



Department of Commerce

Motion Picture Competitiveness Program

Summary Descriptive Statistics, per RCW 43.365.040

September 2018
Report to the Legislature
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Program Summary

Overview

In 2006, the Legislature created the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program, an economic development vehicle to attract and retain film industry investment in Washington state (Chapter 43.365 RCW). Washington Filmworks is the private nonprofit organization that manages the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program and the state film office.

During the 2017 legislative session, the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program was renewed through June 30, 2027. The Department of Commerce (Commerce) is responsible for rules that guide the incentive program and reporting summary descriptive statistics to the Legislature each even-numbered year by Sept. 1.

Motion Picture Competitiveness Program

Washington Filmworks offers funding assistance for qualified expenditures for motion pictures, episodic series and commercial productions. To qualify for funding assistance, the production company must meet the following in-state spending thresholds:

- \$500,000 for motion pictures
- \$300,000 for episodic series (per episode)
- \$150,000 for commercials

The board of directors of Washington Filmworks may allocate up to \$350,000 annually to support Washington resident filmmakers and filmmakers using new forms of production and emerging technologies. This funding is allocated through the Filmworks Innovation Lab.

For further information about eligibility requirements, visit www.WashingtonFilmworks.org.

Certified and Complete Statistics

Attached as Appendix A are summary descriptive statistics for all productions that have been approved for funding assistance, completed principal photography and been reviewed by Washington Filmworks through June 30, 2018.

Project Surveys*

Fiscal Year 2007	Fiscal Year 2008	Fiscal Year 2009	Fiscal Year 2010
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "The Holidays" – Feature 2. Lipitor – Commercial 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Diamond Dog" – Feature 2. "Little Dizzle" – Feature 3. Mervyn's – Commercial 4. "Letter to Bill Gates" – MOW 5. "The Golden Door" – Feature 6. "True Adolescents" – MOW 7. "Travelling" – Feature 8. WA Lottery Tumbling – Commercial 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Finding Bliss" – Feature 2. "Alicia's Book" – Feature 3. "Norman" – Feature 4. "The Whole Truth" – Feature 5. "World's Greatest Dad" – Feature 6. Commit – Commercial 7. "Dear Lemon Lima" – MOW 8. "Give 'Em Hell, Malone" – Feature 9. Hyundai – Commercial 10. Mervyn's LP – Commercial 11. "Oy Vey My Son Is Gay" – Feature 12. BECU – Commercial 13. "Wrong Turn at Tahoe" – Feature 14. WA Lottery Frisbee – Commercial 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Banner Bank – Commercial 2. "\$5 Cover" – Feature 3. Target – Commercial 4. "The Ward" – Feature 5. Campbell's – Commercial 6. Chevrolet – Commercial 7. "The Details" – Feature 8. "The Joneses" – Feature 9. "The Big Bang" – Feature 10. MS in Store – Commercial 11. MS Sherlock – Commercial 12. Xbox360 Lips – Commercial 13. "The Hit List" – Feature 14. Coors – Commercial 15. "Late Autumn" – Feature 16. Catch 22 – Commercial

* "Feature" refers to a feature film. "Commercial" refers to a commercial advertisement. "MOW" refers to a Movie of the Week/episodic series.

Project Surveys*

Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012	Fiscal Year 2013	Fiscal Year 2014
1. MS Natal – Commercial	1. “Safety Not Guaranteed” – Feature	1. “You Can’t Win” – Feature	1. “Different Drummers” – Prod/Post – Feature
2. “Knights of Badassdom” – Feature	2. Humira – Commercial	2. 2. “Touchy Feely” – Feature	2. “Laggies” – Prod/Post – Feature
3. Toyota Running Footage – Commercial	3. Cathay Pacific – Commercial	3. 3. “One Square Mile” – Feature	3. “Seven Minutes” – Prod/Post – Feature
4. Evergreen – Commercial	4. MS Xbox Kinect – Commercial	4. 4. Ford Summer Sales Event – Commercial	4. “The Architect” – Feature
5. “Grassroots” – Feature	5. “Fat Kid Rules the World” – Feature	5. 5. Xbox (062012) – Commercial	5. “West of Redemption” – Feature
6. “The River Sorrow” – Feature	6. “21 and Over” – Feature	6. 6. 99 Tigers – Commercial	6. KIA – Commercial
7. Xbox – Commercial	7. “Mine Games” – Feature	7. 7. “Admissions” – Feature	7. Sugar Plum – Commercial
8. Bank of America – Commercial	8. “Eden” – Feature	8. 8. Glad – Commercial	8. WA Lottery (Royale) – Commercial
9. WA Lottery Celebration – Commercial	9. Xbox 360 (042012) – Commercial	9. 9. Bank of America – Commercial	9. Samsung – Commercial
10. Chevy Silverado – Commercial		10. 10. “A Bit of Bad Luck” – Feature	10. WA Healthplan Finder – Commercial
11. Seattle Cancer Care Alliance – Commercial		11. 11. “Deep Burial” – Feature	11. “The Maury Island Incident” – Innovation Lab Project
12. Bridgestone – Commercial		12. 12. “Lucky Them” – Feature	12. “Touchy Feely” – Post
13. Ben Bridge – Commercial		13. 13. Green Mountain Coffee – Commercial	13. “A Bit of Bad Luck” – Post
14. Green Squirrel – Commercial		14. 14. American Family Insurance – Commercial	14. “You Can’t Win” – Post
15. “Camilla Dickinson” – Feature		15. 15. “One Square Mile” – Post	15. “Deep Burial” – Post
16. Navy Spirit Lake – Commercial			
17. Chevy Crossroads – Commercial			
18. WA Lottery Beneficiary – Commercial			
19. WA Lottery How to Play – Commercial			
20. WA Lottery Joust – Commercial			
21. “Thunderballs” – MOW			
22. Xbox Play – Commercial			

