

NOTICE OF INTENT

Louisiana Economic Development Office of Economic Development

Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program (LAC 61:I.Chapter 61)

Louisiana Economic Development (LED), as authorized by and pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., R.S. 36:104 and Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session, hereby provide notice of their intent to promulgate rules to be used by LED in administration of the Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program.

Title 61

REVENUE AND TAXATION

Part I. Taxes Collected and Administered by the Secretary of Revenue

Chapter 61. Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program

Subchapter A. Program Rules for Projects with Applications Received on or After July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2025

§6103. General Description

A. For application received on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2025, state-certified productions may be eligible for up to a 40 percent tax credit on total qualified in-state expenditures, including resident and non-labor as follows:

A.1. - 3. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:1125.1., R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:53 (January 2010), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:868 (July 2019), amended LR 48:1494 (June 2022), LR 48:1915 (July 2022, amended by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR 51:

§6105. Definitions

A. - B. ...

Office—means the Office of Entertainment Industry Development until July 1, 2025, and thereafter means the office of economic development in Louisiana Economic Development.

Program Issuance Cap—for applications submitted on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023, the office may issue no more than \$150,000,000 in tax credits (“total cap”) in any fiscal year, with \$7,500,000 reserved for qualified entertainment companies (“QEC cap”), \$7,500,000 reserved for Louisiana screenplay productions (“LA screenplay cap”), \$15,000,000 reserved for independent film productions (“independent film cap”), with the remaining \$120,000,000 available for general allocation to any state certified production (“general cap”); for applications received on or after July 1, 2023 but prior to July 1, 2025, the office may issue no more than \$150,000,000 in tax credits in any fiscal year.

Secretary—Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:53 (January 2010), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 43:300 (February 2017), LR 43:2102 (November 2017), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:869 (July 2019), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 46:179 (February 2020), LR 48:1495 (June 2022), LR 48:1915 (July 2022), LR 49:2089 (December 2023), amended by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR 51:

§6107. Certification Procedures

A. - C.1.b.ii. ...

c. Project-Based Production Tax Credit—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 but prior to July 1, 2025.

C.1.c.i. - C.5.c.i. ...

6. Duration of Effect—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 but prior to July 1, 2025

C.6.a. - D.3.b.iii. ...

c. Project-Based Production Credit—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 but prior to July 1, 2025.

D.3.c.i. - D.4.f.iii. ...

iv. If the total amount of released credits available for re-issuance is less than the total amount of requested credits, the department shall issue credits to all qualified applicants on a first come, first served basis, as determined by the completion notification date, except that legacy credit projects with tax credit reservations that have expired or been released in accordance with the provisions of §6107 (“late requests”), shall receive priority funding over legacy credit projects seeking tax credits in an earlier fiscal year than their reservation (“early requests”). Any requests that cannot be paid in full will remain eligible for payment at a later date, subject to availability of released credits.

E - E.2.e. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007 and R.S. 36:104.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:55 (January 2010), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of the Secretary, Office of Business Development and the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, LR 37:514 (February 2011), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 42:39 (January 2016), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 43:2102 (November 2017), re promulgated LR 43:2473 (December 2017), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:871 (July 2019), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 46:179 (February 2020), LR 48:1496 (June 2022), LR 48:1916 (July 2022), LR 49:2089 (December 2023), amended by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR 51:

§6109. Additional Program Provisions

A. The following additional provisions shall apply to applications received on or after July 1, 2017 but prior to July 1, 2025:

1. LED program issuance cap.

a. For applications for state-certified productions and qualified entertainment companies submitted on or after July 1, 2017, but prior to July 1, 2023, the total amount of all tax credits granted in a final certification letter by the department in any fiscal year shall not exceed one hundred fifty million dollars. Twenty percent of the annual program cap shall be reserved as follows: five percent for qualified entertainment companies, five percent for Louisiana screenplay productions, and ten percent for independent film productions. If the total amount of credits applied for in any particular year exceeds the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed for that year, the excess shall be treated as having been applied for on the first day of the subsequent year.

b. For applications for state-certified productions and qualified entertainment companies submitted on or after July 1, 2023, but prior to July 1, 2025, the total amount of all tax credits granted in a final certification letter by the department in any fiscal year shall not exceed one hundred fifty million dollars. If the total amount of credits applied for in any particular year exceeds the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed for that year, the excess shall be treated as having been applied for on the first day of the subsequent year.

2. LED individual project issuance cap. The maximum amount of credits certified by LED for a single state-certified production shall be \$20,000,000, which may be structured over two or more years in the initial certification letter;

a. Except for state-certified productions for scripted episodic content that may be granted up to \$25,000,000 in credits per season.

3. LED individual salary cap. The maximum amount of qualifying payroll expenditures per individual shall be \$3,000,000. Payroll payments in excess of \$3,000,000 made directly or indirectly to an individual or loan-out shall be excluded.

B. LDR Taxpayer Claims Cap.

1. Beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2025, tax credit claims and transfers to the Department of Revenue (“state buy-back”) shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$180,000,000 each fiscal year.

2. Beginning July 1, 2025, tax credit claims and transfers to the Department of Revenue (“state buy-back”) shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$125,000,000 each fiscal year.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:1125.1, 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:56 (January 2010), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:874 (July 2019), amended LR 48:1496 (June 2022), amended by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR 51:

§6113. Application of the Tax Credit

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the

Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:57 (January 2010), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of the Secretary, Office of Business Development, and the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, LR 37:515 (February 2011), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:876 (July 2019), repealed by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR 51:

§6119. Louisiana Promotional Graphic

A. - A.3. ...

B. For applications for state-certified productions received on or after July 1, 2023 but prior to July 1, 2025 at time of request for final certification, state certified productions shall be required to acknowledge the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana as follows:

B.1. - B.3. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 42:1656 (October 2016), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:878 (July 2019), LR 48:1497 (June 2022), amended LR 48:1917 (July 2022), LR 49:2091 (December 2023), amended by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR 51:

Subchapter B. Program Rules for Projects with applications received on or after July 1, 2025

§6121. Purpose

A. The purpose of this Sub-Chapter is to implement the Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program, in accordance with R.S. 47:6007, as amended by Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.

B. This Sub-Chapter shall be administered to achieve the following purposes:

1. To support the state’s commitment to the motion picture production industry; and

2. To support industry sectors and goals identified in Louisiana Economic Development’s strategic plan, as may be amended from time to time.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6123. General Description

A. For applications for state-certified productions or Qualified Entertainment Companies approved by the office on or after July 1, 2025, there is hereby authorized a tax credit of up to 40% for approved projects.

B. The program provisions outlined in Subchapter A shall apply to projects with applications received on or after July 1, 2025, but before the effective date of the provisions outlined in this Subchapter B, except that:

1. the total amount of all tax credits granted in a final certification letter by Louisiana Economic Development in any fiscal year shall not exceed \$125,000,000;

2. beginning July 1, 2025, tax credit claims and transfers to the Department of Revenue (“state buy-back”) shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$125,000,000 each fiscal year; and

3. in exceptional circumstances, for good cause shown, LED may enter into long term agreements that support

motion picture production industry initiatives determined by the secretary to be in the best interest of the state.

C. The program provisions outlined in this Subchapter B shall apply to projects with applications received after their effective date, which is contingent upon final rule promulgation and approval of the rules by the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6125. Definitions.

A. Terms not otherwise defined in this Chapter shall have the same meaning given to them in R.S. 47:6007, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

B. In this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings provided herein, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Base Investment—cash or cash equivalent investment made and used for production expenditures in the state for a state-certified production.

Cost Report of Production Expenditures—a report of production expenditures formatted in accordance with LED accounting guidelines, which may be issued with initial certification, posted on LED's website or otherwise communicated by LED to applicant in writing.

Expenditure—actual payment of cash or cash equivalent, paid by or on behalf of a state certified production exchanged for goods or services, as evidenced by an invoice, receipt or other such document.

LDR—Louisiana Department of Revenue

LED—Louisiana Economic Development

Office—the office of economic development in Louisiana Economic Development.

Procurement Company—any person or entity that purchases, leases or otherwise obtains goods or services from sources outside of the state, for the ultimate use, benefit or enjoyment of a state-certified production company.

Resident or resident of Louisiana—a natural person who is required to file a Louisiana resident individual income tax return.

Secretary—Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development.

State-Certified Production—a production approved by the office which is produced by a motion picture production company domiciled and headquartered in Louisiana and which has a viable multi-market commercial distribution plan.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6127. General Principles

A. The following general principles will direct the administration of the program.

1. Awards are not be considered as an entitlement for companies, and the secretary has the final authority to determine whether or not each particular applicant is eligible and meets the criteria of the program, and in all such

circumstances, the exercise of that discretion shall be deemed to be a final determination of the applicant's program status.

2. Applications shall be accepted on a year round basis, subject to availability of funding in any given year, or as otherwise determined by LED.

3. As a general rule applicants may apply for more than one statutory benefit program administered by LED, provided that:

a. Separate applications are submitted per program; and

b. Program applicants do not receive a double benefit on the same expenditure or job.

4. Except that notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a company seeking the benefits of this program shall not also receive rebates provided for under the Quality Jobs Program as provided for in R.S. 51:2451 through 2461.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6129. General Program Description

A. For applications received on or after July 1, 2025, state certified productions with a base investment equal to or greater than \$150,000 may be eligible for a tax credit, in a varying percentage amount up to 40 percent.

B. At the invitation of the secretary, Qualified Entertainment Companies may be eligible for an award of tax credits, on terms and conditions as negotiated and approved by the secretary.

C. Applicants shall be required to acknowledge the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana through the inclusion of a Louisiana promotional graphic, in a form, manner and placement as approved by LED.

