



Benefits of Hiring Trainees from the Directors Guild-Producer Training Plan

Employing DGA Trainees can provide your project with some of the nation's best talent and still fit your production budget.

About the Trainee Program:

Governed by members of the DGA and the AMPTP, the Assistant Director Training Program selects a small number of high-quality, diverse candidates from hundreds of applicants each year and trains them to be DGA Second Assistant Directors. The DGA Trainees are thoroughly vetted through a rigorous selection process and instructed in the latest industry techniques and methods.

Advantages of hiring DGA Trainees:

- These highly qualified candidates are trained by established DGA members and AMPTP Studio representatives on a range of topics including: Preparing Production Reports, Creating Call Sheets, First Aid, Safety on Set, Setting Background Actors, Processing Vouchers, and SAG-AFTRA, IATSE and Teamsters contracts.
- Hiring a DGA Trainee is a great way to stretch production dollars. Under the supervision of an Assistant Director, Trainees can perform a range of DGA sanctioned duties that far exceed those performed by Production Assistants.
- The Plan will reimburse up to 50% of a Trainee's transportation, per diem and housing costs while on distant location, nationally or internationally. For work on distant location, Trainees fly coach and, if unworked, they are not owed 6th and 7th day pay. Trainee per diem is also negotiable and monies can be deducted for meals that are provided by the Employer.

DGA Trainee Weekly & Daily Rates, July 2025 – June 2026

* The Plan will reimburse the Employer for 20% of the salaries listed below for an additional Trainee employed after the first if more than one Trainee is employed in a given week. **Los Angeles County Minimum Wage*

TIME PERIOD	WEEKLY RATE (1)	HOURLY RATE	OVERTIME RATE	DAILY RATE (2)	HOURLY (DAILY)	OVERTIME (DAILY)
1-100 DAYS	\$1,090	\$17.870	\$26.8050	\$273	\$22.338	\$33.5063
101-200 DAYS	\$1,138	\$18.650	\$27.9750	\$284	\$23.313	\$34.9688
201-300 DAYS	\$1,219	\$19.989	\$29.9835	\$305	\$24.986	\$36.2115
301-400 DAYS	\$1,301	\$21.323	\$31.9845	\$325	\$26.654	\$38.6295
(1) 54 HOUR GUARANTEE (40 @ Basic + 14 @ OT)				(2) 1/4 WEEKLY RATE. Accounts for 10.8 hours of work (8 @ Hourly + 2.8 @ OT)		

For more information or to inquire about hiring a DGA Trainee, contact the Directors Guild-Producer Training Program at 818-386-2545 or visit our website at www.trainingplan.org