GUIDELINES

Unreal Engine Real-Time Short Film Challenge Grant



The South Australian Film Corporation, Film Victoria, Screen NSW, Screen Tasmania, Screenwest and Screen Queensland, have partnered with Epic Games on a national initiative to fund the production of short films that utilise the Unreal Engine software.

The Short Film Challenge encourages South Australian screen practitioners to engage with innovative technologies and alternate methods of storytelling.

What is on offer?

South Australian content creators from film, television and games can apply for up to \$20,000 in production grant funding to create a short film (max. five minutes) which uses Epic Games' Unreal Engine software.

Epic Games will offer a series of free Unreal Engine software training sessions to potential applicants from 10 August - 24 August 2020.

The challenge will require content creators to explore new forms of storytelling by experimenting with new forms of technology.

The completed short films will be judged by Epic Games and the overall winner will receive a \$50,000 prize to be provided by Epic Games at its discretion.

What projects are eligible?

Original short films with a narrative that will use Unreal Engine. Projects are to be a maximum of five minutes in length.

What is not eligible for this program?

- Playable game prototypes or interactive game experiences;
- Projects designed primarily for educational or training purposes;
- Projects that have previously received funding from government or private entities;
- Projects that have already received either SAFC or Epic Games Funding;
- Projects where the applicant team does not own the IP rights, licenses, or necessary materials to produce the project.

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Who is eligible?

Experienced South Australian creative teams with experience in film, television and/or games.

Applicants and all key creatives must be South Australian residents.

The SAFC is committed to supporting increased participation for people from groups under-represented in the screen industry including; women, First Nations practitioners, practitioners from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds, Deaf or disabled practitioners, LGBTQIA+ communities and screen practitioners from regional and remote areas.

Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- The strength and distinctiveness of the idea;
- How the idea makes innovative use of the Unreal Engine;
- The experience and ability of the team to successfully deliver the project;
- How the project content encompasses gender equality, diversity and inclusion.

Process

Applicants should read the SAFC Terms of Trade before applying.

Applications must be made via the SAFC's online grants portal safilm.smartygrants.com.au

Applications will be shortlisted by SAFC. Epic Games will choose up to three projects from South Australia to proceed.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome six weeks from the application deadline.

The successful teams will then have six weeks to produce their short films using Unreal Engine software. The films must be created between 19 October to 29 November 2020 with delivery by 30 November 2020.

The completed short films will compete against projects from all participating states for a Grand Prize of \$50,000, to be judged and awarded by Epic Games in December 2020.

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Funding Conditions

Further terms will be set out in the relevant contract issued by SAFC.

How do I apply?

Applications must be made via the SAFC's online grants portal safilm.smartygrants.com.au

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their applications with the Production and Development Team prior to applying and to read the SAFC Terms of Trade.

Applications open: Monday, 3 August 2020

Applications close: Monday, 31 August 2020

Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email.

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a grant agreement with the SAFC. An acquittal must be provided within 3 months of the completion of the project to ensure relevant information about the proposed and actual outcomes is accurately recorded.

The decision on applications is final.

Where can I find out more?

For initial enquiries, please contact Nara Wilson, Associate Production and Development, SAFC.

Phone: 8 8394 2020

Email: nara.wilson@safilm.com.au