* “Feature” refers to a feature film. “Commercial” refers to a commercial advertisement. “MOW” refers to a Movie of the Week/episodic series. “Post” refers to the post-production survey to capture post-production expenditures. “Prod/Post” refers to both the production survey and post-production surveys. “Innovation Lab Project” refers to projects approved through the Filmworks Innovation Lab program.

Project Surveys (continued)*

Fiscal Year 2015	Fiscal Year 2016	Fiscal Year 2017	Fiscal Year 2018
1. "Z Nation," Season Episodes 1-13 – Episodic	1. Nissan – Commercial	1. "Z Nation," Season 3 Episodes 1-15 – Episodic	1. "Z Nation," Season 4 Episodes 1-13 – Episodic
2. "Captain Fantastic" – Feature	2. Bank of America – Commercial	2. "Polae" – Innovation Lab Project	2. "Tabitha Witch of the Order" – Innovation Lab Project
3. Toyota Running Footage – Commercial	3. Ford – Commercial	3. "Wallflower" – Innovation Lab Project	3. Untitled "Grey's Anatomy" Spinoff – Episodic
4. Alaska Airlines – Commercial	4. "Z Nation," Season 2 Episodes 1-15 – Episodic	4. "This Brute Land Virginia" – Innovation Lab Project	
5. JP Morgan-Chase – Commercial	5. "Rancho Rosa" – Episodic		
6. Subaru – Commercial	6. "West of Redemption" – Feature Post		
7. "The Architect" –Post	7. "Salish Seas" – Innovation Lab Project		
8. "Box Walk" – Innovation Lab Project	8. "Salish Seas" – Innovation Lab Project Post		
9. "Rocket Men" – Innovation Lab Project	9. "War Room" – Innovation Lab Project		
	10. "Strowlers" – Innovation Lab Project		
	11. "Automata" – Innovation Lab Project		

* "Feature" refers to a feature film. "Commercial" refers to a commercial advertisement. "MOW" refers to a Movie of the Week/episodic series. "Episodic" refers to a series for television or streaming media that consists of a season of episodes. "Post" refers to the post-production survey to capture post-production expenditures. "Innovation Lab Project" refers to projects approved through the Filmworks Innovation Lab program.

Washington Filmworks Narrative Response



About Washington Filmworks

Washington Filmworks (WF) is the nonprofit 501(c)(6) organization that manages the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program as well as a diversity of resources for the creative industries in Washington state. Its mission is to create economic development opportunities by building and enhancing the competitiveness, profile and sustainability of Washington's film industry. We do this by creating possibilities for local and national filmmakers, offering comprehensive production support as well as financial incentives.

The Motion Picture Competitiveness Program

Since launching the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program (MPCP) in 2007, WF has distributed \$34.8 million in funding assistance to 120 projects, including 41 feature films, 11 television projects, 57 commercials and 11 Innovation Lab Projects. These projects have spent an estimated \$123 million directly in our economy and created over 21,000 jobs for Washington resident cast and crew.

Securing an episodic series had long been a priority for WF because this work generates the best and most consistent work for local crew and businesses. The continuity of work that a series provides helps local workers and businesses plan for their future and supports jobs throughout the entire ecosystem of the creative economy. In 2014, Washington state became the production home to the hit television series "Z Nation," which currently airs on the Syfy Channel.

Over the past five years, "Z Nation" has filmed 69 episodes in locations across the state. On average, over 120 Washington residents are employed on each episode, and the series has spent money at over 500 unique Washington state businesses. And even though the series is headquartered in Spokane, 124 cities across Washington state have felt the economic impact of the project when production spent money with a local business, when a city hosted the production for filming, or when resident cast and crew spent their wages in their hometowns.

