

Game Developers Conference 2025 – International Market Travel Guidelines

Essentials

About this program

VicScreen is offering support to eligible Victorian practitioners working across the games sector who are planning to attend the 2025 Game Developers Conference (GDC) in San Francisco.

The successful applicants will be part of a delegation of Victorian games practitioners attending the events in and around GDC 2025 to expand business opportunities and continue to raise the profile of the Victorian game development sector.

Who is eligible?

Applicants must:

- be a [Victorian company](#) or an individual Victorian [resident](#).
- be a games developer or a service provider to the games industry (such as games publishers and distributors or games marketing or legal services).
- have one of the following:
 - a project in development
 - a service to present at the market
 - have been invited to speak as part of the conference, or
 - a finalist in the IGF or Game Developers Choice Awards
- if representing a games project at the conference or associated business meetings, own or control the rights to that project or have the permission of the rights holder to represent them.
- have previously attended an international or domestic market or conference such as Play Now Melbourne, Melbourne International Games Week, PAX, IndieCade, Gamescom or previous GDC, unless the below applies.

Exceptions:

- If applicants haven't previously attended a market or conference but can demonstrate significant international or domestic market interest in a project or service, please contact the Industry and Skills Development Coordinator [Kara Masters](#) to discuss.

Important dates

- Deadline for applications is 11pm on 3 January 2025
- Applicants notified of their outcome by 31 January 2025
- GDC will take place 17 - 21 March 2025

What can you receive funding for?

- Grants of up to \$5,000 per applicant are available for travel from Victoria to San Francisco to attend GDC 2025.
- Grants can be spent on airfares, ground transport, accommodation, travel insurance and the costs associated with registration and exhibition at the event/s.
- Successful applicants must cover the cost of travel up front and will be reimbursed by VicScreen on the provision of relevant receipts and an acquittal report at the conclusion of travel up to the grant amount.
- VicScreen will only fund one grant per company. Funds may be used to support the travel expenses of a Victorian company representative/s, provided they have the requisite experience to represent the project/services and have been approved by VicScreen.
- A limited number of applicants will be funded.

Who can you talk to about this program?

- Grants Officer - [Connie Boyce](#), 03 9660 3267
- Program Manager - [Kara Masters](#), Industry and Skills Development Coordinator, 03 9660 3216

The Details**Assessment Criteria**

Funding is competitive. When assessing applications, VicScreen will consider:

- The objectives for travel to GDC 2025 and the applicants' strategy for achieving those objectives, including how they will maximise the potential benefits of exposure at GDC and details of proposed meetings.
- The relevance of the applicant's project/s or services/s for GDC 2025 and how their participation will benefit the Victorian games industry.
- Game Developers - current project's development history, any market interest or financing received for that project to date, their presence at previous markets and the profile of the companies or individuals interested in the project.

- Service Providers - the applicant's experience in their area of expertise.
- Diversity of the current slate of projects and teams across all platforms.
- The perceived need for VicScreen funds by the applicant.

What happens if you get funding?

- Successful applicants will be contacted by email confirming VicScreen's support and any relevant terms and conditions.
- Successful applicants must book their own flights, travel insurance, accommodation and costs associated with registration and exhibition at the event/s.
- Successful applicants will receive payment after completion of travel and provision of relevant receipts and an acquittal report. Please note that booking confirmations and invoice documents will not be accepted in place of receipts.

What happens if you don't get funding?

- We will contact you to let you know if you have been unsuccessful in obtaining funding.

What will help your application?

- Read these guidelines and the [Terms of Trade](#) which set out the core terms on which VicScreen conducts its business. Terms underlined in black appear in the website glossary.
- Review the online application form – make sure you have all required document ready to be submitted with the application.
- Make sure your application speaks to the ***Assessment Criteria***.
- VicScreen is committed to promoting and supporting gender equality, diversity and inclusiveness in the Victorian screen industry and requires applicants to demonstrate diversity and inclusion in their application. Applicants are encouraged to refer to our [Gender & Diversity Statement](#).
- Get your application in on time and check the deadline date for this program. Applications are due Friday 3 January 2025 by 11 pm AEDT unless otherwise stated on the program page on VicScreen's website. Applications not received by the deadline date will not be accepted for that round, as per our Terms of Trade.

Ready to start your application?

[Start your application](#)