



[Creative Wales](#) is an internal agency within Welsh Government, established in January 2020. Our mission is to drive growth across the creative industries, build on existing success and develop new talent and skills – positioning Wales as one of the best places for creative businesses to locate and thrive.

The screen sector in Wales is an international success story, our film and TV industry has shown impressive growth in recent years. We're focused on supporting home-grown talent, whilst also attracting major productions from the world's biggest players.

Welsh Government support has been a key driver in growth across the industry in Wales. Established industry players we work with such as NBCUniversal, HBO, Warner Bros., Netflix and Lucasfilm have chosen to shoot projects in Wales, attracted by rich seams of talent, a stunning, diverse landscape, and bespoke support packages we offer.

Creative Wales provides support for any productions that choose Wales as a base, from immediate or short-term requirements through to strategic, longer term needs of a more permanent, larger-scale presence in Wales.

As well as providing logistical support for production delivery via our Wales Screen service, we can also provide financial support to secure productions to Wales.

Wales' reputation is strong for delivering successful international high-end drama productions such as *Willow* (Lucasfilm), *His Dark Materials* (HBO), *Watchmen* (HBO), *Sex Education* (Netflix), and *A Discovery of Witches* (HBO), as well as acclaimed dramas from home grown production companies such as *Keeping Faith*, *The Pembrokehire Murders* and *The Pact*. We also support feature films made in Wales promoting Welsh talent both in front of and behind the camera such as *Havoc*, *Dream Horse*, *Apostle*, *Six Minutes to Midnight* and *Eternal Beauty*.

Production Funding

Creative Wales Production Funding is used to support the growth of Wales as a destination for the production of world class content. Funding is aimed at supporting Wales-based production and games development companies who are looking to develop productions intended for international audiences. It's aimed at the following production genres: scripted, non-scripted, animation and games development.

We are prioritising the development of a content production sector that provides equal and diverse opportunities for a long term, skilled employment base. Funding is targeted at companies that are implementing the latest practices in sustainable production and have wellbeing of cast, crew and employees at the forefront – whether they are freelancers, contractors or permanent staff.

Who is eligible to apply?

You can apply for Creative Wales Production Funding if you meet **all** of the following eligibility criteria:

- Your main business activity is either film (non-theatrical), TV, games or animation
- All or part of this production will be made in Wales
- You have a fully considered finance plan with all other funding in place
- There is a skills / upskilling element to the project
- Your project demonstrates a commitment to diversity and inclusivity and sustainability
- You can evidence commercial viability (distribution deal/commission/broadcaster etc.) associated with this project
- There is a minimum of 12 weeks until project start date (principal photography for TV/Film) from project enquiry
- Your company/management team have a demonstrable track record of delivery in the genre, and at least one commercial release within the last three years from application.

How to apply

Please visit the [online eligibility checker](#) for further information.

The full Production Funding guidelines can be seen [here](#).

You can also reach out to us directly via e-mail - CreativeWales@gov.wales

Filming in Wales

Wales is a nation with a variety of stunning landscapes, including epic mountains, valleys, vast disused quarries, remote castles, waterfalls, extensive woodlands and caves. The mountainous region of North Wales is accessible to the cities of Liverpool and Manchester while South Wales has the M4 motorway connecting it to the major English cities as well as direct rail services to London (journey time between Central Cardiff and London Paddington is around 1hr 50 mins).

Wales Screen (part of the Creative Wales team) can assist in identifying locations and advising on permissions and processes required for filming in various areas including our stunning National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We have an extensive online database of thousands of locations throughout Wales, and will work with producers to ensure that the best locations are uncovered and, if necessary, help smooth the path of location filming by liaising with the relevant local authorities and public bodies such as Natural Resources Wales, Cadw, National Trust etc.

[North Wales](#) - magnificent castles, slate quarries, tumbling rivers and of course the mountains, lakes and waterfalls of Eryri (Snowdonia).



[Mid Wales](#) – the rich, rolling green landscapes of Powys and the unspoilt Ceredigion coastline, from the Brecon Beacons and the Cambrian Mountains to the soft, rolling hills around Llanidloes.



[South Wales](#) - from the gorgeous coastline of Pembrokeshire and the Gower to the rugged terrain of the Valleys and the modern cityscapes of Cardiff, Newport and Swansea.



Wales Screen also holds an extensive online [database of freelance crew and production services](#) based in Wales.

The main facility companies in Wales include:



Studio Space

Creative Wales is committed to improving and developing studio infrastructure capability across Wales, whether it be working with existing studios, or discussing plans for new developments.

The main studios in Wales are:

Dragon Studios - previously used by three major American series. Offering five stages, ranging between 10,000 sq ft and 28,000 sq ft in size. Stages 1-4 have clear height to eaves of 10.30 metres (33.8 ft) while Stage 5 has 16m clear height (53ft).

Contact: Tom Guy ✉ tom@dragonstudios.wales





Wolf Studios - state-of-the-art facility near the centre of Cardiff offering five stages ranging from 14,000 sq ft to 50,000 sq ft with heights from 30ft-58ft. Currently home to Bad Wolf's slate of HETV dramas including *His Dark Materials* and *Industry*.

Contact: Mark Hackett ✉ mark@wolfstudioswales.com

Great Point Seren Studios – situated to the north-east of Cardiff city centre, offering four sound stages plus ample parking, production offices and support facilities. Easily accessible from the M4 motorway, Cardiff, Birmingham and Bristol airports, there are plans to update the existing studio space, by introducing an additional 150,000 square feet of stages, offices and backlots. Currently offers four stages - 2 x 20,000 sq ft, 1 x 18,000 sq ft and 1 x 16,000 sq ft, plus workshops and prop storage.



Contact: Eva Harries-Davies ✉ edavies@seren-studios.com

Opening towards the end of 2022 is Aria Studios in North Wales, offering two acoustic studios of 20,000 sq ft plus all ancillary services.

Skills and Talent

Providing skills and talent support across the screen sector in Wales is as a key priority for Creative Wales.

Creative Wales works in partnership with the unions, training providers, further education, higher education, broadcasters, government departments, industry and collaboratively with the UK wide skills bodies including ScreenSkills. We also work closely with productions to ensure there are extensive paid opportunities for both entry level and upskilling placements.

For a guide to the numerous opportunities and fantastic creative skills programmes to support Wales-based creatives in Wales, see our [website](#).

For more information on any of the above, please contact CreativeWales@gov.wales