

SCREEN-BASED PRODUCTION GRANT FOR ALBERTA'S SCREEN-BASED PRODUCTION INDUSTRY SUMMARY SHEET

The Government of Alberta provides incentives to eligible production companies under the SCREEN-BASED PRODUCTION GRANT (SPG).

OVERVIEW

The Screen-based Production Grant (SPG), funded through the Alberta Media Fund (AMF), supports the growth, sustainability, competitiveness, and business attraction of Alberta's screen-based production industry by providing incentives to eligible production companies that produce films, television series, documentaries, and other eligible screen-based productions in Alberta. The purpose of the grant is to provide economic and industry development benefits to Alberta by both supporting and encouraging screen-based production in Alberta.

GRANT

The SPG offers a cash grant of up to 30 per cent of Eligible Albertan Production Expenditures. To be eligible to apply the total Eligible Alberta Production Expenditures must equal or exceed \$50,000. Grant funding is capped at \$5 million per production. Some productions may be eligible for an increase to the total maximum per-project grant, which can increase the grant up to \$7.5 million.

ELIGIBILITY

General Criteria and Conditions

Eligible organizations must be engaged primarily in film, television and digital media production and demonstrate that their main activity is the creation of film or video productions available for public viewing.

Incorporation

All applicants must be incorporated in Alberta under the Business Corporations Act, registered as an extra-provincial company in Alberta, or continued as an Albertan company through a Certificate of Continuance and be in good standing with the Corporate Registry.

Principal Photography

In order to be eligible, principal photography must have commenced no more than 180 days prior to application or will commence no later than 180 days following the application deadline.

Commercial Licence Agreement

At the time of submission, applicants seeking production funding must provide written evidence of a commercial licence agreement and evidence of 75 per cent confirmed financing for projects with budgets of \$1 million or greater, and evidence of 50 per cent confirmed financing for projects under \$1 million.

ELIGIBLE ALBERTA COSTS

Eligible costs generally include all expenditures where the goods or services are purchased and consumed in Alberta.

Eligible Alberta Costs Criteria

Goods or Services:

- i. Must be listed on the Eligible Alberta Production Expenditures Worksheet.
- ii. Must be purchased directly from businesses located in Alberta and must be received and consumed in Alberta.
- iii. Cannot be purchased from an Alberta company who has sub-contracted the procurement of the goods.

Labour

- i. Must be listed on the Eligible Alberta Production Expenditures Worksheet.
- ii. Must be paid to individuals who provide the service and who meet the definition of an "Albertan" as per the guidelines.
- iii. The grant recipient must obtain signed Individual Residency Declaration for each Albertan.

Program Objectives

The objectives of the Screen-based Production Grant are:

- promote economic diversification by promoting investment in Alberta's production sector;
- build the sustainability, scale and critical mass of the domestic industry, and support the development of Alberta creatives;
- increase capacity and help create and sustain jobs in the cultural industries sector;
- encourage the use of Alberta as an international film, television and digital content location;
- provide eligible Alberta organizations an opportunity to be more competitive in attracting work from within and outside the province; and
- provide cultural benefits to Alberta by supporting the creation of Alberta content and stories.

Per-Project Cap Increase

A small number of productions may be eligible for an increase to the maximum amount in funding from \$5 million to \$7.5 million. To qualify, productions must demonstrate significant economic and promotional benefits to Alberta by scoring a minimum of ten out of fifteen in a specific set of evaluation criteria that considers:

- percentage of total Alberta personnel;
- marketing, promoting, and/or showcasing Alberta;
- investment in Alberta Infrastructure;
- investment in innovation, technology or knowledge transfer;
- use of a qualified production facility or film studio;
- potential for ancillary business opportunities for Albertan companies; and
- sustainable production practices.

