What is the program?

Professional Crew Attachments support practical, on-set skills development and training for early and mid-career South Australian crew through industry attachments in technical below-the-line roles.

Growth of the below-the-line crew base is essential to the ongoing advancement of the screen industry in South Australia. The SAFC Professional Crew Attachment program forms part of the SAFC’s commitment to providing training and development opportunities for people working in the South Australian screen industries.

Potential crew roles and skills gaps in the screen industry are identified by the SAFC, in consultation with the South Australian screen sector and are regularly reviewed.

Professional Crew Attachments are a requirement of projects that have received $150,000 or more in SAFC Screen Production Grant funding.

Who is eligible?

South Australian screen production professionals who:

- Meet the key eligibility requirements outlined in the SAFC Terms of Trade;
- Are a South Australian resident;
- Have a clear, demonstrated commitment to a professional career in the screen industry in the role for which they are applying (e.g. Guild/Union Membership, paid credits on professional film and television projects, credits relevant to the crew role on short films outside secondary or tertiary education);
- Or, have significant related experience in parallel industries that qualify the applicant for the specific crew role (such as mechanist/rigger, electrician, carpenter, hair and makeup);
- Are not a fulltime student.

Only applications that meet the key eligibility criteria will be accepted.

The SAFC is committed to supporting increased participation in the screen industry of people from under-represented groups including women, First Nations practitioners, practitioners from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds, those Deaf or with disability, from LGBTQIA+ communities and from regional and remote areas.
Who is not eligible?

Applicants who:

- Have completed two paid attachments in that department on two separate productions;
- Are seeking general on set experience.

Production Grant Funding - Attachment Requirements

Projects seeking SAFC production grant funding are required to engage South Australian Professional Crew Attachments. The number of attachments required is guided by the level of SAFC production grant funding:

- Over $150,000 are required to budget for one paid attachment;
- Over $300,000 required to budget for two paid attachments;

Producers applying for SAFC production grant funding must budget for the required number of attachments at the time of application and consult with the SAFC Production Executive as to the proposed attachment positions. The cost for attachments must be detailed as a separate line in the budget against the proposed role. Funds for attachments are to be drawn from the overall SAFC production grant.

What is on offer?

The successful applicant will be attached to a supervising crew member or Department Head who is obliged to provide appropriate tasks and supervision, creating tangible opportunities to learn, observe and assist in the relevant department.

The expected length of attachments will be at least six weeks and should be equivalent to the number of scheduled shooting weeks. This can be across pre-production, production and post-production according to the position, nature of the production and proposed skills development outcomes. The duration of attachments will vary and is negotiated between the SAFC and the production prior to the call for applications.

Professional Crew Attachments are employed by the production company for the duration of attachment, at no less than the relevant industry award rate. Host production companies are expected to adhere to all requirements of the Fair Work Act. The production company will deduct tax and employee entitlements before their payment.
What special conditions apply?

Professional Crew Attachments cannot be used to substitute a paid crew role on any production.

A two-week probationary period will apply for both the attachment and their supervisor to assess whether the applicant is suitable for the department to which they are attached. Attachments are to be paid the same entitlements across this probationary period.

On completion of the attachment, the successful applicant and their supervisor must each submit an acquittal report (in the form provided by SAFC).

Professional Crew Attachments have the same responsibilities as all other crew members to meet Work Health and Safety obligations and maintain confidentiality about all aspects of the production.

How will my application be assessed?

Applications will be selected by the Production and assessed against the following criteria:

- The applicant’s level of professional experience/skill set and how these match production requirements and SA Industry skills gaps;
- Availability of the department to accommodate an attachment;
- The likely development benefits of the attachment to the applicant’s skills and career objectives.

Production companies may wish to interview applicants prior to selecting a suitable candidate and offering an attachment.

The SAFC is not involved in the attachment selection process, however Production companies are not permitted to engage a Professional Crew Attachment until formally notifying the SAFC in writing of the successful candidate and confirming their eligibility against the above criteria.

How do I apply?

The SAFC will issue a Call for Applications on a project by project basis.

Applications can be emailed directly to the Production email address provided in the Call for Applications via the SAFC website.
Applications will be required to include a cover letter addressing eligibility and assessment criteria outlined in this guideline and a current CV.

Before you apply, please make sure you are familiar with SAFC’s Terms of Trade.

Where can I find out more?

For initial enquiries, please contact Jess Cahill, SAFC Programs Coordinator
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