LOW BUDGET FEATURE TRAINEE

Hire a Trainee for your Low Budget Feature!

This package includes the following information:

1. Trainee Fact Sheet
2. Trainee Rates with LB Tables (Low Budget Tables)

Please review the enclosed materials and call us if you would like to move forward with having a Trainee on your production. Depending on which low budget agreement you are working under, you would be able to hire the Trainee under the rate appropriate for that agreement. Please refer to the "Trainee Rates with LB Tables" document. You may email us at mail@dgptp.com or call us at 818-386-2545.

Thank you for considering staffing an additional Assistant Director Trainee. We appreciate the learning opportunity you would be providing.

Sincerely,

Directors Guild-Producer Training Plan
Assistant Directors Training Program

LOW BUDGET FEATURE TRAINEE

Fact Sheet

Employment of a Trainee under the Low Budget Sideletter:

Production Managers

Note that when considering hiring a Trainee for your project under the Low Budget Sideletter, the only relevant variance from the Basic Agreement is that the hourly and weekly rates in Article 14-103 can be discounted by the specified percentage at each tier, provided no single hour is paid at less than federal or state minimum wage. All other provisions of 14-100, including 14-103 (a) - (d), apply. Further, each of these productions contributes, as they always have, the 3/8% of each covered AD and UPM's salary, to fund the Training Plan.

Guidelines for the employment of a Trainee on a production:

Per Article 14-108 of the DGA Basic Agreement:

A Trainee must work under the supervision of a Second Assistant Director at all times. Employer may employ a Trainee on any motion picture on which at least one (1) Second Assistant Director is employed. Employer may employ no more than one (1) Trainee on any motion picture, except that an additional Trainee may be employed if at least one (1) Second Second Assistant Director is employed on such motion picture.

Why should you take a Trainee?

- ✓ You will hire a screened and trained addition to your production team that can perform DGA duties
- ✓ Trainees have had classroom-based curriculum that includes Production Forms, Creating Call Sheets, First Aid, SAG-AFTRA, IATSE & Teamster Contracts, Safety on the Set, Staging Background Action and many more…

Stretches production dollars…

- ✓ Trainees provide support to your DGA by being able to do DGA covered duties

Please contact the Assistant Directors Training Plan for more information at 818-386-2545.

Trainee Weekly Daily Rates
July 2026 - June 2027
*Los Angeles County Minimum Wage

TIME PERIOD	WEEKLY RATE (1)	BASIC HOURLY	OVERTIME RATE	DAILY RATE (2)	HOURLY (DAILY)	OVERTIME (DAILY)
1-100 DAYS	$1,124	$18.420	$27.6300	$281	$23.025	$34.5375
101-200 DAYS	$1,166	$19.116	$28.6740	$292	$23.895	$35.8425
201-300 DAYS	$1,250	$20.489	$30.7335	$312	$25.611	$36.2115
301-400 DAYS	$1,333	$21.856	$32.7840	$333	$27.320	$38.6295
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME				(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE		

DGA Trainee Wage Trainee Program 14-103 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027					
Weekly Hourly			***Day Play Hourly***		
1st Period	**$18.420**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$23.025**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$19.116**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$23.895**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$20.489**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$25.611**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$21.856**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$27.320**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$1,124**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$281**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$1,166**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$292**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$1,250**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$312**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$1,333**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$333**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		

Trainee Weekly Daily Rates
July 2026 - June 2027
*Los Angeles County Minimum Wage

Some of the following low budget agreement compensation levels may fall below the Los Angeles County wage rates. Employees must be paid at the minimum wage rate which is currently $17.361 per hour. Overtime applies. Rates highlighted in RED denotes the minimum wage rate rule would take precedence. Calculations are based on HOURS WORKED and the DGA TRAINEE WAGE listed in the DGA Basic Agreement Article 14-103 and the 2024-25 DGA Basic Agreement Wage Tables supplement.

Note that a 54 hour guarantee equals 61 pay hours multiplied by $18.42 per hour minimum wage rate.

DGA Trainee Wage
Low Budget Projects Level 1a Agreements Negotiable
7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027

All Trainees would be paid **minimum wage** for all Periods for this category unless otherwise negotiated at a higher rate.

DGA Trainee Wage
Low Budget Projects Level 1b Agreements 33% of BA Scale
7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027

Weekly Hourly			*Day Play Hourly*		
1st Period	**$6.079**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$7.598**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$6.308**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$7.885**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$6.761**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$8.452**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$7.212**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$9.016**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$370.79**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$92.70**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$384.81**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$96.20**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$412.44**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$103.11**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$439.96**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$109.99**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		

DGA Trainee Wage
Low Budget Projects Level 2 Agreements 50% of BA Scale
7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027

Weekly Hourly			*Day Play Hourly*		
1st Period	**$9.210**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$11.513**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$9.558**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$11.948**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$10.245**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$12.806**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$10.928**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$13.660**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$561.81**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$140.45**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$583.04**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$145.76**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$624.91**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$156.23**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$666.61**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$166.65**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		

Trainee Weekly Daily Rates
July 2026 - June 2027
***Los Angeles County Minimum Wage**

DGA Trainee Wage Low Budget Projects Level 3 Agreements 60% of BA Scale 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027					
Weekly Hourly			***Day Play Hourly***		
1st Period	**$11.052**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$13.815**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$11.470**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$14.337**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$12.293**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$15.367**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$13.114**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$16.392**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$674.17**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$168.54**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$699.65**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$174.91**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$749.90**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$187.47**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$799.93**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$199.98**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		

DGA Trainee Wage Low Budget Projects Level 4a Agreements 70% of BA Scale 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027					
Weekly Hourly			***Day Play Hourly***		
1st Period	**$12.894**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$16.118**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$13.381**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$16.727**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$14.342**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$17.928**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$15.299**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$19.124**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$786.53**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$196.63**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$816.25**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$204.06**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$874.88**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$218.72**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$933.25**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$233.31**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		

Trainee Weekly Daily Rates
July 2026 - June 2027
***Los Angeles County Minimum Wage**

DGA Trainee Wage Low Budget Projects Level 4b Agreements 80% of BA Scale 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027					
Weekly Hourly			***Day Play Hourly***		
1st Period	**$14.736**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$20.723**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$15.293**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$21.506**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$16.391**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$23.050**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$17.485**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$24.588**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$898.90**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$237.17**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$932.86**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$247.31**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$999.86**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$265.07**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$1,066.57**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$282.76**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		

DGA Trainee Wage Low Budget Projects Level 4c Agreements 90% of BA Scale 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027					
Weekly Hourly			***Day Play Hourly***		
1st Period	**$16.578**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$20.723**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$17.204**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$21.506**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$18.440**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$23.050**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$19.670**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$24.588**	300-400 Days
Weekly (1) *			***Day Play Daily(2)***		
1st Period	**$1,011.26**	0-100 Days	1st Period	**$252.81**	0-100 Days
2nd Period	**$1,049.47**	100-200 Days	2nd Period	**$262.37**	100-200 Days
3rd Period	**$1,124.85**	200-300 Days	3rd Period	**$281.21**	200-300 Days
4th Period	**$1,131.06**	300-400 Days	4th Period	**$299.97**	300-400 Days
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE 40 @ BASIC, 14 @ OVERTIME			***(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE, 10.8 HOUR 8 HRS STRAIGHT, 2.8 @ OT RATE***		
*** Weekly Guarantee - 54 Cumulative Hours**			**Minimum Call - 8 Hours**		