D. To ensure fair and transparent use of tax credits allocated for this program, sole proprietorships shall be considered ineligible for QEC program participation, and small companies seeking to hire individuals closely connected to the business owner may be subject to heightened scrutiny.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6131. Application Procedure

A. Applications may be filed through LED's online Fastlane portal, or as otherwise directed by LED.

B. The application shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

1. For film productions:

a. working title of the production. Should the title change, the state-certified production needs to inform the office as soon as that change is made;

b. name of the requesting production company;

c. name, telephone number, e-mail address and attesting signature of the requesting production company's contact person;

d. approximate beginning and ending date of production in Louisiana;

e. Louisiana office address;

f. telephone number of requesting company's Louisiana office address;

g. estimated total production-related costs of production;

- h. estimated total amount of production- related costs to be expended in Louisiana;
 - i. estimated total payroll to be paid by the requesting production company to Louisiana residents employed by the requesting production company in connection with the production;
 - j. a preliminary budget including the estimated Louisiana payroll and estimated in-state investment
 - k. a copy of script (including synopsis) will be made available to LED;
 - l. list of principal creative elements such as principal cast, producer, and director; and
 - m. facts sufficient for the office to determine that the requesting production company:
 - (i) is a motion picture production company as defined in R.S. 47:6007(B)(6);
 - (ii) is domiciled and headquartered in Louisiana; and
 - (iii) has either a viable multi market distribution plan or a signed distribution agreement with either a major theatrical exhibitor, television network or cable television programmer for distribution of the production.

- 2. For QEC's, at the invitation of the secretary:
 - a. Business name;
 - b. Contact person and their title;
 - c. Business physical address;
 - d. Business phone number and email address;
 - e. Brief description of the nature of the business;
 - f. Number of existing employees;
 - g. Number of proposed new jobs;
 - h. Secretary of State registration;
 - i. Letter of project support from the applicable regional economic development organization.

C. A non-refundable application fee shall be submitted with the application in accordance with R.S. 36:104.

D. A refundable expenditure verification report deposit shall also be submitted with the application, in accordance with R.S. 36:104.1.

1. The expenditure verification report deposit fee may be waived or reduced at the discretion of the secretary for good cause shown. In which case, the applicant will remain liable for payment in full of the actual cost of accounting services, with payment to be made in full at a later date.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6133. Selection Criteria

A. It is the intent of the Louisiana Legislature that the benefits provided in this program should be used primarily to support the state's commitment to the motion picture production industry.

B. LED shall consider various discretionary factors when determining which applications will be approved, and at what applicable credit percentage. Among the factors which may be taken into consideration are the following;

- 1. Use of Louisiana soundstages;
- 2. The extent and duration of in-state production activity;

- 3. Employment of Louisiana resident in key creative roles;
- 4. Prominent placement of a Louisiana logo, with placement and logo details as approved by LED;
- 5. Workforce development, career training, or educational initiatives;
- 6. Product placement of Louisiana based products;
- 7. Other marketing opportunities as negotiated and agreed to by LED;
- 8. Disbursing of funding statewide;
- 9. Availability of funding; and
- 10. Best interests of the state.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6135. LED Action –Approval, Denial and Appeal Provisions

A. In the event LED determines that an applicant is eligible, funding is available and approval would be appropriate, the estimated total tax credit amount, the credit percentage and any applicable terms and conditions will be issued by LED as follows:

1. An approved state certified film production will be issued an initial certification letter.

2. An approved Qualified Entertainment Company (QEC) will be issued a contract.

B. In the event an application is denied, in whole or part, LED shall issue a written denial, specifying the basis for denial.

C. Appeal Process. In the event that a request for initial or final certification or a request for tax credits is denied:

1. LED shall promptly provide written notice of such denial to the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs and the House Committee on Ways and Means;

2. The applicant may appeal as follows:

a. an applicant may appeal within 30 days from receipt of a denial. Receipt will be conclusively presumed from the sending of the denial by electronic mail to an address provided by the applicant or by a return receipt evidencing delivery by U.S. Postal Service or private carrier;

b. the appeal is made by delivery of a written objection, with supporting documentation to the secretary;

c. within 30 days of receipt of a timely appeal, the secretary (or their designee) will review the appeal, and issue a written determination. The secretary may extend the time for the determination for an additional 30 days. In the event the secretary fails to issue a determination within the required time, the appeal is deemed denied;

d. the written determination shall be the final agency decision of LED;

e. the applicant may appeal an adverse decision to the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, which shall be limited to a review of the administrative record.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6137. Production expenditures

A. Eligible expenditures are limited to the costs directly and immediately related to the physical production of the motion picture within the state, as verified by a Louisiana CPA and documented in an expenditure verification report.

B. Unless otherwise approved by the Secretary, the following categories of expenditures shall be deemed ineligible for inclusion in calculating the base investment eligible for tax credits:

1. Expenditures for marketing and distribution;
2. Non-production related overhead;
3. Related party transactions;
4. Insurance premiums and any associated administrative or processing costs;
5. Payments made to procurement companies or similar intermediary entities;
6. Airfare;
7. Finance fees;
8. Real estate purchases;
9. Payments made to parties that share in profit participation;
10. State and local taxes;
11. Fees submitted in connection with participation in the program;

C. Nothing in this section shall preclude the secretary from issuing additional guidance or interpretations with respect to eligible or ineligible production expenditures or applying further criteria as may be appropriate for compliance and oversight.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6139. Request for tax credits

A. An approved state certified production with an executed initial certification letter, or a Qualified Entertainment Company with an executed contract shall make a request for reimbursement as follows:

1. Company shall notify LED that they are ready to proceed and make a cost report of expenses available for inspection by the independent certified accountant assigned by LED, and submit any additional information as may be requested, including but not limited to evidence of public acknowledgement for the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana.

2. For state certified productions, requests shall be submitted no later than six months after the expiration of the approved initial certification period, as set forth in the initial certification letter, or as otherwise approved by the secretary;

3. For Qualified Entertainment Companies, requests may be submitted after at least twelve months of qualifying payroll activity, but no later than six months after the expiration of the contract term, in accordance with the contract terms and conditions.

4. Upon completion, independent CPA shall submit the expenditure verification report to LED and the applicant, and a final invoice for accounting services rendered.

5. Company shall be refunded any amount in excess of its advance deposit or notified of any final amount due for accounting services.

6. After Company payment of any outstanding fees, LED shall review the expenditure verification report and any other applicable support documentation, and upon a

determination of qualification, LED shall issue tax credits to the Company in the form of a Final Tax Credit Certification Letter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6141. Irrevocable Designee: Non-transferable; Exception for transfer to LDR

A. State certified productions may elect to name a bank or other lender as an irrevocable designee, in the initial certification letter or other document approved by LED and submitted to LED prior to tax credit issuance. The potential irrevocable designee must be listed as a source of funding in the expenditure verification report.

B. LED shall issue tax credits to only one named taxpayer, the approved state certified production company, the approved Qualified Entertainment Company, or its singular approved irrevocable designee on file with LED at the time of tax credit issuance.

1. Any revision, reissuance or exception request to be submitted in writing.

2. LED's determination granting or denying the request shall be issued in writing.

C. Motion picture tax credits may not be transferred or sold to another taxpayer, except as provided for in Subparagraph D of this Section.

D. Motion picture tax credits may be transferred to the Department of Revenue (LDR), otherwise known informally as the state buy-back option, at an amount recognized and in accordance with the requirements of La. R.S. 47:6007, or as otherwise directed by LDR.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6143. Delinquent tax filing clearance requirement

A. No motion picture production tax credit may be earned, certified, issued to, transferred by, or used to reduce a Louisiana tax liability if there exists a delinquent federal, state or local tax obligation.

B. Compliance with this requirement shall now be certified by the motion picture production company, irrevocable designee, taxpayer, or claimant before any credit may be certified, transferred, or sold.

C. The prohibition in this Section shall not apply to any tax liability which has been properly protested or appealed by the motion picture production company, pursuant to La. R.S. 47:1561 et. seq.

D. The prohibition in this Section shall remain in effect until all delinquent returns have been filed and delinquent taxes have been paid and until a Notice of Cancellation or equivalent form is properly filed and recorded to cancel all federal, state, or local tax obligations.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6145. Non-performance, Return of Benefits, Disallowance and Recapture of Credits

A. If a taxpayer receives a tax credit pursuant to this Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program and it is subsequently determined that it did not qualify for the benefit then: (i) future payments shall be reduced by the amount

wrongfully received by the taxpayer; or, (ii) If there are no future payments due from which to deduct the amount owed, the secretary of the Department of Revenue may recover any monies wrongfully obtained, pursuant to the provisions of La. R.S. 47:6007 (E) or any other collection remedy authorized by law.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

Family Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

Poverty Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on providers of services as described in HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Small Business Analysis

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in drafting the proposed rule to accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing any anticipated adverse impact on small businesses.

Public Comments

Interested persons should submit written comments on the proposed Rules to **Amanda Hafford** through the close of business on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at Louisiana Economic Development, 100 North Street, 9th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 or via email to Amanda.Hafford@la.gov.

Public Hearing

A meeting for the purpose of receiving the presentation of oral comments will be held at 10:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 1, 2026** in the Griffon Conference Room at the LaSalle Building, 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Anne G. Villa
Deputy Secretary/CFO

Accessibility Checker

Inspection Results

✓ No accessibility issues found.
People with disabilities should have difficulty reading this document.

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Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program (LAC 61:I.Chapter 61)

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Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session,
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LED in administration of the Motion Picture
Tax Credit Program.

