



California's Film & TV Tax Credit Program Welcomes Two More Relocating TV Series

Latest Round of Tax Credits Also Includes Four New Series and 10 Recurring Series

Hollywood, Calif. – December 16, 2019 – California is welcoming two more relocating TV series from other states and will serve as home to four new series thanks to its Film & TV Tax Credit Program 2.0.

The California Film Commission today announced that the Universal Television series “Dream” will relocate to California from Texas, while Horizon Scripted Television’s “Special” will relocate here from New Jersey -- both for their second season of production. With the latest round of tax credits, California has lured a total of 18 relocating TV series from other states and nations (see “Relocating TV Series” list below).

“When already successful TV series relocate to California, they bring long-term jobs and significant in-state spending,” said California Film Commission Executive Director Colleen Bell. “The decision by so many projects to pack up and move production here affirms that our tax credit program is working and that California can still provide unsurpassed value.”

The Film Commission also selected four new TV series to receive tax credits – “The Dropout” (Searchlight TV), “Grease” (Paramount), “Nine Perfect Strangers” (Endeavor Content) and “Untitled Showtime Lakers Project” (HBO). In addition, the latest round of credits includes 10 recurring TV series already in Program 2.0 and picked up for another season of in-state production (see “Program Year 5 – Allocation #4” list below).

“Adam [McKay] and I are thrilled to be able to participate in the California Film Commission tax credit program for our HBO series about the Los Angeles Lakers,” said Kevin Messick, producer of Untitled Showtime Lakers Project. “We couldn’t imagine filming this show anywhere else and we’re happy that HBO has the additional support from the state to help ensure this show stays local.”

A total of \$152 million in tax credits is reserved for the 16 relocating, new and recurring projects. They are on track to generate an estimated \$782 million in qualified spending, which is defined as below-the-line wages to California workers and payments to in-state vendors. Overall in-state spending by these projects will be significantly greater with the inclusion of above-the-line payments and other expenditures that do not qualify for tax credits under Program 2.0. The 16 projects will employ an estimated 2,900 cast members, 3,500 crew and 62,000 extras/stand-ins (the latter measured in “man days”) over a combined 1,450 in-state shoot days for the season.

Applications for the latest round of TV tax credits were accepted November 4 - 8, 2019. To date, a total of 142 television projects, including new TV series, recurring, relocating TV series, pilots, MOWs and

miniseries have been accepted into Program 2.0 since it was launched in July 2015.

The list of Program 2.0 projects that are actively in production and eligible for tax credits is subject to change, as projects may withdraw and their reservation of tax credits is reassigned or rolled over into the pool of funds for the next TV allocation period.

The next application period for TV project tax credits (the final for Program 2.0 as Program 3.0 launches next year) is scheduled for February 3 - 7, 2020. The next application period for feature film projects (also the final for Program 2.0) is scheduled for March 9 – 13, 2020.

How Projects are Selected and Awarded Tax Credits under Program 2.0

Projects approved for California tax credits are selected based on their jobs ratio score, which ranks each project by wages to below-the-line workers, qualified spending for vendors, equipment, etc., and other criteria. The top 200% ranked projects in each round (i.e., those that would qualify if double the amount of funding was available for the current allocation round) are evaluated, and those with the highest-ranked jobs ratios receive tax credits. Those not selected are placed on the waiting list. The program allocates funding in “buckets” for different production categories, including non-independent films, independent films, TV projects and relocating TV series. This allocation system enables applicants to compete for credits directly against comparable projects. As has been the case since the state launched its first-generation tax credit program in 2009, the California Film Commission awards tax credits only after each selected project: 1) completes post-production, 2) verifies that in-state jobs were created, and 3) provides all required documentation, including audited cost reports.

About California’s Film and Television Tax Credit Program 2.0

In 2014, the legislature passed a bill that more than tripled the size of California’s film and television production incentive, from \$100 million to \$330 million annually. Aimed at retaining and attracting production jobs and economic activity across the state, the California Film and TV Tax Credit Program 2.0 also extends eligibility to include a range of project types (big-budget feature films, TV pilots and 1-hr. TV series for any distribution outlet) that were excluded from the state’s first-generation tax credit program.

Other key changes include replacing the prior lottery system with a “jobs ratio” ranking system that selects projects based on wages paid to below-the-line workers, qualified spending (for vendors, equipment, etc.) and other criteria. Program 2.0 also offers an additional five percent tax credit for non-independent projects that shoot outside the Los Angeles 30-mile zone or have qualified expenditures for visual effects or music scoring/track recording. The five-year Program went into effect on July 1, 2015 and is currently in its fifth and final fiscal year (2019/20).

More information about California’s Film and Television Tax Credit Program 2.0, including application procedures, eligibility and guidelines, is at <http://www.film.ca.gov/tax-credit/>.

About the California Film Commission

The California Film Commission enhances California's status as the leader in motion picture, television and commercial production. It supports productions of all sizes/budgets and focuses on activities that

stimulate and preserve production jobs, spending and tax revenues in California. Services include administration of the state's Film & Television Tax Credit Program, permits for filming at state-owned properties, an extensive digital location library, location assistance and a range of other production-related resources and assistance. More information is available at <http://www.film.ca.gov>.

