

Creative Futures Slate Fund 2022 Frequently Asked Questions



Q. Are sections 2A and 2B of the form for budgets only? Do we need to specify the particular projects that we plan on including on our slate anywhere in the application? Do we need to provide synopsis, treatments etc.?

A. Yes, sections 2A and 2B are primarily for your budget, but should be supported regarding the approach detailed at the top of section 2. In either case, you should detail the spend across the projects you are selecting and go into detail on these in Section 2 more broadly. If you choose direct slate investment you are filling Section 2B in a more detailed way.

Q. The guidelines state the following: "Please nominate which projects you will be including from your single project development slate on your Creative Futures Slate". Can you clarify how you define "single project development slate"? Is this simply individual projects that are on our slate or does it have to be projects that Screen Ireland are already familiar with or have funded?

A. These should be projects on your slate that you are targeting for further investment. The "direct slate investment" lane of funding means you cannot apply for traditional development funding. In most cases, you are likely to assign new projects. If you are assigning previous Screen Ireland-supported projects, please remember that the standard development thresholds apply.

Q. Is the Creative Futures Slate Fund open to previous recipients? If so, is there a particular strand of the three those companies should go for?

A. Yes, the three stands are open to previous recipients. Companies should have a clear proposal which indicates the need for further investment, whilst also meeting the criteria for the funding more broadly.

Q. Can Direct Slate Support cover projects that include Northern Ireland talent and and/or Northern Ireland led stories?



A. Yes, we welcome partnerships in development. Screen Ireland investment, however, can only be used for the Republic of Ireland-based aspects of these budgets, as per the agency's standard development funding terms and conditions.

Q. How exactly does the Next Stage Strand work?

A. The Next Stage Strand is designed for companies who are taking that next step in terms of creative capabilities and companies wishing to establish development or business affairs support, linked to a creative project.

Q. Do you need to have a slate of projects already optioned?

A. You need to have a targeted slate list with tangible opportunities. However, you do not need to have concrete options or material already in play and fully developed. There is some element of fluidity in assigning slate investments throughout the process overall.

Q. Can you better explain the loan recoupment? During which phase of production are the loans to be recouped?

A. Funding attached to the Creative Futures Slate Fund is in the form of a recoupable loan. This loan is only recoupable if the project is realised in production.

Q. Can you give me an example of how someone would use this funding and the timeline of how this progresses and then how it is repaid?

A. The purpose of the Creative Futures Slate Fund is to grow companies' creative capability and / or their slate of projects that they develop. The time period in terms of how monies are expended varies and the application should outline a proposed timeline for the investment.

Q. It is noted that 25% of the funding can go towards early development of projects but is the remaining 75% to go towards business development i.e., consultants, staff, salaries?



A. To clarify, this is in relation to the two creative capability lanes. Direct slate investment is different. Please see the full guidelines for more details on the differences between these lanes of funding.

Q. 50% of the full amount of the loan is recoupable from the first four projects that go into production. Do these first four projects need to be listed at application stage?

A. They will be assigned as part of the broader process and there is a degree of flexibility here in how they are attached.

Q. How much information do you require on the individual projects we are proposing for our slate and how many projects would you expect to see on the slate?

A. As per previous question above, we require a slate and business strategy which is top line targets and detail depending on your choice for investment and circumstance. Number of projects will vary based on spend that is targeted for each.