Title 61

REVENUE AND TAXATION

1. Taxes Collected and Administered by the Secretary of Revenue

1. Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program

1. A. Program Rules for Projects with

Applications Received on or After July 1,
2017 and prior to July 1, 2025

1. General Description

application received on or after July 1, 2017 and

Secretary—Secretary of Louisiana Economic
Development.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.
47:6007.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of
Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of
Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the
Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:53 (January 2010),
amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of
Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry
Development, LR 43:300 (February 2017), LR 43:2102 (November
2017), repromulgated by the Department of Economic
Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:869 (July
2019), amended by the Department of Economic Development,
Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 46:179
(February 2020), LR 48:1495 (June 2022), LR 48:1915 (July 2022),
LR 49:2089 (December 2023), amended by Louisiana Economic
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§6107. Certification Procedures

A. - C.1.b.ii. ...

c. Project-Based Production Tax Credit—for
Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 but prior to
July 1, 2025.

C.1.c.i. - C.5.c.i. ...

6. Duration of Effect—for Applications Submitted on
or after July 1, 2023 but prior to July 1, 2025

C.6.a. - D.3.b.iii. ...

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement:	Stephanie Le Grange	Dept.:	Louisiana Economic Development
Phone:	225-342-5406	Office:	Office of Economic Development
Return Address:	100 North Street	Rule Title:	Motion Picture Production
	Baton Rouge, LA 70802		Tax Credit Program
		Date Rule	
		Takes Effect:	Upon promulgation

SUMMARY

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule change is not anticipated to result in any direct material effect on governmental expenditures or savings for state or local governmental units. The proposed amendments better align the rules with current statutory provisions as required by Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Session. Any administrative duties brought about by the proposed rule change will be carried out utilizing existing staff and resources at the Louisiana Economic Development (LED).

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

Because the rule revisions occur under the auspices of the statutory credit issuance and claims caps, aggregate revenue for the state is not anticipated to be materially affected. The proposed rule change updates provisions for program applicants on or after July 1, 2025. Consistent with Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Session, LED will award credits by applying discretionary factors when considering which applications to approve and the amount and percentage rate of credits. However, issuance activity continues to operate under a cap of \$125 M each fiscal year. Furthermore, film tax credit claims with the Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR) are capped at \$125 M each fiscal year.

The proposed rule will not affect local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

The proposed rules for the program are anticipated to directly benefit applicants that prioritize employment of Louisiana residents, utilization of local production infrastructure, and generation of in-state spending. These businesses will be subject to compliance requirements, but these requirements should not be significant and should be outweighed by the benefits received. Applicants that do not prioritize in-state spending may receive an indeterminable decrease in expected tax credits. Firms that are eligible for film tax credits may realize a reduction in tax liabilities to the extent they qualify for the credit.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

Companies receiving benefits under this program will gain competitively over companies that do not receive the program's benefits.

<p>Anne G. Villa</p> <hr/> <p>Signature of Agency Head or Designee</p> <p>Anne G. Villa, Deputy Secretary/CFO</p> <hr/> <p>Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee</p> <hr/> <p>Date of Signature</p>	<div style="text-align: right;"> Digitally signed by Anne G. Villa Date: 2026.01.07 15:24:23 -06'00' </div>
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Alan M. Bokleg
Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

1/8/26

Date of Signature

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed amendments better align the rules with current statutory provisions as required by Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Session.

B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

Changes to the rules are required to incorporate statutory changes from Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.

C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No.

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) _____ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) _____ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

Not applicable

D. Compliance with Act 98 of the 2025 Regular Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in either the expenditure of state funds or an economic impact involving costs to regulated entities estimated at \$200,000 or more per year or \$600,000 or more over three years?

i. _____ YES. (proceed to question D.2 on this page)

ii. _____ X NO.

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, was there a fiscal note for the enacted legislation that required this action (attach documentation)?

(c) YES, and all cost impacts were contemplated in the Fiscal Note.

(b) _____ YES, but cost impacts exceed those contemplated in the Fiscal Note.

(c) _____ NO.

Not applicable.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Major Repairs & Constr.	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0
POSITIONS (#)	0	0	0

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

The proposed rule change is not anticipated to result in any direct material effect on governmental expenditures or savings for state or local governmental units. The proposed amendments better align the rules with current statutory provisions as required by portions of Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Session. Any administrative duties brought about by the proposed rule change will be carried out utilizing existing staff and resources at Louisiana Economic Development (LED).

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28
State General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dedicated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (Specify)	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

The agency anticipates that funds currently allocated are sufficient to implement the proposed actions.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

There will be no costs or savings to local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

No sources of funding for local government will be affected.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28
State General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Self-Generated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dedicated Funds*	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

Because the rule revisions occur under the auspices of the statutory credit issuance and claims caps, aggregate revenue for the state is not anticipated to be materially affected. The proposed rule change updates provisions for program applicants on or after July 1, 2025. Consistent with Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Session, LED will award credits by applying discretionary factors when considering which applications to approve and determining the amount and percentage rate of credits. However, issuance activity continues to operate under a cap of \$125 M each fiscal year. Furthermore, film tax credit claims with the Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR) are capped at \$125 M each fiscal year.

The proposed rule will not affect local governmental units.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

The proposed rules for the program are anticipated to directly benefit applicants that prioritize employment of Louisiana residents, utilization of local production infrastructure, and generation of in-state spending. These businesses will be subject to compliance requirements, but these requirements should not be significant and should be outweighed by the benefits received.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

Applicants that do not prioritize in-state spending may receive an indeterminable decrease in expected tax credits. Firms that are eligible for film tax credits may realize a reduction in tax liabilities to the extent they qualify for the credit.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Companies receiving benefits under this program will gain competitively over companies that do not receive the program's benefits.

NOTICE OF INTENT

Louisiana Economic Development
Office of Economic Development

Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program (LAC 61:I.Chapter 61)

Louisiana Economic Development (LED), as authorized by and pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., R.S. 36:104 and Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session, hereby provide notice of their intent to promulgate rules to be used by LED in administration of the Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program.

Title 61
REVENUE AND TAXATION
Part I. Taxes Collected and Administered by the Secretary of Revenue
Chapter 61. **Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program**

Subchapter A. Program Rules for Projects with applications received on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2025

§6101. Purpose

A. The purpose of this Chapter is to implement the Motion Picture Investor Tax Credit Program as established by R.S. 47:6007.

B. This Chapter shall be administered to achieve the following:

1. to encourage development of a strong capital base within the state for the motion picture and related industries;
2. to achieve a self-supporting, independent, indigenous industry; and
3. to encourage development of state of the art motion picture production and post-production facilities:
 - a. in the short-term, to attract private investors in state-certified productions;
 - b. in the long-term, to encourage the development of a skilled state workforce trained in the film and video industry.

C. This Chapter shall apply to any person:

1. claiming a credit;
2. transferring or selling a credit; or
3. acquiring a credit under this program.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:1125.1

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:52 (January 2010), repromulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:868 (July 2019), amended LR 48:1494 (June 2022).

§6103. General Description

A. For application received on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2025, state-certified productions may

be eligible for up to a 40 percent tax credit on total qualified in-state expenditures, including resident and non-labor as follows:

1. Base Investment Credit

a. **Base Rate.** State-certified productions with a total base investment greater than \$300,000, or for Louisiana screenplay state-certified productions with a total base investment equal to or greater than \$50,000, a tax credit of 25 percent of the base investment may be allowed;

b. **Louisiana Screenplay.** State-certified productions with expenditures equal to or greater than \$50,000, but not greater than \$5,000,000, based upon a screenplay created by a Louisiana resident, may be eligible for an increased 10 percent credit of the base investment, for a total of 35 percent.

c. **Out of Zone Filming.** State-certified productions that have their production office and at least 60 percent of principal photography based and occurring outside of the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area (NOLA-MSA) may be eligible for an increased 5 percent credit of base investment, for a total of 30 percent or 40 percent total for a Louisiana screenplay shot out of the zone.

i. In NOLA-MSA zone: Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James and St. Tammany Parishes, Out-of-zone: All other parishes including St. John the Baptist Parish.

2. Additional Payroll and Visual Effects (VFX) Credits

a. **Louisiana Resident Payroll.** Compensation for services paid directly to a Louisiana resident may be eligible for an additional 15 percent credit for qualified Louisiana resident payroll only.

i. Payments made to a loan-out company are not eligible for this additional credit.

b. **VFX.** If at least 50 percent of the VFX budget is expended for services performed in Louisiana by an approved qualified entertainment company (QEC), or a minimum of \$1,000,000 in qualified expenditures are made in Louisiana, an additional 5 percent credit may be allowed on the qualified VFX spend only.

3. Tax credits shall be earned at the time expenditures are certified by LED. The maximum credit rate, including base investment increases and additional payroll credits is 40 percent of the base investment.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:1125.1., [R.S. 47:6007](#)

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:53 (January 2010), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:868 (July 2019), amended LR 48:1494 (June 2022), LR 48:1915 (July 2022) **Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR**

§6105. Definitions

A. Terms not otherwise defined in this Chapter shall have the same meaning given to them in R.S. 47:6007, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

B. In this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings provided herein, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Allocatee—an individual or entity that received an allocation of investment tax credits.

Allocator—an individual or entity that makes an allocation of investment tax credits.

Base Investment—cash or cash equivalent investment made and used for production expenditures in the state for a state-certified production.

Completion Notification—the date all required steps for certification of credits are complete, as confirmed in writing by the department.

Cost Report of Production Expenditures—a report of production expenditures formatted in accordance with

LED accounting guidelines, which may be issued with initial certification, posted on LED's website or otherwise communicated by LED to applicant in writing.

Cost Report Submission Deadline—the date detailed in the initial certification letter by which a cost report shall be submitted to LED, after which time all such claims to tax credits shall be deemed waived.

Department—Louisiana Department of Economic Development, or its successor.

Director—Director of the Office of Entertainment Industry Development (the office).

