

Actors Centre

AUSTRALIA

Actors Centre Australia

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To Whom It May Concern,

Actors Centre Australia (ACA) delivers an Accessible Acting Program, open to individuals who are 17 years of age or older and who have a mild to moderate intellectual disability or autism.

This program offers participants an "acting school experience" through the use of their Social and community participation funding in their Core category of your NDIS plan. It is not formal education.

The Accessible Acting Program offers participants a professional acting structured experience with performance and self-tape. It offers many transformational outcomes including improved confidence, literacy, teamwork collaboration, creative thinking, improved ability to articulate emotion, social, and work-ready skills.

Whilst Actors Centre Australia is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), this program is not VET accredited or required to be aligned to the ASQA training and assessment framework. It is a private sector program. It should not be rejected for consideration on the grounds that it is an educational or training support. It may be funded as a NDIS support where it satisfies the s34 "reasonable and necessary" test in the circumstances of an individual participant.

Through their participation in the program, participants achieve many transformational and capacity-building outcomes including improved social connections and friendships, confidence, well-being, literacy, social and job-ready skills.

Actors Centre Australia is one of Australia leading performing arts institutions with Hugh Jackman as Patron. In 2022, as part of the Arts Council Australia's grants for Social and Community Participation - Bus Stop Films partnered with Actors Centre to develop, and implemented a first of its kind acting program written by two leading industry professionals and participants from Bus Stop Films.

The 20-week program provides a minimum of 65 hours of workshops which will culminate in one professional theatre public performance with special invitations to casting agents within the performing arts industry, and an industry self-tape that may lead top professional workplace opportunities. The program runs from April to September 2025.

From 2025, the program fees are \$5,900 (GST inclusive) per participant. There is a one-off non-refundable enrolment fee of \$300.00 to be paid upfront. The students are required to be self-managed, or plan managed. We encourage participants to gain funding under Social Community and Participation in Core Funding if they wish to pay via their NDIS plans.

The program runs for 20 weeks across the year of 2025 and our fee schedule covers the program.

Enrolment in the program is for the full 20-week program, however, we allow payment to be made on a per five-week payment term basis. All payments must be made within 30 days of receipt of invoice or

incur a 2% late fee per day. While the classrooms are supported by Support Workers, students who require specific support such as Auslan Interpreters, Live Captioning, one-on-one support, etc. will need to fund these through their own NDIS packages.

There are many line items that participants may wish to consider if they fund through their own NDIS packages. We encourage participants to gain funding under registration groups 102 Assistance to Access and Maintain Employment or Higher Education, 106 Assistance with Coordinating or Managing life stages, transitions and supports, or 107 Development of Daily Living and Life Skills. Line items directly related to Social and Community Participation are encouraged. The exact line item will be dependent on the participants goals and aligned to their plans.

A statement from one of our 2024 participants:

"I decided to do the Accessible Acting Program because I love acting. Troy and Nicola [the industry professionals] were kind, fun, and helpful. I learned how to speak up louder. How to remember lines. How to move around the stage and work with another actor. My favourite part of the program was making friends and getting more confident. At the Showcase, I was happy that I did it."

Visit Actors Centre Australia (<https://www.actorscentreaustralia.com.au/>) for an outline of the program, and its culture and rich history within the performing arts market. Visit Bus Stop Films (<https://busstopfilms.com.au/>) to learn more about its programs, films, and impact.

Sincerely,



Lawrence Tan
Chief Executive Officer

Actors Centre Australia