

Motion Picture Production Tax Incentive Program

The Motion Picture Production Tax Incentive is a rebate program designed to encourage production of motion pictures in Mississippi. The program is designed to return a portion of the qualified expenses incurred in the state back to the production company.

Program Facts

The Motion Picture Production Tax Incentive Program provides for a rebate on a percentage of expenses incurred during production of a certified project. "Project" means a production certified by the Mississippi Development Authority. To qualify, a project must be a nationally distributed feature length film, video, DVD, television series, or commercial that is made (in whole or in part) in Mississippi for theatrical or television viewing.

The production of news or athletic events do not qualify, nor does any project that contains any material or performance deemed obscene, as defined in Section 97-29-103, Mississippi Code of 1972.

A production company that has an approved project is eligible for a rebate of their base investment (local spend) in Mississippi. The percentage of the rebate is based on the amount of the local spend and will be calculated as 20% of the base investment in the state, with an additional 5% rebate allowed for allowed wages paid to Mississippi residents. In instances where an employee is compensated over one million dollars, the rebate will only apply to the first million dollars of eligible wages.

All projects must be certified by the Mississippi Development Authority. Upon completion of the project, a rebate request must be submitted to the State Tax Commission. The request must include a summary of expenditures and a detailed accounting of the investment in the state. The State Tax Commission will issue the rebate check to the production company after completion of a review of the request documentation.

For further details, see the Mississippi Tax Incentives, Exemptions, and Credits on the State Tax Commission's website <http://www.mstc.state.ms.us/revenue/incentive/2008IncentiveBook.pdf>, or Section 57-89-1 et seq., MS Code 1972, Annotated. To request these documents or for assistance, contact the State Tax Commission at (601)923-7044 or the Financial Resources Division at financial@mississippi.org or (601)359-3552.