Expended in the State—

- a. an expenditure to lease immovable property located in the state;
- b. an expenditure as compensation for services performed in the state; or
- c. an expenditure to purchase or lease tangible personal property within the state where the transaction is subject to the state sales or lease tax provisions of Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950:
 - i. a transaction that is subject to the state's sales or lease tax provision of Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 shall include transactions that are also subject to statutory exclusion or exemption.

Expenditure—actual payment of cash or cash equivalent, paid by or on behalf of a state certified production exchanged for goods or services, as evidenced by an invoice, receipt or other such document.

Indirect Costs—costs of operation that are not directly associated with a state certified production, such as clerical salaries, general administrative costs and other overhead charges.

Investor—any individual or entity that makes an investment in a state-certified production including but not limited to any individual or entity that is identified as a source of funds for a state certified production on its expenditure verification report, individual or entity identified as an irrevocable designee for receipt of tax credits.

LDR—Louisiana Department of Revenue

Legacy Tax Credit Reservation—is a provisional allocation of tax credits in a given fiscal year, as evidenced by an initial certification letter issued prior to July 1, 2023, that has not expired or been released in accordance with the provisions of §6107.

Louisiana Resident—a natural person who is required to file a Louisiana resident individual income tax return.

Louisiana Screenplay—a screenplay created by a Louisiana resident, as evidenced by documents such as certificate of authorship, a WGA registration certificate, the records of the United States Copyright Office, or other documentation approved by the office.

Non-Applicable Production Expenditures—the following expenses are not eligible to earn tax credits:

- a. expenditures for marketing and distribution;
- b. non-production related overhead;
- c. amounts reimbursed by the state or any other governmental entity;
- d. costs related to the transfer of tax credits;
- e. amounts that are paid to persons or entities as a result of their participation in profits from the exploitation of the production;
- f. the application fee;
- g. state or local taxes;
- h. any other expenditure not allowed by law or regulation.
- i. expenditure verification report deposit and fees;

j. For applications received on or after July 1, 2016, bond fees, insurance premiums, finance fees and loan interest fees shall not qualify for tax credits, except for fees paid to certain Louisiana companies, in which case the expenditures to be allocated only on a pro rata basis, allocating the fees based on the relative percentage of production activity occurring in Louisiana;

k. For applications received on or after July 1, 2017, catering and craft services shall not qualify for tax credits unless such expenditures are made to a source within the state.

Office—means the Office of Entertainment Industry Development until July 1, 2025, and thereafter means the office of economic development in Louisiana Economic Development.

Payroll—all salary, wages and other compensation, including benefits paid to an employee and taxable in this state. However, payroll for purposes of the additional tax credit for Louisiana-resident payroll shall exclude any portion of an individual salary in excess of one-million dollars.

Person—there are two kinds of persons; natural and juridical.

a. A natural person is a human being.

b. A juridical person is an entity to which the law attributes personality, such as a corporation, partnership or limited liability company.

Procurement Company—any person or entity that purchases, leases or otherwise obtains goods or services from sources outside of the state, for the ultimate use, benefit or enjoyment of a state-certified production company.

Production Expenditures—reproduction, production and postproduction expenditures directly incurred in this state that are directly used in a state-certified production, whether the production company directly contracts or subcontracts such work, including without limitation the following:

a. set construction and operation;

b. wardrobes, make-up, accessories, and related services;

c. costs associated with photography and sound synchronization, lighting, and related services and materials;

d. editing and related services;

e. rental of facilities and equipment;

f. leasing of vehicles;

g. costs of food and lodging;

h. digital or tape editing, film processing, transfer of film to tape or digital format, sound mixing, special and visual effects (if services are performed in Louisiana);

i. total aggregate payroll (limited to the amount of total payroll expended in Louisiana and which is taxable to the recipient in Louisiana. A Louisiana tax return is required to be filed reflecting the amount of compensation paid while the recipient is located in Louisiana. If the recipient is not a Louisiana resident, then a non-resident income tax return should be filed);

j. music, if performed, composed or recorded by a Louisiana resident, or released or published by a Louisiana-domiciled and headquartered company;

k. payments to a loan-out or personal services corporation for the services of an out-of-state hire are allowed as long as the services are performed in Louisiana on a state certified production and all withholding requirements are met.

Program Issuance Cap—for applications submitted on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023, the office may issue no more than \$150,000,000 in tax credits (“total cap”) in any fiscal year, with \$7,500,000 reserved for qualified entertainment companies (“QEC cap”), \$7,500,000 reserved for Louisiana screenplay productions (“LA

screenplay cap”), \$15,000,000 reserved for independent film productions (“independent film cap”), with the remaining \$120,000,000 available for general allocation to any state certified production (“general cap”); for applications received on or after July 1, 2023 **but prior to July 1, 2025**, the office may issue no more than \$150,000,000 in tax credits in any fiscal year.

Released Credits—tax credits provisionally allocated to motion picture production companies in initial certification letters, which are subsequently unused, released and made available for re-allocation or issuance by the department.

Secretary—Secretary of **the Department of Louisiana** Economic Development.

Source within the State—a physical facility in Louisiana, operating with posted business hours and employing at least one full-time equivalent employee. Procurement companies that meet the requirements of La. R.S. 47:6007(B)(30) shall constitute a “source within the state”.

State-Certified Production—a production approved by the office and the secretary which is produced by a motion picture production company domiciled and headquartered in Louisiana and which has a viable multi-market commercial distribution plan.

Transferee—an individual or entity that receives a transfer of investor tax credits.

Transferor—an individual or entity that makes a transfer of an investor tax credit.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:53 (January 2010), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 43:300 (February 2017), LR 43:2102 (November 2017), repromulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:869 (July 2019), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 46:179 (February 2020), LR 48:1495 (June 2022), LR 48:1915 (July 2022), LR 49:2089 (December 2023) **Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR**

§6107. Certification Procedures

A. Application and Expenditure Verification Report Fees

1. An application for initial certification shall be submitted with an application fee of 0.5 percent of the estimated total tax credits, with a minimum fee of \$500, and a maximum fee of \$15,000, payable to the office, as required by R.S. 36:104.

a. All applications shall include information as required by R.S. 47:6007(D)(2)(a).

b. In addition, the following program specific information is required.

i. Production:

(a). working title of the production. Should the title change, the state-certified production needs to inform the office as soon as that change is made;

(b). name of the requesting production company;

(c). name, telephone number, e-mail address and attesting signature of the requesting production company's contact person;

(d). approximate beginning and ending date of production in Louisiana;

(e). Louisiana office address;

- (f). telephone number of requesting company's Louisiana office address;
- (g). estimated total production-related costs of production;
- (h). estimated total amount of production-related costs to be expended in Louisiana;
- (i). estimated total payroll to be paid by the requesting production company to Louisiana residents employed by the requesting production company in connection with the production;
- (j). a preliminary budget including the estimated Louisiana payroll and estimated in-state investment
- (k). a copy of script (including synopsis) will be made available to OEID and subsequently returned to the applicant;
- (l). list of principal creative elements such as principal cast, producer, and director; and
- (m). facts sufficient for the office and the department to determine each of the following:
 - (i). that the requesting production company is a motion picture production company as defined in R.S. 47:6007(B)(6);
 - (ii). that the requesting production company is domiciled and headquartered in Louisiana; and
 - (iii). that the requesting production company has either a viable multi market distribution plan or a signed distribution agreement with either a major theatrical exhibitor, television network or cable television programmer for distribution of the production.

c. Expenditure Verification Report Fee. The department shall directly engage and assign a CPA to prepare an expenditure verification report on an applicant's cost report of production or project expenditures. Applicants shall submit an advance deposit at the time of application, and shall later be assessed the department's actual cost based upon an hourly rate not to exceed \$250, in the amounts set forth below:

- i. for applicants with project expenditures greater than \$50,000 but less than \$300,000, an advance deposit of \$5,000, with a maximum fee of \$10,000;
- ii. for applicants with project expenditures greater than \$300,000 but less than \$25,000,000, an advance deposit of \$7,500, with a maximum fee of \$15,000;
- iii. for applicants with project expenditures greater than \$25,000,000, an advance deposit of \$15,000, with a maximum fee of \$25,000;
- iv. if CPA actual costs exceed the advance deposit, the applicant will be billed and LED will not issue any pending final certification letter until receipt of any outstanding balance. Any unused balance shall be refunded to the applicant within 60 days following receipt of CPA's final invoice and payment of all CPA costs;
- v. if at the time of application for initial certification, the department is notified that post-production activities will take place in Louisiana, and subsequently such activities are performed in Louisiana, a supplemental request for certification of expenditures directly relating to such post-production activity may be submitted. An advance deposit fee of \$7,500 shall be due at time of request for a supplemental verification report, and applicant will again be liable for the actual costs subject to the conditions set forth above.

2. All applicants shall participate in a career based learning and training program approved by the office. To meet this requirement, at the time of application, applicants may choose a method of participation from the list below:

- a. provide a minimum of 3 paid internship positions provided to students enrolled in an accredited high school, community college, university or qualified community based program, for a minimum of 75 hours per student and a total of 225 hours; or
- b. a minimum of 8 hours of classroom workshop provided to students enrolled in an accredited high school, community college, university or qualified community based program; or

- c. a minimum of 8 hours of studio employment and professional skills tour provided to students enrolled in high school, community college, university or qualified community based program; or
- d. a minimum of 8 hours of continuing education for educators or faculty to observe the set operations, post production and other specialized departments;
- e. financial contribution or donation to a specific local educational agency or higher education institution specializing in arts, media and entertainment career oriented program. Financial contributions calculated at 0.25 percent of the estimated tax credit reservation; or
- f. other method of participation approved by the office.

3. An application is not deemed to be complete until all information requested and required fees are received by LED. Required fees include both an application fee and an expenditure verification deposit fee.