Funding Envelope Breakdown

	Tier One: Albertan 50% or Greater Albertan Ownership	Tier Two: Non-Albertan Less than 50% Albertan Ownership
Cultural Envelope Grant requests less than \$3 million	Grant Percentage = 29% or 30% Max Grant = \$3 million	Grant Percentage = 25% or 26% Max Grant = \$3 million
Commercial Envelope Grant requests greater than \$3 million	Grant Percentage = 29% or 30% Max Grant = \$5 million (cap increase to \$7.5 million available)	Grant Percentage = 25% or 26% Max Grant = \$5 million (cap increase to \$7.5 million available)

Note: 50 per cent of the Cultural Envelope is reserved for productions with Albertan ownership. Effective 2020-21, 50 per cent of the funding allocation under the Commercial Envelope will be reserved for productions with Albertan ownership.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

The grant is administered by the Alberta Media Fund (AMF) with the Government of Alberta.

Intakes and Deadlines

Applications and support materials must be received by 11:59PM on the deadline via the online application portal, GATE. Please refer to the online application guide for step-by-step instructions available at:

<http://culture.alberta.ca/arts-and-cultural-industries/alberta-media-fund/>

Upon launch of the SPG a transitional manual intake is in effect:

- opens October 25 and closes November 30, 2017.

Following the transitional intake period regular application intake will occur three times a year:

- opens February 1 and closes March 31;
- opens June 1 and closes July 31; and
- opens October 1 and closes November 30.

For information on the criteria and grant application process contact:

Alberta Media Fund, Cultural Industries Branch
140, 4211 – 106 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T6J 6L7

E: culturalindustries@gov.ab.ca

T: 1-888-813-1738

Toll-free calls can be made by first dialing 310-0000

A list of full criteria for the Screen-Based Production Grant is available on the Alberta Media Fund website:

<http://culture.alberta.ca/arts-and-cultural-industries/alberta-media-fund/>

NOTES:

- The Screen-based Production Grant guidelines may be changed or modified as required, without notice. Please consult the AMF website at <http://culture.alberta.ca/arts-and-cultural-industries/alberta-media-fund/> for the latest guidelines and documentation.
- If funding envelopes are not fully subscribed, funds may be re-distributed between envelopes or uncommitted funds from an intake period can be rolled over to the next intake in the fiscal year.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Once the AMF receives an application, it is checked to ensure that it is complete and includes all relevant documents:

- All complete applications received by the deadline will be screened for eligibility.
- Applicants will be sent a letter confirming their eligibility. The date of this letter marks the close of the file for ineligible applications and the beginning of the evaluation process for eligible applications.
- Acknowledgment letters will confirm the envelope and tier under which the application will be evaluated.
- If necessary, the program area will contact the applicant to obtain further information about the application, production or applicant. A delay in providing further information on request may impact processing time.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Applicants will be evaluated through a competitive process. Each eligible application will be reviewed against a specific set of economic and cultural benefit criteria. Applications are evaluated and assessed by the AMF and assigned a score based on points issued for the following:

Economic Benefit Evaluation Criteria:

- Job Creation;
- Total Spend;
- Albertan Personnel;
- Alberta Production Activity; and
- Returning Production (television series).

Cultural Benefit Evaluation Criteria:

- Diversity and Inclusion;
- Albertan Subject Matter;
- Albertan Creative Material;
- Contribution to Albertan Culture or History;
- Reaching Albertans; and
- Community or Regional Impact.

PAYMENT OF GRANT

Grants will be paid in two installments; the percentage paid out in each installment is dependent on the total approved grant amount.

Grants less than \$3 million (Cultural) will be made in two installments based on the schedule below:

Payment Schedule – Grants less than or equal to \$3 million	
Payment Trigger/Reporting Requirement	Grant Percentage
Installment payment 1 will be paid upon confirmation of completion of principle photography.	50 per cent of total approved grant.
Installment payment 2 will be paid upon project completion but no sooner than the subsequent fiscal in which instalment payment 1 is scheduled for payment.	Remaining balance of total eligible grant per final Alberta cost calculation.

Grants greater than \$3 million (Commercial) will be made in two installments based on the schedule below:

Payment Schedule – Grants greater than \$3 million	
Payment Trigger/Reporting Requirement	Grant Percentage
Installment payment 1 will be paid upon receipt of the production rough cut.	30 per cent of total approved grant.
Installment payment 2 will be paid upon project completion but no sooner than the subsequent fiscal in which instalment payment 1 is scheduled for payment.	Remaining balance of total eligible grant per final Alberta cost calculation.