



Queensland
Government



MADMAN



R.I.D.E Feature Film Fund 2019

R.I.D.E Feature Film Fund

SQ, SBS and Madman Features, together with The Post Lounge and Media Super, have launched the **R.I.D.E (Respect, Inclusion, Diversity, Equality) Feature Film Fund**, an opportunity for under-represented Queensland talent to develop and produce a \$1.5 million feature film, every year for three years.

Stage One: Development of up to Four Projects

SQ and the market and industry partners will build up to four teams around talent and submitted ideas, these teams will then enter an intensive development period with the following support:

- Development investment
- Workshops around Low Budget Feature Production, Post Production & Script Development
- Feedback on concepts and two drafts of the script
- Consultation with industry partners including SBS and Madman Entertainment

At the completion of development, the projects will then submit materials to SQ and the market and industry partners, including script, budget, schedule and creative statements.

Stage Two: Production of One Project

One project will then be greenlit for production and have its full \$1.5m budget financed in the following way:

- Up to \$639,000 in equity investment from Screen Queensland*
- Producer offset cash flow by Screen Queensland's Revolving Film Finance Fund
- A distribution advance from Madman Entertainment
- Equity Investment from SBS, The Post Lounge and Media Super

**Screen Queensland's investment and RFFF cash flow will be subject to Screen Queensland's Terms of Trade*

Who can apply?

At its heart, R.I.D.E is an opportunity that will develop the careers of screen professionals who come from backgrounds that are under-represented in the Australian Screen Industry. Applications are open to Queensland writers, directors and producers with anywhere from zero to two credits in that role on a feature film (for producers, this excludes associate and co-producer credits). For teams, at least two out of three key roles (writer, director, producer) must be from an under-represented background.

For the purposes of this program, SBS and SQ recognise this as *differences in gender; age; Aboriginal identity; cultural and linguistic diversity (CaLD); disability; sexuality and gender identities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+), location (including regional and remote areas); and socio-economic status.*

What kind of projects are you looking for?

Projects may be original ideas or based on underlying works (eg. books, news articles, stage plays, short films). Applicants will need to demonstrate they have the right to tell the story when they apply.

Consistent with the SBS charter and Screen Queensland's commitment to telling diverse stories, the chosen films will have diversity at their heart both in terms of the creative teams and content. To be clear – diversity is NOT simply adding a “gay best friend” character, changing the lead character from male to female or making them from a non-Anglo-Saxon background. The stories we want told are bigger than that and the commitment to diversity must be too.

The chosen projects will also be developed with a strong focus on audience and commerciality with market partners SBS and Madman involved from concept to completion.

Films should appeal to an SBS and Madman audience and should aim to reflect some or all of the [SBS Charter](#), which has diversity and inclusion at its core and seeks to:

- Increase awareness of the contribution of a diversity of cultures to the continuing development of Australian society;
- Promote understanding and acceptance of the cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity of the Australian people;
- Inform, educate and entertain Australians;
- Promote social cohesion;
- Represent marginalised communities who are under-represented in content creation.

How do I apply?

Apply online at <https://screenqueensland.smartygrants.com.au/RIDE>

Applicants will need to provide the following

- One key concept or idea; with the option to provide two further concepts
- Sample work:
 - Writers – a 20 page screenplay sample of the idea or a piece of work that is similar in genre and tone
 - Directors & Producers – links to at least one previous work (long-form works can be supplied on USB)
- A statement outlining a clear but brief plan to progress the lead project (paying particular attention to audience and market), and giving a clear indication as to why this project fits the \$1.5m brief and why it fits with market partners SBS and Madman Entertainment
- CVs and Bios for the creative team
- Proof of chain of title or a statement outlining how chain of title (and in particular story ownership) will be formed

- If your concept is based on an underlying work, any agreements showing your right to exploit the work

Applications close 5pm Friday 16 August 2019. Late, ineligible and incomplete applications will not be assessed. Successful applicants will be notified by October 2019.

How will my application be assessed?

Screen Queensland, in consultation with SBS, Madman and the other industry partners, will assess each application, in phases:

1. Blind Assessment
2. Longlist Assessment
3. Interview

SQ and the market and industry partners will take into consideration (where appropriate):

- Is it a good story? Is it well told?
- Is it likely to excite a global audience?
- How well does it fit within the \$1.5m brief and with market partners SBS and Madman?
- Are the diversity elements authentic?
- What impact will this have on early career Queensland talent from underrepresented backgrounds?

What if I have questions or want to talk this through?

We're here to help make it happen – if you have an idea or want to make sure your project's diversity is being handled in the right way and with the right people, call us and we'll talk you through it.

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