B. Qualification. The office and the secretary shall determine whether a production qualifies for certification, by meeting all requirements of R.S. 47:6007 and these regulations, and taking the following factors into consideration:

- 1. the impact of the production on the immediate and long-term objectives of R.S. 47:6007;
- 2. the impact of the production on the employment of Louisiana residents;
- 3. the impact of the production on the overall economy of the state.

C. Initial Certification

1. Application Review Process and Reservation of Tax Credits

a. Project-Based Production Tax Credit—For Applications Submitted prior to July 1, 2017

i. After review and upon a determination of qualification, the office and the secretary shall issue an initial certification letter indicating the amount of tax credits certified for the state certified production, or a written denial.

b. Project-Based Production Tax Credit—for Applications submitted on or after July 1, 2017 but prior to July 1, 2023:

i. Beginning July 1, 2017 and thereafter, the office will accept and review applications on a monthly basis. All applications received by the 15th of the month will be treated as received on the last business day of the month (“monthly initial certification pool”) and processed accordingly.

ii. After review and upon determination of qualification, the office and the secretary shall issue an initial certification letter, or a written denial. The initial certification letter will provisionally allocate tax credits based upon expected the cost report submission date and availability of tax credits in any given year.

c. Project-Based Production Tax Credit—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 **but prior to July 1, 2025**

i. Beginning July 1, 2023 and thereafter, the office will accept and review applications on a monthly basis. All applications received by the 15th of the month will be treated as received on the last business day of the month (“monthly initial certification pool”) and processed accordingly.

ii. After review and upon determination of qualification, the office and the secretary shall issue an initial certification letter, or a written denial.

2. Additional information may be requested by the office or the department in order to make a determination of eligibility for the program.

3. Cap Management—Phase 1—Initial Certification—Tentative Reservation—for applications received on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023

a. The reservation of tax credits shall be administered on a first come, first serve basis, until any of the caps have been met:

- i. QEC;
- ii. LA screenplay;
- iii. independent film;
- iv. general; or
- iv. total cap.

b. Qualifying LA screenplay or independent film projects shall be allocated credits first from the available LA screenplay or independent film caps. On the day that the LA screenplay or independent film caps are met, credits shall be reserved from any remaining general cap.

c. If the LA screenplay and independent film caps have not been met by April 30 of any year, any residual amount of unreserved credits may be available for general allocation by the office, in addition to any residual general cap.

d. If the QEC cap is not met in any fiscal year, any residual unreserved credits shall carry forward for use by QEC's in subsequent years.

e. On the day that the total or general cap is reached, the credits remaining for allocation shall be reserved on a prorated basis amongst the monthly initial certification submission pool.

f. If the total amount of credits applied for in any particular year exceeds the total or general cap for that year, the excess shall be treated as having been applied for on the first day of the subsequent year.

4. Duration of Effect—for Applications Submitted prior to July 1, 2017

a. Once an initial certificate is issued by the office, the department (and the division where appropriate), the applicant or official representative must countersign and return an original to the office, within 30 business days, acknowledging initial certification status.

b. For productions, initial certification shall be effective for a period 12 months prior to and 12 months after the date of initial certification, unless the production has commenced, in which case the initial certification shall be valid until the production is completed.

5. Duration of Effect—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023

a. Once an initial certification letter is issued, the applicant or official representative must countersign and return an original to the office, within 30 business days, acknowledging initial certification status and the reporting requirement for start date of principal photography.

b. The initial certification letter shall be effective for qualifying expenditures made within a period of twelve months prior to the date of application and twenty-four months after the date of initial certification letter, except that:

i. state certified productions for scripted episodic content ("SEC's"), with estimated expenditures of at least \$10,000,000 in state expenditures per calendar year, shall be issued an initial certification letter effective for qualifying expenditures made until 60 months after the date of initial certification, under terms and conditions approved by the office and the secretary, as set forth in the initial certification letter.

ii. when determining the amount and appropriate allocation and reservation of credits for SEC's, the office shall review all pertinent information, including but not limited to; whether the project is a pilot, TV series from a pilot formerly shot in Louisiana, a recurring TV series or a relocating TV series.

iii. unless otherwise approved by the office and the secretary, SEC tax credits will be allocated from the general cap, and initially reserved for two seasons. SEC applicants shall periodically provide updates to the office, and the initial certification letter may be subsequently revised to allow for additional allocations and reservations

of credits for seasons three through five, if applicable.

c. Released Credits. Tax credits provisionally allocated to motion picture production companies in initial certification letters, which are subsequently unused by their original holders, may be released and made available for re-allocation or issuance by the department. Any release of credits shall be in writing and where possible, may be agreed to between the department and the motion picture production company, except that:

i. the department reserves the right to release credits for effective administration of the annual program issuance cap, by releasing provisionally allocated credits on May 1 of any given fiscal year, for productions with a reservation in that fiscal year but lacking a supporting expenditure verification report on file with the department. After consideration of all relevant factors, the department may issue a revised initial certification letter provisionally allocating credits in the next available fiscal year, and/or, where appropriate, directly issue tax credits in a final certification letter from released credits, according to the provisions of Paragraph D.4 of this Section.

6. Duration of Effect—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 **but prior to July 1, 2025**

a. Once an initial certification letter is issued, the applicant or official representative must countersign and return an electronic copy to the office via Fastlane, within 30 business days, acknowledging initial certification status.

b. The initial certification letter shall be effective for qualifying expenditures made within a period of twelve months prior to the date of application and twenty-four months after the date of initial certification letter, except that:

i. state certified productions for scripted episodic content (“SEC’s”), with estimated expenditures of at least \$10,000,000 in state expenditures per calendar year, shall be issued an initial certification letter effective for qualifying expenditures made until 60 months after the date of initial certification, under terms and conditions approved by the office and the secretary, as set forth in the initial certification letter.

D. Final Certification; Audit Requirements

1. Prior to any final certification of credits, the motion picture production company applicant shall submit to the office a notarized statement demonstrating conformity with and agreeing to the following:

a. to pay all undisputed legal obligations incurred in the state;

b. to publish upon completion of principal photography a notice at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in local newspapers in regions where filming has taken place, notifying creditors to file any claims within a specific date;

c. that the outstanding obligations are not waived should a creditor fail to file by the specific date;

d. to delay any claims for credits until the office delivers written notice to the secretary of the Department of Revenue that the production company has fulfilled all requirements for the credit.

2. When requesting final certification of credits, the motion picture production company applicant shall submit to the office the following:

a. a cost report uploaded via Fast Lane, which shall be audited by a state licensed, independent certified public accountant assigned by the office and complying with the minimum standards as required by R.S. 47:6007(D)(2)(d). The cost report may be subject to additional audit by the department or the Department of Revenue, at the applicant’s expense.

i. **Incorrect Reporting.** If an applicant submits a cost report required by the provisions of this Chapter and the report made and filed contains material misstatements, including but not limited to misrepresentation in or intentional omission from the cost report of events, transactions, or other significant information there may be cause for an additional audit.

ii. **Related Party Transactions.** If an audit contains related party transactions in excess of 20 percent of the

total expenditures reported in the submitted audit there may be cause for an additional audit.

iii. Reimbursement of Audit Costs. The department may undertake additional audit at the applicant's expense, to be performed by a state certified public accountant also certified in financial forensics or also certified as a fraud examiner. Audit fees will be assessed at the department's contracted fee;

b. a detailed general ledger in an excel spreadsheet format to be uploaded via Fast Lane, or as otherwise approved by LED. Confidential taxpayer information is to be redacted, with only the last four digits to be included on any social security numbers or financial account numbers.

c. additional information as may be requested.

3. Final Allocation and Issuance of Tax Credits

a. Project-Based Production Credit - for Applications Submitted prior to July 1, 2017

i. After review and upon a determination of qualification, the office and the secretary shall issue a final certification letter indicating the amount of tax credits certified for the state certified production, or a written denial.

b. Project-Based Production Tax Credit—for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023.

i. After review and determination of qualification, the office and the secretary shall issue a final certification letter, in accordance with the provisional allocations and amounts set forth in the initial certification letter, or a written denial.

ii. In the event that less than the reserved amount of tax credits has been verified, any unused credits will be released and may be available for issuance by the office.

iii. In the event that more than the reserved amount of tax credits has been verified, the office shall preliminarily issue tax credits in an amount not to exceed the total indicated in the initial certification letter, but may at its discretion, issue any excess credits in the same final certification letter or subsequently issue a supplemental tax credit for any excess expenditures, subject to availability of credits in any given fiscal year.

c. Project-Based Production Credit- for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2023 **but prior to July 1, 2025**

i. The issuance of tax credits shall be administered on a first come, first serve basis until the program issuance cap has been met, except that legacy credit reservations shall have priority over other final certification requests received by LED on or after the date of the legacy credit reservation final certification request.

ii. After review and upon a determination of qualification, the office and the secretary shall issue a final certification letter indicating the amount of tax credits certified for the state certified production, or a written denial.

4. Cap Management—Phase 2—Final Certification –Tax Credit Issuance for Applications Submitted on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023.

a. The issuance of tax credits shall be administered on a first come, first serve basis, until any of the caps have been met; QEC, LA screenplay, independent film, general or total cap.

b. Qualifying LA screenplay or independent film projects shall be issued credits first from the available LA screenplay or independent film caps. On the day that the LA screenplay or independent film caps are met, credits shall be issued from any remaining general cap.

c. If the LA screenplay and independent film caps have not been met by April 30 of any year, any residual amount of credits may be available for issuance by the office, in addition to any residual general cap.

d. If the QEC cap is not met in any fiscal year, any residual credits shall carry forward for use in subsequent years and may be granted in addition to the QEC cap for each year.

e. If the total amount of credits applied for in any particular year exceeds the total or general cap for

that year, the excess shall be treated as having been applied for on the first day of the subsequent year.

f. Use of released credits. Released credits shall be available for re-allocation or issuance by the department as follows.

i. Credits released throughout the year shall be made available periodically at the discretion of the department as released credits accumulate, for re-allocation or issuance to qualifying applicants on a first come first served basis, as determined by the completion notification date.

