



California Film & Television Tax Credit Program 2.0

APPLICATION BUDGET / SCHEDULE TIPS & CHECKLIST

Non-Independent Productions

Carefully review [Guidelines](#), [Budget / Tagging Instructions](#), and [Video Tutorials](#) regarding this list. Applicants should prepare ALL items listed prior to submitting an application. **If your project is selected, all required materials must be uploaded via the online portal within 3 business days.**

BUDGET / SCHEDULE TIPS

TOPIC / ISSUE	INSTRUCTIONS / COMMENTS
PORTAL CONTACTS	
Portal Contacts	Must specifically include contact for budget/schedule questions.
BUDGET	
Headers	Must include headers to indicate job position or type of expenditure.
Setup Groups	Default status for non-grouped detail lines - EXCLUDE.
	Status if there is a Group status conflict - EXCLUDE.
	Fringe amounts in Group totals - INCLUDE.
Budget - Fringes	Must fill out Fringe Matrix and indicate individual fringe amounts; aggregate fringe totals in budget must match matrix.
Extras Casting Fee	Do not include in fringes - insert in budget as % of costs; tag QE.
Additional Units	Splinter/2nd Units: unless detailed, split 80%QW; 20%QE.
Car Allowances	Car allowances should be tagged QW; box rentals QE.
Mileage	Reimbursement or payments for miles for extras & crew - QE.
Construction	Unless detailed, split 70% QW; 30%QE.
Construction Strike	Unless detailed, split 90% QW; 10% QE.
Special Units (TV only)	Consolidate special units and extra shoot days in amort - do not submit separate episode budgets.
Hyphenates (TV only)	Indicate in amort total qualified spend for hyphenate; omit from pattern.
CAL Issuance Date	Do not include any expenditures or salaries (including box/car rentals) prior to CAL issuance date.
Contingency	If not included as contractual item in budget, will not be included in budget total.
3rd Party or Direct Hire	For costs such as security, sound editorial, etc. - must indicate direct hire or will be tagged QE.
Insurance	Indicate E&O costs as NQ.
Uplifts	Tagging of expenditures that qualify for uplifts must be included to qualify for additional tax credits.
SCHEDULE	
Days	Shoot, Hiatus, Holidays, Travel, Facility, & Out of Zone days must all be indicated and match budget.
Layout	One-Liner or in the form of a calendar - listing dates is not acceptable.



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

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Applicants who fail to provide the requested documentation will be ineligible.

APPLICATION - PHASE II REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- 1** **Qualified Expenditures Budget(s):** Must be tagged properly, as indicated in the [Budget/Tagging Instructions](#). **DO NOT REMOVE HEADERS.**
Submit in an industry-standard budget program.
- 2** **Fringe Matrix:** Download the [online template](#) and fill in. Overstatement of fringe rates is NOT allowed. *Submit as Excel file.*
- 3** **One-line shooting schedule:** Must include scene descriptions. Indicate out-of-zone, production facility days, holidays and hiatus days, if applicable. For TV series, must be in a production calendar format. *Submit as a PDF file.*
- 4** **Screenplay:** Must include scene numbers. *Submit as a PDF file.*
- 5** **Proof of Financing:** Must include evidence of at least 60% of the financing for the total production budget e.g., commitment letters, financial statements. *Submit as a PDF file.*
- 6** **Pickup Order:** Applicable only to **TV Pilots** and **New** or **Relocating Series**. Must indicate the number of episodes. *Submit as a PDF file.*
- 7** **List of Locales:** States, provinces or other jurisdictions in which any member of the applicant's combined reporting group (in the same business unit) has produced a qualified film or scripted TV project intended for release in the U.S. in the preceding calendar year. *Submit as a PDF file.*
- 8** **Combined reporting group:** Form R7, Schedule A, Part 1. *Submit as a PDF file.*
- 9a** **Detailed Narrative Statement:** Must be on letterhead specifying the jurisdiction where the project will be relocated in absence of the credit, or whether the project is at risk of not being filmed at all. The statement must be signed by an officer or executive of the applicant. *Submit as a PDF file.* - **OR** -
- 9b** **Relocation Statement:** for **Relocating TV Series only:** Must be on letterhead certifying that the tax credit is the primary reason for relocation to California. *Submit as a PDF file.*