large format feature](#), [telemovie](#), [mini-series](#), [pilot](#) or [series](#); or
 - [documentary](#) - [feature](#) film, [large format feature](#), television [one-off](#) or [series](#); or
 - [digital game](#) designed primarily for entertainment.
- / demonstrate:
 - they meet the following minimum [Qualifying Victorian Spend](#) requirement thresholds:

• Physical production, or physical and post-production	AU\$3.5M
• Post-production	AU\$0.5M
• Games production	AU\$1M
• Animation	AU\$1M
• VFX only	AU\$1M
 - evidence of genuine [marketplace](#) interest for commercial release or distribution of the project; and
- / engage screen industry practitioners who are [Victorian residents](#).

Applications must be approved by Film Victoria prior to commencing the activities for which an incentive is being sought.

What is not eligible?

- / The following are not eligible for a VSI 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
- games designed primarily for educational or training purposes
- screen content which, in the opinion of its assessors, is exploitative or which may harm an individual or group
- games where, in the opinion of its assessors, monetisation and data collection strategies are implemented in an unethical manner
- projects approved for Film Victoria's [Assigned Production Investment – Film & Television](#) or [Assigned Production Investment – Games](#)
- applications from federal or state government departments or entities.

What can you receive funding for?

- / VSI grants are calculated as a percentage of [Qualifying Victorian Expenditure](#) incurred on a project which includes:
 - payments to Victorian screen practitioners, residents, or companies for goods or services provided in Victoria in connection with the project
 - salaries and expenses paid to, or incurred in relation to, any Victorian residents engaged on the project
- / Post-production projects may receive a VSI grant of up to 10% of the Qualifying Victorian Expenditure
- / A full explanation of Qualifying Victorian Expenditure can be found [here](#).

Who can you talk to about this program?

- / Before submitting an application, you are strongly advised to discuss your project with Film Victoria
 - [Joe Brinkmann](#), Manager - Production Attraction & Support via email or on +61 3 9660 3255
 - [Heather Scott](#), Production Attraction & Events Officer via email or on +61 3 9660 3254
- / For technical issues or form submission enquiries, please contact our Program Services Officer, [Kate Darrigan](#) via email or on +61 3 9660 3203.

The Details

What happens after you apply?

- / Your application will be assessed by the [Victorian Screen Economic Development Committee](#) who will take into consideration matters including the following **Assessment Criteria**:
 - total expenditure in Victoria on approved elements
 - the number of employment opportunities for Victorian screen industry practitioners
 - the potential to position Victorian businesses to win further work and build long-term business relationships
 - the project's [finance plan](#)
 - any other financial support for the project from Film Victoria
 - other aspects of the project and its production in Victoria which the Victorian Screen Economic Development Committee considers relevant to the objectives of the VSI program.
- / Funding is competitive and decisions will take into account the availability of VSI funds and the project's value to Victoria.

How long until a decision is made?

- / The Victorian Screen Economic Development Committee usually assesses complete applications within four weeks of submission
- / If your project is time critical, you should discuss it with the [Manager – Production Attraction & Support](#) prior to submitting your application.

What happens if you get funding?

- / Successful applicants will enter into a standard agreement with Film Victoria setting out the terms and conditions of the VSI grant, including:
 - the project must achieve an agreed Qualifying Victorian Expenditure to receive the grant
 - Film Victoria must be credited on the project
 - the applicant must assist Film Victoria and the Victorian Government with publicity and media opportunities to promote the project's activity in Victoria
 - details of the deliverables to be provided to Film Victoria on completion of the project ([click here](#) for a full list of standard deliverables).
- / VSI grants are generally paid in three instalments:
 - 10% on the approval of Film Victoria's final credit on the project (prior to mastering)
 - 10% on delivery of photo stills, [press kit](#), [EPK](#), cast and crew list, and trailer (prior to release of the project)
 - 80% on receipt of all remaining deliverables including an audited expenditure report, a remittance questionnaire, cost reports, schedules and a copy of the project.
- / Film Victoria reserves the right to withhold or vary the amount of an instalment if any requirements are not met (including reaching the agreed Qualifying Victorian Expenditure or delivery of the deliverables)
- / VSI applications and approved grants are commercial in confidence and applicants must maintain confidentiality. Film Victoria will not release details of submitted applications and projects without prior approval.

What happens if you don't get funding?

- / If your application is not successful, we will contact you to let you know.
- / At that stage, you may wish to contact us for feedback on your application.

What will help your application?

- / Read these guidelines thoroughly and check your eligibility. Terms [underlined in green](#) appear in the website glossary.
- / Review the [online application form](#) – make sure you have all required documents ready to be submitted with the application.
- / Make sure your application addresses the **Assessment Criteria**.

Ready to start your application?

[Start your application](#)