(a). However, any applicants who have received completion notifications on the same business day shall be treated as received at the same time.

(b). For purposes of this Section, a completion notification shall be issued in writing and only upon confirmation by the department that a motion picture production company has completed all required steps for certification of credits, including but not limited to submission of an expenditure verification report and all necessary support documentation, and payment in full of any CPA fees.

ii. To qualify for issuance of credits from the released credits, motion picture production companies shall lack a tax credit reservation, or the necessary amount of tax credit reservation, for issuance of final certification in the requested fiscal year.

iii. If the total amount of released credits available for re-issuance meets or exceeds the amount of requested credits, the department shall make payment in full to all qualifying applicants.

iv. If the total amount of released credits available for re-issuance is less than the total amount of requested credits, the department shall issue credits ~~in full~~ to all qualified applicants on a first come, first served basis, as determined by the completion notification date, ~~except that legacy credit projects with tax credit reservations that have expired or been released in accordance with the provisions of §6107 (“late requests”), shall receive priority funding over legacy credit projects seeking tax credits in an earlier fiscal year than their reservation (“early requests”)). Any requests that cannot be paid in full will remain eligible for payment at a later date, on-a first come, first served basis, as determined by the completion notification date,~~ subject to availability of released credits. ~~Partial payments will not be made.~~

E. Appeal Process. In the event that an application for initial or final certification is denied:

1. the office shall promptly provide written notice of such denial to the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs and the House Committee on Ways and Means;

2. the applicant may appeal as follows:

a. an applicant may appeal within 30 days from receipt of a denial. Receipt will be conclusively presumed from the sending of the denial by electronic mail to an address provided by the applicant or by a return receipt evidencing delivery by U.S. Postal Service or private carrier;

b. the appeal is made by delivery of a written objection, with supporting documentation to the secretary and also in the case of infrastructure projects to the commissioner;

c. within 30 days of receipt of a timely appeal, the secretary (or his designee) and the commissioner, where applicable, will review the appeal, and issue a joint written determination. The secretary and the commissioner may extend the time for the determination for an additional 30 days. In the event the secretary and the commissioner do not agree, or fail to issue a determination within the required time, the appeal is deemed denied;

d. the written determination shall be the final agency decision of the department;

e. the applicant may appeal an adverse decision to the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, which shall be limited to a review of the administrative record.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007 and R.S. 36:104.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:55 (January 2010), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of the Secretary, Office of Business Development and the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, LR 37:514 (February 2011), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 42:39 (January 2016), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 43:2102 (November 2017), repromulgated LR 43:2473 (December 2017), repromulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:871 (July 2019), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 46:179 (February 2020), LR 48:1496 (June 2022), LR 48:1916 (July 2022), LR 49:2089 (December 2023). **Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR**

§6109. Additional Program Provisions

A. The following additional provisions shall apply to applications received on or after July 1, **2017 but prior to July 1, 2025**:

1. LED ~~total~~ program issuance cap. ~~The aggregate dollar amount of tax credits issued for all state certified productions shall not exceed \$150,000,000 per fiscal year;~~

a. For applications for state-certified productions and qualified entertainment companies submitted on or after July 1, 2017, but prior to July 1, 2023, the total amount of all tax credits granted in a final certification letter by the department in any fiscal year shall not exceed one hundred fifty million dollars. Twenty percent of the annual program cap shall be reserved as follows: five percent for qualified entertainment companies, five percent for Louisiana screenplay productions, and ten percent for independent film productions. If the total amount of credits applied for in any particular year exceeds the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed for that year, the excess shall be treated as having been applied for on the first day of the subsequent year.

b. For applications for state-certified productions and qualified entertainment companies submitted on or after July 1, 2023, but prior to July 1, 2025, the total amount of all tax credits granted in a final certification letter by the department in any fiscal year shall not exceed one hundred fifty million dollars. If the total amount of credits applied for in any particular year exceeds the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed for that year, the excess shall be treated as having been applied for on the first day of the subsequent year.

2. LDR taxpayer claims cap. Tax credit claims and transfers to the state (“buy-back”) shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$180,000,000 per fiscal year;

3-2. LED individual project issuance cap. The maximum amount of credits certified by LED for a single state-certified production shall be \$20,000,000, which may be structured over two or more years in the initial certification letter;

a. Except for state-certified productions for scripted episodic content that may be granted up to \$25,000,000 in credits per season.

4-3. LED individual salary cap. The maximum amount of qualifying payroll expenditures per individual shall be \$3,000,000. Payroll payments in excess of \$3,000,000 made directly or indirectly to an individual or loan-out shall be excluded.

B. LDR taxpayer claims cap.

a. Beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2025, tax credit claims and transfers to the Department of Revenue (“state buy-back”) shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$180,000,000 each fiscal year.

b. Beginning July 1, 2025, tax credit claims and transfers to the Department of Revenue (“state buy-back”) shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$125,000,000 each fiscal year.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:1125.1., **47:6007**

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:56 (January 2010),

repromulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:874 (July 2019), amended LR 48:1496 (June 2022) Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR

§6111. Delinquent tax filing clearance requirement

A. No motion picture production tax credit may be earned, certified, issued to, transferred by, or used to reduce a Louisiana tax liability if there exists a delinquent federal, state or local tax obligation.

B. Compliance with this requirement shall now be certified by the motion picture production company, irrevocable designee, taxpayer, or claimant before any credit may be certified, transferred, or sold.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 49:2090 (December 2023)

§6113. Application of the Tax Credit

~~A. Prior to claiming a tax credit on any tax return, or transferring any tax credit, a person must apply for and obtain a final certification. The investor tax credit may be earned, transferred, allocated, and claimed as follows.~~

~~1. Earn. Individuals or entities may earn investor tax credits pursuant to R.S. 47:6007(C)(1).~~

~~a. Once tax credits are earned by an individual or entity, such individual or entity and any subsequent transferee, may transfer or allocate the investor tax credits.~~

~~2. Transfer. Any motion picture investor tax credits not previously claimed by any taxpayer against its income tax may be transferred or sold to another Louisiana taxpayer or to the office, pursuant to R.S. 47:6007(C)(4).~~

~~a. A single transfer or sale may involve one or more transferees. Transferors and transferees shall submit to the Office and to the Department of Revenue in writing, a notification of any transfer or sale of tax credits within thirty days after the transfer or sale of such credits and shall include a processing fee of two hundred dollars per transferee.~~

~~b. If the investor tax credits (evidenced by a certification letter) are transferred to the office:~~

~~i. on and after January 1, 2007, and prior to December 31, 2008 the state shall make payment to the investor at a value of 72 percent of the face value of the credits;~~

~~ii. on January 1, 2009, and every second year thereafter, the percent of the value of the tax credits paid by the state shall increase 2 percent until the percentage reaches 80 percent;~~

~~iii. for state certified productions which receive initial certification on or after July 1, 2009, the state shall make payment to the investor at a value of 85 percent of the face value of the credits.~~

~~3. Allocate. If the investor tax credits are earned by, or allocated or transferred to, an entity not taxed as a corporation, the entity may allocate the credit by issuing ownership interests to any individuals or other entities on such terms that are agreed to by the relevant parties and in accordance with the terms of the allocating entity's operating agreement or partnership agreement. These terms may result in the allocation of up to 100 percent of the investor tax credits to any individual or entity regardless of the federal tax treatment of the allocation:~~

~~a. the allocating entity:~~

~~i. may be treated as a partnership for federal or state tax purposes; or~~

~~ii. may be treated as an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owners for federal or state tax purposes, and in which case, each holder may agree that it will not treat the allocating entity as~~

~~a partnership or itself as a partner or the ownership interest in the allocating entity as a partnership interest for federal tax or state tax purposes.~~

~~4. Claim. Tax credits may be claimed as follows:~~

~~a. an owner of tax credits may apply the credits to offset an outstanding Louisiana income tax liability for any tax year beginning in the year that the investor initially earned the tax credit or in any year thereafter within the 10 year carry forward period;~~

~~b. in the case of tax credits owned (held) by an entity not taxed as a corporation, the credits shall be deemed to flow through or be allocated to partners or members at the end of the tax year in which the entity acquired the credits unless the partnership or membership agreement provides otherwise;~~

~~c. any individual or entity shall be allowed to claim the investor tax credit against its Louisiana income tax liability:~~

~~i. whether or not any such individual is a Louisiana resident; and~~

~~ii. whether or not any such entity is domiciled in Louisiana, organized under Louisiana law, or headquartered in Louisiana;~~

~~d. an investor tax credit, in the hands of the taxpayer that earned the credit or received it by flow-through, cannot be used to eliminate any penalties and interest on overdue income taxes from prior tax years:~~

~~i. however, an investor tax credit that is purchased is treated as property and can be applied to penalties and interest on overdue income taxes from prior tax years pursuant to R.S. 47:1675(H)(1)(c):~~

~~(a). penalties and interest will continue to accrue until the taxes on which such penalties and interest are accruing are paid;~~

~~(b). the date of payment is the date that the Louisiana Department of Revenue receives a return from a taxpayer on which the investor tax credits are claimed.~~

~~B. If the investor tax credits (evidenced by a tax credit certification letter) are transferred or allocated as provided herein.~~

~~1. The transferor shall submit to the office the original certificate of ownership, evidencing the investor tax credits being transferred or allocated, as required by R.S. 47:6007(C)(5).~~

~~2. After receipt, the office may issue to each transferee or allocatee, a certificate of ownership signed by the director reflecting:~~

