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OCTFME Announces Update to the District's Media Production Incentive and Infrastructure Investment Law

The "District of Columbia Film, Television and Entertainment Rebate Fund" will provide updates to the "Film DC Economic Incentive Fund."

Washington, DC – On March 9, 2016 the District of Columbia Film, Television and Entertainment Rebate Act of 2016 was enacted, updating the Film DC Economic Incentive Fund Act of 2006.

The updates to the previous incentive law include:

- The program will be renamed the "District of Columbia Film Television and Entertainment Rebate Fund."
- The maximum allowable rebate for "qualified production expenditures taxable in the District" has been lowered from 42% to 35%.
- The new law will establish a maximum rebate of 10% for non-District resident crew.
- The definition of "qualified production expenditure" no longer includes "Development" or "Distribution" spending.
- Boxing and other special events now qualify as "qualified production expenditures."
- A mandatory "Filmed in the District of Columbia" credit requirement has been added to the law.
- The new law caps aggregate "above-the-line" cast and crew expenditures at \$500,000 per project.



“OCTFME will utilize the new provisions of the DC Film, Television and Entertainment Rebate Fund to further the local creative economy, support media education, and increase entertainment industry employment for District Residents.,” said Angie M. Gates, Director of the Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment. “The Rebate Fund will create pathways to the middle class for aspiring media professionals through incentivizing the creation of creative economy jobs in the District.”

Subject to the availability of funds, the DC Film Television and Entertainment Rebate Fund will provide an eligible program awardee up to the following:

- (1) The sum of 35% of the company’s qualified production expenditures that are subject to taxation in the District;
- (2) The sum of 21% of the company’s qualified production expenditures that are not subject to taxation in the District;
- (3) The sum of 30% of the company’s qualified personnel expenditures that are subject to taxation in the District;
- (4) The sum of 10% of the company’s qualified personnel expenditures that are not subject to taxation in the District;
- (5) The sum of 50% of the company’s qualified job training expenditures; and
- (6) The sum of 25% of the company’s base infrastructure investment; provided the facility is used for purposes related to media production or postproduction activities.

To qualify, an approved applicant must spend at least \$250,000 in the District of Columbia on qualified expenditures and not be delinquent in any tax obligation owed to the District of Columbia.

Any program applications received on or after March 9, 2016 that are accepted into the program will be governed by the terms of the new law.

Questions regarding the new law should be directed to the Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment Rebate Fund Administration team at FilmDC.Incentive@dc.gov or (202) 727-6608, and more detailed information on the new law and the application process can be found at <http://entertainment.dc.gov/service/film-tv-entertainment-rebate-fund>.



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About OCTFME

The DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music & Entertainment (OCTFME) implements, manages, and administrates programs, initiatives, and services that support media industry economic activity, growth and employment in the District of Columbia. OCTFME supports the local creative economy and content creators through its D.C. Film Television and Entertainment Rebate Fund Program as well as film permitting, location and production support assistance. Washington, DC's instantly recognizable landmarks, diverse neighborhoods, cultural amenities, and first-class accommodations are just some of the many features that make the nation's capital a venue of choice for media production.

For more information, contact the OCTFME at (202) 727-6608, visit us on the web at <http://film.dc.gov>, join the DC Film community on <http://www.facebook.com/EntertainDC>, or follow us on http://twitter.com/Entertain_DC.