

AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks 2026 Terms and Conditions

1. APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 An individual applicant must be 18 years of age or older and either:
- (a) an Australian citizen; or
 - (b) an Australian resident, being a person who is lawfully domiciled in Australia, and who has actually been in Australia, continuously or intermittently, for more than one half of the year immediately preceding the application.
- 1.2 An applicant that is a company must be incorporated and carrying on business in regional Australia, and have its central management and control in regional Australia.
- 1.3 Applicant teams of up to 3 key creatives – writer, and/or director, and/or producer – are encouraged but must consist of at least one key creative that creative that has been residing in Regional Australia for a minimum of 6 months.
- 1.4 Screenplays/treatments that have been submitted in previous years can only be resubmitted if not a previous finalist, and if story/characters have been significantly altered.
- 1.5 Applicants may submit more than one entry, with each needing to be submitted separately as an individual entry.
- 1.6 Participation in **AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks** and any related activities, including travel, is at the entrants' own risk.

2. SUBMISSION ELIGIBILITY

Applicants may submit a single submission to **AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks** by visiting the AACTA website (link below) and completing the application form and supplying specified supporting material ("Submission"). aacta.org/regional-landscapes

Application fee - A \$70 non-AACTA/AWG/Screenworks member, or \$50 AACTA/AWG/Screenworks member application fee is required to submit a single project in the **AACTA Pitch: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks** initiative.

Non-AACTA applicants who become an AACTA member on application will have their application fee waived for **AACTA Pitch: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks**.

2.1 To be an eligible application, the Submission MUST:

- (a) be wholly owned (all intellectual property) by the entrant(s). No proxy Submissions will be accepted;
- (b) be for a feature film set in a location in Regional Australia.
- (c) be a new and original concept which has not yet been commissioned and for which the worldwide rights are still available.
- (d) Include at least one key creative that currently resides in Regional Australia.
- (e) include the following entry materials by 5pm AEDT Thursday March 5th, 2026:
 - (i) Title; and
 - (ii) Logline (1 – 2 sentence description of the film); and
 - (iii) Up to 250 word description of the regional area where the film is set; and
 - (iv) Up to 500 word treatment/synopsis/outline; and
 - (v) First 10 pages of the screenplay; and
 - (vi) Résumé/CVs of each of the creative team.

2.2 Correct information is the responsibility of the applicant. Applicants warrant that all of the information provided, including the information provided on the **AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks** application form and the credits and résumé/CVs of all members of the team, is true and correct.

2.3 By submitting to **AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks**, finalists automatically grant AACTA permission to use the title, logline, 1 page treatment/synopsis, ½ page description of the setting for PR and the marketing of **AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks**.

3. **SHORTLISTING, FINALISTS AND AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks EVENT**

3.1 Submissions will be reviewed and shortlisted by a committee made up of AACTA and Screenworks executive.

3.2 Up to three finalists will be selected to progress into the next round, where they will be required to submit:

- (i) A pitch deck (up to 5 pages); and

(ii) First 30 pages of the screenplay

3.3 All finalists will be required to then pitch their film to an Industry Panel. Only finalists will be notified. Decisions by the panel are final.

3.4 The winning finalist ("Winner") will be notified within 24 hours of **AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes in partnership with Screenworks** final.

4. PRIZES

4.1 The Winner will receive:

- (a) Development support for your screenplay and industry pitch
- (b) \$5,000 in prize funding: \$1,000 cash plus \$4,000 towards development (which could go toward travel support to markets or festivals, location scouting, script editing services or a consultant, sizzle reel or Proof of Concept, production costs etc.)
- (c) Live script read at the AACTA Festival 2027
- (d) Industry connections through the Australian Writers' Guild Pathways program
- (e) Professional script development sessions with expert guidance
- (f) Feedback and mentorship from a panel of esteemed industry judges
- (g) Annual memberships to AACTA, Screenworks, and the Australian Writers' Guild
- (h) Two tickets to the Screenworks Regional to Global Screen Forum
- (i) Exclusive one-on-one meetings with up to two industry professionals at Screenworks Regional to Global
- (j) Two tickets to the 2026 AACTA Awards Ceremony, including a discounted accommodation package

4.2 All prizes are non-transferable and cannot be redeemed for cash

5. GENERAL

5.1 Applicants consent to the publication of the names of each team member of the application if the application is the Winner.

5.2 Any Submission that does not comply with these terms is invalid.

5.3 All travel requirements including visas and other requirements for entry into the USA are the responsibility of the winner.

5.4 Beneficiaries of any prize accept the prize 'as is' and acknowledge that AACTA does not accept any responsibility for any tax implications that may arise from their receipt of any prize. Beneficiaries should seek independent financial advice.

- 5.5 AACTA reserves the right to verify the validity of any Submission and any entrant and may disqualify any entrant whom AACTA has reason to believe has breached any of these terms.
- 5.6 Failure by AACTA to enforce any of its rights at any stage does not constitute a waiver of those rights.
- 5.7 Nothing in these terms limits, excludes or modifies or purports to limit, exclude or modify the statutory consumer guarantees as provided under the *Competition and Consumer Act* or or similar consumer protection laws in the states and territories of Australia ("Non-Excludable Guarantees").
- 5.8 Except for any liability that cannot by law be excluded, including the Non-Excludable Guarantees, AACTA and its their related entities are not responsible for and exclude all liability (including negligence), for any personal injury; or any loss or damage (including loss of opportunity); whether direct, indirect, special or consequential, arising in any way out of: (a) any technical difficulties (whether or not under AACTA's control); (b) any theft, unauthorised access or third party interference; (c) any entry or prize claim that is late, lost, altered, damaged or misdirected (whether or not after their receipt by AACTA) due to any reason beyond the reasonable control of AACTA; (d) any variation in prize value to that stated in these terms; (e) any tax liability incurred by a beneficiary of a prize; (f) use/taking of the prize (g) the AACTA PITCH: Regional Landscapes event.
- 5.9 In these terms:
- (a) "AACTA" means the Australian Film Institute (ABN 17 006 725 266)
 - (b) "Regional Australia" means the areas and regions in each state and territory of Australia as defined on the Screenworks website at <https://screenworks.com.au/join/#regional-australia>