Missed Opportunities

The availability of funding assistance continues to drive the decisionmaking process of where motion picture productions are filmed. And while the production incentive program remains the best tool to win motion picture business, Washington state continues to have the fifth-smallest fund in the country. In January 2018, WF was considering eight applications for funding assistance from a diversity of projects, including independent feature films by local filmmakers, a major film from a large Hollywood Studio and an episodic series from a popular streaming service. Due to the current cap restrictions on the fund, WF was able to approve only two productions in 2018, the fifth season of "Z Nation" and the feature film "Language Arts."

Additional Washington Filmworks Resources

In addition to the MPCP, WF also serves as the first point of contact for resident and nonresident creative professionals to get the information and resources they need to produce projects and content in Washington state.

Resources available to help facilitate production include:

- Location database
- Crew database
- Permit information
- Information related to working with local, state and federal agencies
- “How to” information for filmmakers and communities (code of conduct, sample permits, scouting fundamentals, etc.)
- Facilities and support services

Washington Filmworks has also developed a vibrant film liaison network with over 100 professionals in communities across the state who can help with local production concerns when filmmakers are on the ground in their cities and jurisdictions.

In 2018, WF converted 33 percent of inquiries to our office into business in Washington state, which equated to 112 projects that spent an estimated \$10 million in our statewide economy.

The Future of Film in Washington State

The MPCP was renewed during the 2017 legislative session for an additional 10 years. With the program renewed, WF has engaged in meaningful conversations about the future of film in our state with a broad variety of stakeholders from rural and urban areas, both east and west of the mountains.

In response to what we learned, WF recently appointed its first-ever statewide Film Leadership Council (FLC). Driven by our strong desire to do more good for more people, this group of 20 creative professionals from around the state will work to develop proposals about how to maximize the impact of both the production incentive program and the resources of WF.

Appendix A: Summary Descriptive Statistics

Washington Filmworks

Summary Descriptive Statistics

Category	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Projects That Have Completed Principal Photography and Completion Packages Have Been Reviewed	2	8	14	16	22	9	14
Verified Total Qualified Spend Per Review	\$1,047,031	\$6,704,051	\$15,808,957	\$18,387,627	\$13,465,933	\$10,899,713	\$9,435,555
Total Funds Distributed	\$203,665	\$1,337,810	\$3,205,607	\$5,516,288	\$3,992,689	\$3,119,780	\$2,570,383
Total Washington Hires	94	1,162	2,590	1,804	2,048	1,868	1,470
Total Non-Washington Hires	40	141	575	311	332	250	229
Salary Range Totals for Washington Residents							
Up to \$30,000; starting 2013, up to \$15 per hour	93	493	364	843	211	223	765
From \$30,000 to \$60,000; starting 2013, from \$15 to \$30 per hour	1	54	412	488	512	354	287
Over \$60,000; starting 2013, over \$30 per hour	0	145	270	209	316	221	418
Benefits Jobs							
Up to \$30,000	46	315	138	2	52	160	126
From \$30,000 to \$60,000	1	41	324	155	244	247	278
Over \$60,000	0	138	111	85	182	221	360

Summary Descriptive Statistics (continued)

Category	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	Totals
Projects That Have Completed Principal Photography and Completion Packages Have Been Reviewed	11	8*	9**	4***	3****	120
Verified Total Qualified Spend Per Review	\$9,688,254	\$11,109,475	\$12,450,689	\$8,689,410	\$7,600,534	\$125,287,227
Total Funds Distributed	\$2,649,530	\$3,366,665	\$3,366,763	\$2,943,560	\$2,572,400	\$34,845,140
Total Washington Hires	1,294	2,491	2,696	2,025	1,806	21,348
Total Non-Washington Hires	211	429	748	542	530	4,338
Salary Range Totals for Washington Residents						
Up to \$30,000; starting 2013, up to \$15 per hour	619	1,023	963	722	340	6,659
From \$30,000 to \$60,000; starting 2013, from \$15 to \$30 per hour	270	831	995	726	513	5,443
Over \$60,000; starting 2013, over \$30 per hour	240	637	738	577	953	4,724
Benefits Jobs						
Up to \$30,000	118	60	17	3	10	1,047
From \$30,000 to \$60,000	256	744	755	654	289	3,988
Over \$60,000	378	500	668	549	936	4,128

* For reporting practices, Washington Filmworks counts "Z Nation" Season 1 with 13 individual episodes as one project.

** For reporting practices, Washington Filmworks counts "Z Nation" Season 2 with 15 individual episodes as one project.

*** For reporting practices, Washington Filmworks counts "Z Nation" Season 3 with 15 individual episodes as one project.

**** For reporting practices, Washington Filmworks counts "Z Nation" Season 4 with 13 individual episodes as one project.