~~a. such transferee's or allocatee's name;~~

~~b. the dollar amount of investor tax credits transferred or allocated;~~

~~c. the calendar year in which the investor tax credits were originally earned;~~

~~d. the state certified infrastructure project or the state certified production with respect to which such investor earned the investor tax credits; and~~

~~e. the identifying number assigned to such state certified infrastructure project or state certified production.~~

~~3. If the certificate of ownership submitted evidences more investor tax credits than actually transferred or allocated, then the office may issue an additional certificate of ownership, reflecting any remaining investor tax credit balance.~~

~~4. Any person or entity engaged in the business of buying and reselling tax credits may elect to maintain its certificate of ownership on file with the office, such that it need not surrender, and have reissued, its certificate of ownership each time it sells a tax credit.~~

~~a. In such cases, the office may issue comporting certificates of ownership to transferees or allocates, designated by the transferor or allocator in writing, until such time as the tax credits represented in the original certificate have been exhausted.~~

~~5. Any taxpayer claiming investor tax credits against its Louisiana income tax liability shall submit to the Department of Revenue, with its Louisiana income tax return for the year in which the taxpayer is claiming the investor tax credits, an original certificate of ownership issued by the office or the transfer notice pursuant to this rule, evidencing the dollar amount of the investor tax credits being claimed.~~

~~6. The failure of the office to timely issue a certificate of ownership in accordance with this rule shall not:~~

~~a. void or otherwise affect, in any way, the legality or validity of any transfer of investor tax credits;~~

~~b. prohibit any Louisiana taxpayer from claiming investor tax credits against its Louisiana income tax liability, if the investor tax credits are otherwise transferred or claimed in accordance with R.S. 47:6007 and these rules; or~~

~~c. result in any recapture, forfeiture or other disallowance of investor tax credits under R.S. 47:6007(E) or (F) or otherwise.~~

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development and the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, LR 36:57 (January 2010), amended by the Department of Economic Development, Office of the Secretary, Office of Business Development, and the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, LR 37:515 (February 2011), re promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:876 (July 2019), [Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR](#)

§6115. Transfer fee allocation and the Entertainment Development Fund

A. For applications received on or after July 1, 2017, as a general rule, motion picture production tax credits may not be transferred or sold to another taxpayer;

1. except that, the motion picture production company that earned the tax credits, or the company's irrevocable designee, may transfer the credits to LDR for 90 percent of the face value of the credits;

2. the transfer notification submitted to LDR shall include a fee of two percent of the tax credit transfer value, which shall be deposited upon receipt in the state treasury and thereafter credited to the Louisiana Entertainment Development Fund.

B. Money in the Louisiana Entertainment Development Fund ("EDF") shall be appropriated as follows:

1. 25 percent to LDR for administrative purposes; and

2. 75 percent to LED for motion picture and television education development initiatives, matching grants for Louisiana filmmakers, Louisiana workforce development programs, and other motion picture production and television related programs.

C. Administration of the EDF fund by LED shall be as follows.

1. Applications shall be accepted on a year round basis, subject to availability of funding in any given year, and shall be administered by LED in accordance with program rules, LAC 61: I, Chapter 21.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 49:2090 (December 2023)

§6119. Louisiana Promotional Graphic

A. For applications for state-certified productions received on or after July 1, 2017 and prior to July 1, 2023 at time of request for final certification, state certified productions shall be required to acknowledge the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana either through the inclusion of a Louisiana promotional graphic meeting requirements set forth below, or an alternative marketing opportunity that has been approved in writing by LED.

1. Approved Louisiana promotional graphic requirements:

a. a five-second long static or animated graphical brand or logo promoting Louisiana, that has been approved in writing by LED;

b. for feature films, or other production types with a customary end credit crawl, the approved logo is to be placed in the end credits, before the below-the line crawl for the life of the production;

i. LED shall deem "life of the production" to mean that the approved logo is permanently embedded within the subject of the state certified production; and

c. the production company includes an approved Louisiana promotional link or prominent credit to Louisiana on its own website, or that of an approved affiliated company.

2.a. Alternative marketing opportunities shall be proposed to LED at the time of application for initial certification, setting forth the details and estimated value of the proposed opportunity or justification of value taking into consideration the additional five percent credit being sought. LED shall either approve or deny such options in writing at time of initial certification.

b. Acceptable examples of alternative marketing opportunities may include, but not be limited to a combination of the following:

i. a produced in Louisiana card featuring an approved version of the logo during the opening credits of a feature film;

ii. an approved promotional featurette highlighting Louisiana as a tourist destination included on the DVD release of the production;

iii. an approved version of the logo placed in the opening title sequence or as a bumper into or out of commercial breaks for Television productions;

iv. significant community service projects in Louisiana;

v. red carpet screening event in Louisiana;

vi. sponsorship of a film festival or other approved event in Louisiana;

vii. an official advertising poster for the state- certified production and a still frame from the production, or, at the discretion of LED, a significant set piece, prop, or costume from the production may be donated on the condition that they may be used for unlimited marketing purposes by the state;

viii. access to a standard or electronic press kit, clip from the motion picture or special interview with the principals involved in the production (actors, directors, producers, etc) promoting Louisiana as a business destination for unlimited use for marketing purposes by LED;

ix. other alternatives as proposed by production companies and approved by LED.

3. A donation to a Louisiana nonprofit film grant program, as approved by LED.

B. For applications for state-certified productions received on or after July 1, 2023 **but prior to July 1, 2025** at time of request for final certification, state certified productions shall be required to acknowledge the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana as follows:

1. Logo. Shall include up to a five second long static or animated graphic in the end credits before the below-the line crawl for the life of the production, during each broadcast worldwide if applicable; and

2. Promotional piece. Shall provide LED with an electronic press kit, customized video, or alternative asset,

as may be agreed to by LED, for promotional use by LED.

3. Except that commercials, music videos, or other state-certified productions that are prohibited by federal law or contractual requirements from utilizing the promotional Louisiana graphic may use an alternative marketing option as approved by LED.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, Office of Entertainment Industry Development, LR 42:1656 (October 2016), repromulgated by the Department of Economic Development, Office of Business Development, LR 45:878 (July 2019), LR 48:1497 (June 2022), amended LR 48:1917 (July 2022), LR 49:2091 (December 2023), **Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR**

Subchapter B. Program Rules for Projects with applications received on or after July 1, 2025

§6121. Purpose

A. The purpose of this Sub-Chapter is to implement the Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program, in accordance with R.S. 47:6007, as amended by Act 44 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.

B. This Sub-Chapter shall be administered to achieve the following purposes:

1. To support the state's commitment to the motion picture production industry; and
2. To support industry sectors and goals identified in Louisiana Economic Development's strategic plan, as may be amended from time to time.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6123. General Description

A. For applications for state-certified productions or Qualified Entertainment Companies approved by the office on or after July 1, 2025, there is hereby authorized a tax credit of *up to* 40% for approved projects.

B. The program provisions outlined in Subchapter A shall apply to projects with applications received on or after July 1, 2025, but before the effective date of the provisions outlined in this Subchapter B, except that:

1. the total amount of all tax credits granted in a final certification letter by Louisiana Economic Development in any fiscal year shall not exceed \$125,000,000;

2. beginning July 1, 2025, tax credit claims and transfers to the Department of Revenue ("state buy-back") shall be limited to an aggregate total of \$125,000,000 each fiscal year; and

3. in exceptional circumstances, for good cause shown, LED may enter into long term agreements that support motion picture production industry initiatives determined by the secretary to be in the best interest of the state.

C. The program provisions outlined in this Subchapter B shall apply to projects with applications received after their effective date, which is contingent upon final rule promulgation and approval of the rules by the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal

Affairs.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6125. Definitions.

A. Terms not otherwise defined in this Chapter shall have the same meaning given to them in R.S. 47:6007, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

B. In this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings provided herein, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Base Investment—cash or cash equivalent investment made and used for production expenditures in the state for a state-certified production.

Cost Report of Production Expenditures—a report of production expenditures formatted in accordance with LED accounting guidelines, which may be issued with initial certification, posted on LED's website or otherwise communicated by LED to applicant in writing.

Expenditure—actual payment of cash or cash equivalent, paid by or on behalf of a state certified production exchanged for goods or services, as evidenced by an invoice, receipt or other such document.

LDR—Louisiana Department of Revenue

LED—Louisiana Economic Development

Office—the office of economic development in Louisiana Economic Development.

Procurement Company—any person or entity that purchases, leases or otherwise obtains goods or services from sources outside of the state, for the ultimate use, benefit or enjoyment of a state-certified production company.

Resident or resident of Louisiana—a natural person who is required to file a Louisiana resident individual income tax return.

Secretary—Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development.

State-Certified Production—a production approved by the office which is produced by a motion picture production company domiciled and headquartered in Louisiana and which has a viable multi-market commercial distribution plan.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6127. General Principles

A. The following general principles will direct the administration of the program.

1. Awards are not be considered as an entitlement for companies, and the secretary has the final authority to determine whether or not each particular applicant is eligible and meets the criteria of the program, and in all such circumstances, the exercise of that discretion shall be deemed to be a final determination of the applicant's program status.