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California Film & TV Tax Credit Program 2.0

Program Year 5 - Allocation # 4 Conditionally Approved Projects

	Production Title	Company Name	Production Type
1	American Crime Story 4: Impeachment	Pacific 2.1 Entertainment Group, Inc.	Recurring TV Series
2	Dream 2	Universal Television, LLC	Relocating TV Series
3	Dropout 1	Searchlight Television, LLC	New TV Series
4	Euphoria 2	Cooler Waters Productions, LLC	Recurring TV Series
5	Good Girls 3.5	Universal Television, LLC	Recurring TV Series
6	Good Trouble 3	Hop Skip & Jump Productions, Inc.	Recurring TV Series
7	Grease 1	Paramount Pictures Corporation	New TV Series
8	Lucifer 5.5	WB Studio Enterprises Inc	Recurring TV Series
9	Mayans MC 3	Pacific 2.1 Entertainment Group, Inc.	Recurring TV Series
10	Nine Perfect Strangers 1	Endeavor Content	New TV Series
11	Special 2	Horizon Scripted Television Inc.	Relocating TV Series
12	Star Trek Picard 2	CBS Studios Inc.	Recurring TV Series
13	The Rookie 2.5	Touchstone Television Productions, LLC	Recurring TV Series
14	Untitled Showtime Lakers Project 1	Cooler Waters Productions, LLC	New TV Series
15	Why Women Kill 2	CBS Studios Inc.	Recurring TV Series
16	You 3	Horizon Scripted Television Inc.	Recurring TV Series

Notes: The number following each project title indicates the season for which tax credits are reserved; ".5" refers to additional episodes ordered for the season. Credit allocation will be issued to recurring TV series once a pick-up order for additional episodes or new seasons are submitted to the CA Film Commission.

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Program 2.0 - Relocating Television Series

Title	Previous Location	Seasons in CA
American Crime ABC	Texas	1
American Horror Story	Louisiana	5
Ballers	Florida	3
Dream	Texas	1
Good Girls	Georgia	2
Legion	Vancouver	2
Lucifer	Vancouver	3
Penny Dreadful	Dublin	1
Mistresses	Vancouver	1
Scream Queens	Louisiana	1
Secrets and Lies	North Carolina	1
Sneaky Pete	New York	1
Special	New Jersey	1
Timeless	Vancouver	2
The Affair	New York	2
The OA	New York	1
Veep	Maryland	3
You	New York	2

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California Film and TV Tax Credit Program 2.0
Ongoing TV Series – Various Stages of Production

Production Title	Production Type	Company Name
13 Reasons Why	Recurring TV	Paramount Television
Affair, The*	Recurring TV	Showtime
American Crime Story	Recurring TV	Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation
American Horror Story*	Recurring TV	Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation
American Princess	Recurring TV	A+E Studios
Animal Kingdom	Recurring TV	Horizon Scripted Television, Inc
Dream	Relocating TV	Universal Television LLC
Dropout	New TV	Searchlight Television, LLC
Euphoria	Recurring TV	HBO
Star Trek Picard	Recurring TV	HBO
Good Girls*	Recurring TV	Universal Television, LLC
Good Trouble	Recurring TV	Disney ABC Cable Group
Grease	New TV	Paramount Pictures Corporation
Legion*	Recurring TV	Minim Productions, LLC
Lucifer*	Recurring TV	WB Studio Enterprises
Mayans MC	Recurring TV	Fox21 Television Studios
Nine Perfect Strangers	New TV	Endeavor Content
Orville, The	Recurring TV	Twentieth Century Fox Television
Penny Dreadful: City of Angels*	Recurring TV	Showtime
Rebel	Recurring TV	BET Productions II, Inc.
Rookie, The	Recurring TV	ABC Studios
S.W.A.T.	Recurring TV	CBS Studios, Inc.
Sneaky Pete*	Recurring TV	Amazon Studios, LLC
Snowfall	Recurring TV	Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation
Special	Relocating TV	Horizon Scripted Television, Inc.
Star Trek Picard	Recurring TV	CBS Studios, Inc.
Strange Angel	Recurring TV	CBS Studios, Inc.
This is Us	Recurring TV	Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation
Untitled Showtime Lakers Project	New TV	HBO
Veep*	Recurring TV	Second in Command Productions, LLC
Westworld	Recurring TV	HBO
Why Women Kill	Recurring TV	CBS Studios, Inc.
You*	Recurring TV	Horizon Scripted Television

NOTES

- The above list will likely be revised as applicants may withdraw from the program.
- The number following each project title indicates the season for which tax credits are reserved; ".5" refers to additional episodes ordered for the season.
- Credit allocation will be issued to recurring TV series once a pick-up order for additional episodes or new seasons are submitted to the CA Film Commission.
- "Recurring Series" is defined as a TV Series or Relocating TV Series (in its second or subsequent season in California) that has received a previous allocation of tax credits.
- "Relocating TV Series" is a TV Series that filmed its most recent season outside California.
- *TV Projects that were initially accepted as a Relocating TV Series.