



HAMILTON | HEALTH & SAFETY FUND

GUIDELINES

The Mercury is proud to announce the launch of The Hamilton Health & Safety Fund, a new philanthropic initiative designed to elevate safety and wellbeing standards in South Australian short film productions. This fund will provide crucial financial support to local filmmakers, helping them create safer and more supportive environments on set.

This vital fund was conceived and championed by local filmmaker **Bettina Hamilton of Black Cat White Rabbit Productions**. With her extensive experience in the industry as both a Producer and Line Producer, Bettina recognised a critical need for dedicated resources to address health and safety in short film productions.

As a pivotal hub for South Australia's screen industry, The Mercury will roll out this vital program. Our extensive network, established infrastructure, and commitment to supporting local talent ensures the fund reaches those who need it most, fostering a safe and professional environment for South Australian productions.

Fund Overview and Grant Details

The Hamilton Health & Safety Fund provides grants to eligible South Australian-based producers. The fund will have \$8,000 available for distribution to productions per year for an initial three-year term commencing in July 2025. A per grant cap of \$1,000 applies to each successful project.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a grant from The Hamilton Health & Safety Fund, applicants and projects must meet the following criteria:

- **Applicant Residency & Role:** Applicants must be South Australian-based producers.
- **Mercury Subscription:** Applicants must be current subscribers of The Mercury.
- **Project Type:** Projects must be short films, web series, or music video projects.
- **Project Budget:** The overall budget for the project must be under \$75,000.



- **Grant Purpose:** Grants are specifically for health and safety needs as outlined below.
- **Grant Amount:** The grant amount requested must be a maximum of **\$1,000**. This cap ensures that funds can be distributed to a greater number of productions.
- **Production Schedule:** Principal photography must be scheduled to commence within six months of the application submission.

What the Fund Covers

The fund aims to cover health and safety needs for eligible projects. Projects are responsible for their assessing their own production safety needs. Eligible needs include, but are not limited to:

- Contributions towards Safety Supervisors
- On Set Nurses
- Safety Reports
- First Aid Kits
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- First Aid Training
- Intimacy Coordinators
- Access Coordinators

Key Assessment Criteria

Applications for The Hamilton Health & Safety Fund will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- **Alignment with Fund Purpose:** The application must clearly demonstrate how the requested funds will directly contribute to elevating safety and wellbeing standards within the specific short film, web series, or music video production.
- **Applicant Eligibility:** Verification that the applicant is a South Australian-based producer or writer/director and a current subscriber of The Mercury.
- **Project Eligibility:** Confirmation that the project is a short film, web series, or music video with an overall budget under \$75,000.
- **Justification of Need:** A clear and compelling justification for the specific health and safety needs for which funding is requested, demonstrating their necessity for the production.
- **Budget Appropriateness:** The requested grant amount must be within the \$1,000 per project cap and be appropriate and reasonable for the stated Safety and Wellbeing need.

Deliverables

- Successful applicants will be required to provide the following to The Mercury upon completion of their project:

www.themercury.org.au
13 Morphett Street, Adelaide
hello@themercury.org.au +61 8410 0979
ABN: 57 865 211 307



- Evidence of fund usage: You must submit a copy of an invoice or receipt that clearly shows how the grant funds were used for your project's health and safety needs.
- Impact statement: A brief statement (up to 200 words) outlining how the grant contributed to the health and safety of your cast and crew and positively impacted your production.
- Credit: Include the provided Hamilton Health & Safety Fund (HHSF) logo in your film's credits with the wording, "Keeping crew safe with the help of [HHSF Logo] administered through The Mercury".

Application Process

The Hamilton Health & Safety Fund is a rolling fund and applications are now open. Please apply [here](#).