

Program name	International Festival Support
Program type	Grant
Maximum funds available	\$5,000 for one person \$9,000 for a team
Deadlines	<p>Applications will be accepted throughout the year. Film Victoria will wait until the full festival program is announced so that it can consider all the applications in one competitive round for each festival. Refer to the approved festivals list on our website for details of those dates.</p> <p>Applications must be submitted within three working days of festival selection and no later than two weeks from the beginning of the festival.</p>
Overview	Victorian producers and directors can apply to attend approved festivals where their project/s have been invited to screen.
Who it is for	Producers, directors or in exceptional circumstances, writers or principal cast.
Program Contacts	<p>Initial enquiries should be directed to Zoe Hayden, Administrative Support Officer zoe.hayden@film.vic.gov.au</p> <p>Program Officer – Jana Blair, Investment and Programs Manager</p>

Intention of the program

The International Festival Support program recognises the global nature of contemporary film and digital media. It supports screen professionals to forge critical international relationships and potential business opportunities and also generate international sales, marketing and financing opportunities for individual projects.

About the program

A grant is available to fund the travel expenses of producers and directors whose project/s have been invited to screen at an approved festival (see website for the list). Up to \$5,000 is available for one person to attend and up to \$9,000 for a team. Film Victoria expects that the applicant will have additional projects to promote at the festival and a clear strategy for navigating the festival, including proposed meetings and a marketing strategy for the invited project.

On a case by case basis Film Victoria may consider support for writers or principal cast on a long form project if they have a proven track record in their field and can demonstrate how attendance at the festival will significantly benefit their career. To be considered, the writers or principal cast will need to contact the Administrative Support Officer to obtain an exceptional circumstances proposal document. Applicants will be notified within 5 working days of receipt of a completed proposal document as to whether an application will be considered.

About the program cont'd

Practitioners wanting to attend a festival not on the approved list will also need to contact the Program Officer to obtain an exceptional circumstances proposal document within 3 working days of receiving festival invitation. You will be notified within 5 working days of receipt of a completed proposal document as to whether your application will be considered.

Projects that have received production investment funding from Film Victoria are eligible to receive **one** travel grant to an approved festival per financial year (up to a maximum of \$5,000 for one person and up to \$9,000 for a team). Once you have received festival notification you will need to contact the Program Officer and submit a short form application (including festival invitation, details of the proposed attendees and travel budget). These applications will be assessed upon receipt.

The project cannot be a student production unless it's a graduating tertiary project. International Festival Support is not available for experimental filmmakers and digital media artists to exhibit their work.

Before you apply, you should consider your required travel dates and your ability to cash-flow your travel. If your application is successful, the contracting and payment process may not be completed before you depart

Applicants can only receive one International Festival Support grant per project per financial year.

How applications are assessed

Funding is competitive and Film Victoria gives preference to projects that are screening in competition. The Assessment Panel looks for the following when assessing applications:

- Clear and measurable objectives
- A strong marketing plan for the project invited to screen at the festival and other projects you have in development, including scheduled meetings and a strategy for achieving your objectives
- Demonstrable networking opportunities at the festival for the applicant/s
- Significant skills development opportunities at the festival for the applicant/s

Eligibility Criteria

Director or producer

Australian citizen or permanent resident
Lived in Victoria for at least the last six months
Project invited to screen at an approved festival (see the website for details)

Writers or Principal cast

Australian citizen or permanent resident
Lived in Victoria for at least the last six months
Project invited to screen at an approved festival (see the website for details)
Proven track record in the field
Must have Film Victoria approval to apply – please download the 'exceptional circumstances proposal' from the website.

Exclusions

Film Victoria will not accept applications from Federal or State departments or entities.

Film Victoria will not support capital works or acquisitions.

Film Victoria will not support equipment purchase (with the exception of the Digital Media Internship and Prototyping programs, see program guidelines for details).

Students are not eligible to apply to Film Victoria's funding programs, unless they are post-graduate students or part-time undergraduate students.

If an application is unsuccessful in receiving support, it cannot be re-submitted to Film Victoria unless it has been substantially changed, developed or reworked.

Funding cannot be allocated retrospectively.

Outstanding Obligations

Film Victoria will not pay any approved funding to a successful applicant until that applicant has complied with all of its outstanding obligations (including repayment, reporting and delivery obligations) under all other contracts with Film Victoria.

How it works

Applications that do not include all the requested submission materials by the closing date are considered ineligible and will not be assessed.

Should you have any concerns regarding your application you must contact the Program Officer no later than 2 business days prior to submitting your application.

We'll email acknowledgement of your application within five working days. The Program Officer will contact you if further detail or clarification is required for the purposes of assessment.

Your application will be considered by an internal assessment panel and you can expect an answer within three weeks of the festival's final program being announced.

Decisions made by the assessment panel are final.

If you're successful

Successful applicants to this program will be required to enter into a contract with us. In this contract we'll specify the terms of the grant including what you'll need to deliver to us to access grant payments. Festival attendees will be required to submit the following deliverables:

- Acquittal report within 30 days of return – **you can download the template from the Film Victoria website**
- Professional progress report six months after return

Contracting and Payment Timelines

If your application is approved, your Agreement will be issued within approximately 10 business days from the date of decision. The first payment will be made within 14 business days of Film Victoria's receipt of a fully executed Agreement AND once all conditions have been satisfied. These conditions may include (but are not limited to) provision of an invoice and bank account details, and bringing any outstanding obligations to Film Victoria up to date. You should consult your Agreement for specific conditions.

Before you apply, you should consider your ability to cash-flow your travel if your application is successful, as Film Victoria is unable to expedite the contracting and payment process in the event that you are scheduled to travel before this process is complete.