

# Film Producer

Find the story, find the money, hire the people, and carry the risk from first meeting to final delivery.

## TYPICAL PAY

**\$85,000**

a year, full time

## PAY RANGE

**\$46k to \$146k**

starting to experienced

## TIME TO QUALIFY

**3 to 8 years**

after high school

## DEMAND

**Moderate**

job outlook

## LICENCE NEEDED

**No**

anyone can do it

## WHERE YOU WORK

**Production offices, sets, film markets and festivals, broadcaste...**

## How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12  
English, business, drama, media arts. Produce something small: a short, a school show, a web series.
- 2 Training** 2 to 4 years  
A 2-year college production diploma, a film degree, or a business degree with film work on the side. None of these is required.
- 3 Production office jobs** 2 to 5 years  
Production assistant, then coordinator, then production manager. You learn budgets, schedules, contracts and unions from the inside.
- 4 Produce your own shorts** Alongside the day job  
Prove you can finish something and account for the money. Funders look for exactly this.
- 5 First financed project** Year 5 to 8  
A documentary, a low-budget feature or a series with a broadcaster attached, usually with a public funder involved.

## Pros and cons

- + You decide what gets made, not just how it looks
- + Public funding in Canada gives new producers a real route in
- + Line producing and production management are steady, well-paid careers on their own
- Years of unpaid development before a first project closes
- You carry the financial and legal risk when something goes wrong
- Constant rejection from funders, broadcasters and distributors

## Optional boosts

Creative producer. Line producer. Production manager. Documentary producer.

## Good to know

### Producing in Canada is a \$10 billion business

The Canadian Media Producers Association reports about \$10.2 billion in production volume in 2025, close to \$12 billion added to the economy and roughly 181,000 jobs.

### The government is a co-financier

Telefilm Canada invested about \$144.5 million in Canadian film in 2024 and 2025. Most Canadian features you can name have public money somewhere in the budget.

### Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Film Producer in Canada, wages (updated November 2025)  
Canadian Media Producers Association  
Telefilm Canada  
National Film Board of Canada

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/film-producer>



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