



AIDC LEADING LIGHTS 2026 TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. General

- 1.1 In 2026, the Australian International Documentary Conference Ltd ('The Organiser' or 'AIDC') will present Leading Lights - a program for emerging and diverse practitioners attending AIDC's annual conference for the first time.
- 1.2 Leading Lights 2026 includes:
 - 1) A complimentary in-person or online Sessions Pass to attend AIDC 2026 (to be held in Melbourne from Monday 2 to Thursday 5 March 2026)
 - 2) Leading Lights Meet & Greet event
 - 3) Leading Lights Skills Development Workshop
 - 4) Leading Lights Pitch session(together, 'Leading Lights', 'Leading Lights Program' or 'The Program')

2. Terms and Conditions

- 2.1 By applying to Leading Lights, you agree to accept and be bound by the following terms and conditions ("**Terms and Conditions**") and acknowledge that failure to comply with them may result in disqualification. All national and local laws and regulations shall apply.
- 2.2 Any enquiries relating to Leading Lights should be emailed to info@aidc.com.au.
- 2.3 These Terms and Conditions are subject to change without notice and at the discretion of AIDC.
- 2.4 Applicants must ensure that their application complies with all clauses of these Terms and Conditions.
- 2.5 In these Terms and Conditions, 'Applicant' shall be a reference to a single-person, the individual who submits the application.

3. Dates

- 3.1 Applications for The Program open on Wednesday 22 October 2025 at 9:00 (AEDT) ("**Opening Date**").
- 3.2 Applications will be accepted until Sunday 7 December 2025 at 23:59 (AEDT) ("**Closing**").

Date”).

- 3.3 There is no application fee
- 3.4 Selected applicants will be notified by AIDC in late December 2025, and their names announced to the public via the AIDC Program Guide and other forms of public communication.
- 3.5 Selected applicants will be invited to apply for the Leading Lights Pitch (Pitch) via a separate application process to be communicated directly to successful applicants.
- 3.6 AIDC 2026 will take place in Melbourne at ACMI and other Fed Square locations from Monday 2 to Thursday 5 March 2026

4. Applications

- 4.1 All employees of AIDC Ltd and any of its subsidiaries are not eligible to apply for Leading Lights.
- 4.2 Each application must provide up-to-date and accurate contact information when they submit their application to enable the Organiser to make contact on or after the Closing Date.
- 4.3 If there is any dispute as to the identity of an individual that provides an application, the AIDC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to determine the identity of the individual and AIDC’s decision shall be final.

5. Application Requirements

- 5.1 The Leading Lights Program accepts applications from Australian citizens or permanent residents with an interest in documentary and factual content, who have never attended AIDC before, and who identify with one (or more) of the following groups:
 - emerging/early-career (0 to 5 years experience in screen or interactive media production)
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
 - LGBTQIA+
 - d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse
 - regional and remote
 - and/or from a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background.
- 5.2 The Program may also accept applications from individuals who reside in Australia and meet the requirements above apart from citizenship or permanent residency.
- 5.3 Individuals only may apply.
- 5.4 Applicants must be 18 years of age or over.
- 5.5 Applications must be made via an application form on the [AIDC Leading Lights webpage](#).
- 5.6 The Organiser accepts no responsibility for applications not received for any reason.

- 5.7. The Organiser reserves the right, at any time, to verify the validity of applications (including an entrant's identity and citizenship/residency status) and reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any individual who the Organiser believes has breached any of these Terms & Conditions or engaged in any unlawful or other improper conduct.

6. Unacceptable Applications

- 6.1. Applications submitted after the Closing Date will not be accepted.
- 6.2. Applications can be withdrawn prior to the selection of applicants by contacting the Organiser.

7. Outcome

- 7.1. A selection panel made up of AIDC and industry representatives will determine the selected applicants. The panel's decisions will be final and no correspondence will be entered into in relation to their deliberations or decisions. If, in its sole discretion, AIDC finds that any individual or their representative(s) were lobbying panellists at any time, any applications by those parties will be disqualified.
- 7.2. The names and contact information of successful applicants will be shared with third party partners of AIDC including state, territory and/or federal screen agencies if you have given permission as part of your application.
- 7.3. Any questions or comments in relation to The Program are to be directed to info@aidc.com.au.

8. Liability

- 8.1. Except for any liability that cannot by law be excluded, including the statutory guarantees under the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth), AIDC (including its respective officers, employees and agents) is not responsible for and, as far as legally possible, excludes all liability (including negligence) for any personal injury; or any loss or damage (including loss of opportunity); whether direct, indirect, special or consequential, arising in any way out of:
- (a) any technical difficulties or equipment malfunction
 - (b) any theft, unauthorised access or third-party interference, and
 - (c) any application that is late, lost, inaccurate, altered, damaged or misdirected (whether or not after their receipt by the Organiser) due to any reason beyond the control of the Organiser.

9. Indemnity

- 9.1. The Applicants individually (and in the case of teams, jointly and severally) indemnify and at all times will keep AIDC and Associates indemnified from and against all costs, damages or expenses incurred by AIDC and Associates in defending and/or settling any actions, suits, proceedings, claims or demands made or brought against AIDC and/or Associates as a result or a consequence of any breach or non-performance of any or all of the agreements, representations, undertakings and/or Warranties of the Applicants in these Terms and Conditions. This clause will survive the expiration and/or termination of these Terms and Conditions for any reason.

10. Data

- 10.1. Any information provided in relation to the Leading Lights Program that constitutes personal information under the Privacy Act 2001 (Cth) will be governed by the [AIDC Privacy Policy](#) and these Terms & Conditions. By submitting a project for consideration, all entrants agree to be bound by the AIDC Privacy Policy.

11. Miscellaneous

- 11.1. These Terms & Conditions shall be governed by the laws of Victoria, Australia and each Applicant submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of Victoria, Australia.

12. The Organiser's contact details are:

- 12.1 AIDC Ltd ACN 098 558 313 of PO Box 81 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, Victoria, 8009.

THIS INFORMATION WAS UPDATED OCTOBER 2025.