2. Applications shall be accepted on a year round basis, subject to availability of funding in any given year, or as otherwise determined by LED.
3. As a general rule applicants may apply for more than one statutory benefit program administered by LED, provided that:
 - a. Separate applications are submitted per program; and
 - b. Program applicants do not receive a double benefit on the same expenditure or job.
4. Except that notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a company seeking the benefits of this program shall not also receive rebates provided for under the Quality Jobs Program as provided for in R.S. 51:2451 through 2461.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6129. General Program Description

- A. For applications received on or after July 1, 2025, state certified productions with a base investment equal to or greater than \$150,000 may be eligible for a tax credit, in a varying percentage amount *up to* 40 percent.
- B. At the invitation of the secretary, Qualified Entertainment Companies may be eligible for an award of tax credits, on terms and conditions as negotiated and approved by the secretary.
- C. Applicants shall be required to acknowledge the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana through the inclusion of a Louisiana promotional graphic, in a form, manner and placement as approved by LED.
- D. To ensure fair and transparent use of tax credits allocated for this program, sole proprietorships shall be considered ineligible for QEC program participation, and small companies seeking to hire individuals closely connected to the business owner may be subject to heightened scrutiny.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6131. Application Procedure

- A. Applications may be filed through LED's online Fastlane portal, or as otherwise directed by LED.
- B. The application shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:
 1. For film productions:
 - a. working title of the production. Should the title change, the state-certified production needs to inform the office as soon as that change is made;
 - b. name of the requesting production company;
 - c. name, telephone number, e-mail address and attesting signature of the requesting production company's contact person;
 - d. approximate beginning and ending date of production in Louisiana;
 - e. Louisiana office address;
 - f. telephone number of requesting company's Louisiana office address;

- g. estimated total production-related costs of production;
- h. estimated total amount of production-related costs to be expended in Louisiana;
- i. estimated total payroll to be paid by the requesting production company to Louisiana residents employed by the requesting production company in connection with the production;
- j. a preliminary budget including the estimated Louisiana payroll and estimated in-state investment
- k. a copy of script (including synopsis) will be made available to LED;
- l. list of principal creative elements such as principal cast, producer, and director; and
- m. facts sufficient for the office to determine that the requesting production company:
 - (i) is a motion picture production company as defined in R.S. 47:6007(B)(6);
 - (ii) is domiciled and headquartered in Louisiana; and
 - (iii) has either a viable multi market distribution plan or a signed distribution agreement with either a major theatrical exhibitor, television network or cable television programmer for distribution of the production.

2. For QEC's, at the invitation of the secretary:

- a. Business name;
- b. Contact person and their title;
- c. Business physical address;
- d. Business phone number and email address;
- e. Brief description of the nature of the business;
- f. Number of existing employees;
- g. Number of proposed new jobs;
- h. Secretary of State registration;
- i. Letter of project support from the applicable regional economic development organization.

C. A non-refundable application fee shall be submitted with the application in accordance with R.S. 36:104.

D. A refundable expenditure verification report deposit shall also be submitted with the application, in accordance with R.S. 36:104.1.

1. The expenditure verification report deposit fee may be waived or reduced at the discretion of the secretary for good cause shown. In which case, the applicant will remain liable for payment in full of the actual cost of accounting services, with payment to be made in full at a later date.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6133. Selection Criteria

A. It is the intent of the Louisiana Legislature that the benefits provided in this program should be used primarily to support the state's commitment to the motion picture production industry.

B. LED shall consider various discretionary factors when determining which applications will be approved, and at what applicable credit percentage. Among the factors which may be taken into consideration are the following:

1. Use of Louisiana soundstages;
2. The extent and duration of in-state production activity;
3. Employment of Louisiana resident in key creative roles;
4. Prominent placement of a Louisiana logo, with placement and logo details as approved by LED;
5. Workforce development, career training, or educational initiatives;
6. Product placement of Louisiana based products;
7. Other marketing opportunities as negotiated and agreed to by LED;
8. Disbursing of funding statewide;
9. Availability of funding; and
10. Best interests of the state.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6135. LED Action –Approval, Denial and Appeal Provisions

A. In the event LED determines that an applicant is eligible, funding is available and approval would be appropriate, the estimated total tax credit amount, the credit percentage and any applicable terms and conditions will be issued by LED as follows:

1. An approved state certified film production will be issued an initial certification letter.
2. An approved Qualified Entertainment Company (QEC) will be issued a contract.

B. In the event an application is denied, in whole or part, LED shall issue a written denial, specifying the basis for denial.

C. Appeal Process. In the event that a request for initial or final certification or a request for tax credits is denied:

1. LED shall promptly provide written notice of such denial to the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs and the House Committee on Ways and Means;
2. The applicant may appeal as follows:
 - a. an applicant may appeal within 30 days from receipt of a denial. Receipt will be conclusively presumed from the sending of the denial by electronic mail to an address provided by the applicant or by a return receipt evidencing delivery by U.S. Postal Service or private carrier;
 - b. the appeal is made by delivery of a written objection, with supporting documentation to the secretary;
 - c. within 30 days of receipt of a timely appeal, the secretary (or their designee) will review the appeal, and issue a written determination. The secretary may extend the time for the determination for an additional 30 days. In the event the secretary fails to issue a determination within the required time, the appeal is deemed denied;
 - d. the written determination shall be the final agency decision of LED;

e. the applicant may appeal an adverse decision to the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, which shall be limited to a review of the administrative record.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6137. Production expenditures

A. Eligible expenditures are limited to the costs directly and immediately related to the physical production of the motion picture within the state, as verified by a Louisiana CPA and documented in an expenditure verification report.

B. Unless otherwise approved by the Secretary, the following categories of expenditures shall be deemed ineligible for inclusion in calculating the base investment eligible for tax credits:

1. Expenditures for marketing and distribution;
2. Non-production related overhead;
3. Related party transactions;
4. Insurance premiums and any associated administrative or processing costs;
5. Payments made to procurement companies or similar intermediary entities;
6. Airfare;
7. Finance fees;
8. Real estate purchases;
9. Payments made to parties that share in profit participation;
10. State and local taxes;
11. Fees submitted in connection with participation in the program;

C. Nothing in this section shall preclude the secretary from issuing additional guidance or interpretations with respect to eligible or ineligible production expenditures or applying further criteria as may be appropriate for compliance and oversight.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6139. Request for tax credits

A. An approved state certified production with an executed initial certification letter, or a Qualified Entertainment Company with an executed contract shall make a request for reimbursement as follows:

1. Company shall notify LED that they are ready to proceed and make a cost report of expenses available for inspection by the independent certified accountant assigned by LED, and submit any additional information as may be requested, including but not limited to evidence of public acknowledgement for the financial assistance of the state of Louisiana.

2. For state certified productions, requests shall be submitted no later than six months after the expiration of the approved initial certification period, as set forth in the initial certification letter, or as otherwise approved by the secretary;

3. For Qualified Entertainment Companies, requests may be submitted after at least twelve months of qualifying payroll activity, but no later than six months after the expiration of the contract term, in accordance with the contract terms and conditions.

4. Upon completion, independent CPA shall submit the expenditure verification report to LED and the applicant, and a final invoice for accounting services rendered.

5. Company shall be refunded any amount in excess of its advance deposit or notified of any final amount due for accounting services.

6. After Company payment of any outstanding fees, LED shall review the expenditure verification report and any other applicable support documentation, and upon a determination of qualification, LED shall issue tax credits to the Company in the form of a Final Tax Credit Certification Letter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6141. Irrevocable Designee: Non-transferable; Exception for transfer to LDR

A. State certified productions may elect to name a bank or other lender as an irrevocable designee, in the initial certification letter or other document approved by LED and submitted to LED prior to tax credit issuance. The potential irrevocable designee must be listed as a source of funding in the expenditure verification report.

B. LED shall issue tax credits to only one named taxpayer, the approved state certified production company, the approved Qualified Entertainment Company, or its singular approved irrevocable designee on file with LED at the time of tax credit issuance.

1. Any revision, reissuance or exception request to be submitted in writing.

2. LED's determination granting or denying the request shall be issued in writing.

C. Motion picture tax credits may not be transferred or sold to another taxpayer, except as provided for in Subparagraph D of this Section.

D. Motion picture tax credits may be transferred to the Department of Revenue (LDR), otherwise known informally as the state buy-back option, at an amount recognized and in accordance with the requirements of La. R.S. 47:6007, or as otherwise directed by LDR.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6143. Delinquent tax filing clearance requirement

A. No motion picture production tax credit may be earned, certified, issued to, transferred by, or used to reduce a Louisiana tax liability if there exists a delinquent federal, state or local tax obligation.

B. Compliance with this requirement shall now be certified by the motion picture production company, irrevocable designee, taxpayer, or claimant before any credit may be certified, transferred, or sold.

C. The prohibition in this Section shall not apply to any tax liability which has been properly protested or appealed by the motion picture production company, pursuant to La. R.S. 47:1561 et. seq.

D. The prohibition in this Section shall remain in effect until all delinquent returns have been filed and delinquent taxes have been paid and until a Notice of Cancellation or equivalent form is properly filed and recorded to cancel all federal, state, or local tax obligations.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

§6145. Non-performance, Return of Benefits, Disallowance and Recapture of Credits

A. If a taxpayer receives a tax credit pursuant to this Motion Picture Production Tax Credit Program and it is subsequently determined that it did not qualify for the benefit then: (i) future payments shall be reduced by the amount wrongfully received by the taxpayer; or, (ii) If there are no future payments due from which to deduct the amount owed, the secretary of the Department of Revenue may recover any monies wrongfully obtained, pursuant to the provisions of La. R.S. 47:6007 (E) or any other collection remedy authorized by law.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:104 and R.S. 47:6007

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Louisiana Economic Development, Office of Economic Development, LR.

Family Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

Poverty Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on poverty as described in R.S. 49:973.

Provider Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on providers of services as described in HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Small Business Analysis

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in drafting the proposed rule to accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing any anticipated adverse impact on small businesses.

Public Comments

Interested persons should submit written comments on the proposed Rules to **Amanda Hafford** through the close of business on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at Louisiana Economic Development, 100 North Street, 9th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 or via email to Amanda.Hafford@la.gov.

Public Hearing

A meeting for the purpose of receiving the presentation of oral comments will be held at 10:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 1, 2026** in the Griffon Conference Room at the LaSalle Building, 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Anne G. Villa
Deputy Secretary/CFO