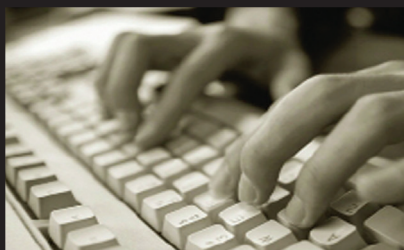


ABOUT THE WRITERS GUILD OF AMERICA

Low Budget Film Contracts



WHAT ARE YOUR LOW BUDGET CONTRACTS?

The Writers Guild offers a Low Budget Agreement for narrative theatrical films and the Documentary Screenplay Contract for theatrical documentaries. These contracts are designed to meet the demands of the low budget film business as well as ensure rights and benefits for writers of films budgeted at \$1.2 million or below. Both Guild members and non-members may request these contracts.

HOW DO THEY WORK?

Many low budget filmmakers need to stretch every dollar to get their films produced. These contracts allow writers to write and sell narrative and documentary screenplays under the protection of the Writers Guild while working within various low budget payment levels.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

By working under these contracts, writers receive minimum rates, credit and creative protections, and residuals, which are paid when their works are distributed on television, DVD and other media. When employment takes place, writers may be eligible to receive premium pension and health coverage. Also, first-time writers may use these contracts to join the Writers Guild - the world's largest organization of its kind.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the WGA West
at (323) 782-4731
or indie@wga.org
or contact WGA East
at (212) 767-7836 or
indie@wgaeast.org



WGA LOW BUDGET AGREEMENTS FOR THEATRICAL FILMS

Budget Below \$200k	Budget \$200k-Below \$500k	Budget \$500k-\$1.2M
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Work-for-Hire (1st/2nd drafts) or Spec Sale Work-for-Hire (1st/2nd drafts) or Spec Sale Work-for-Hire (1st/2nd drafts) *standard Min. Basic Agreement*

Choose:

\$11,111 (25% of Minimum)

\$22,223 (50% of Minimum)

\$44,445 (Minimum)
\$5,000 Script Publication Fee not deferrable

No \$5,000 Script Publication Fee

No \$5,000 Script Publication Fee

Spec Sale Only

standard LBA except for new deferred payment terms

OR

OR

May defer \$44,445 + \$5,000 Script Publication Fee

May defer \$44,445 + \$5,000 Script Publication Fee

\$10,000 due upon filming, may defer \$34,445; \$5,000 Script Publication Fee not deferrable

For Spec Sales: may also defer first re-write if performed

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Deferred payment terms are “most favored nations” with person who performs directing services.

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Note: Work-for-Hire treatment, 1st & 2nd drafts will be 25% and 50% of \$66,151 in the below \$500k categories, and the full \$66,151 in the \$500k - \$1.2M category.

“Most favored nations” in this context means deferred payment terms that are no less favorable.

Documentary Screenplay Contract’s deferred payment definition will match Low Budget Agreement language.

WGA West 323-782-4731 or indie@wga.org

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