

CMPA-BC STORY DEPARTMENT INTERNSHIP / GUIDELINES 2018-2019

WHAT IS THE STORY DEPARTMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM?

Creative BC and the Canadian Media Producers Association (CMPA) – BC Producers Branch will provide funding for the skills development of professionals committed to careers in writing for dramatic television. Applications will be evaluated on a first come, first served basis until the budget has been fully committed for the fiscal year.

ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS

The Writer-Intern and Mentor Production Company applicants must meet the following minimum eligibility criteria in order to be considered collectively as an “eligible applicant”:

- The application must be comprised of a Writer-Intern and Mentor Production Company;
- The Writer-Intern must be a resident of British Columbia, and a Canadian citizen or a Permanent Resident who has been domiciled and resident in BC for at least 200 of the 365 days immediately preceding the date of application and who filed income tax returns in BC within the last year;
- The Writer-Intern must show a high degree of commitment and interest in enhancing existing skills under the guidance of a Mentor Production Company;
- The Writer-Intern is in good standing (i.e. not in default) with Creative BC;
- The Mentor Production Company must be a Canadian company as defined by the *Investment Canada Act*;
- The Mentor Production Company must be a member in good standing with the CMPA;
- The Mentor Production Company must be signatory to the WGC Independent Production Agreement;
- The principals, directors, officers and shareholders of the Mentor Production Company are in good standing (i.e. not in default) with Creative BC; and
- The Mentor is an Executive Producer, Showrunner, Senior Writer, or Senior Story Editor at the Mentor Production Company.

Story Department Interns must have previous writing experience and a commitment to production in British Columbia. Internships may include participation in story meetings and contribution to re-writes. Other tasks include, but are not limited to, proofreading and distributing scripts, and research. A list of tasks, monitored on a monthly basis, will be negotiated between the Intern, Mentor and Creative BC. The Intern-Writer’s minimum role will be an Associate Story Editor, receiving a television Story-Editor contract under the WGC IPA.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The Mentor Production Company's project must meet the following minimum criteria in order to be considered as an "eligible project":

- The project must be of scripted episodic content;
- The project must be intended for broadcast as a series on network television or VOD platform and
- Story Department Internships take place in the story department of a confirmed production, licensed for broadcast, under the guidance of an experienced Story Department Mentor. Story rooms taking place for the purposes of funded development will also be considered?"

Excluded genres include, but not limited to, pornography, talk shows, news, live sports events, game shows, reality television, and branded content.

FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

Eligible applicants may apply to Creative BC for a non-recoupable cash advance of \$500 per week. These funds will be paid directly to the Mentor Production Company and must be used solely for the Writer-Intern's salary. The Mentor Production Company must at a minimum match this amount. Creative BC's contribution will be capped at \$10,000 per internship placement.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications will open mid-October 2018. The processing time for a complete application is up to 4-6 weeks.

Applicants must submit the following forms to Creative BC:

- Story Department Internship Application Form;
- Internship proposal (details outlined in Application Form);
- Current CV of Writer-Intern;
- Cover letter from Writer-Intern;
- Two (2) Letters of Reference for the Writer-Intern;
- Current CV of the Mentor;
- Letter of Intent from Mentor;
- Credits of Mentor Production Company and related production companies;
- Commitment Letter between Writer-Intern and Mentor Production Company to engage in internship.

Please [complete the online application form](#).

NOTE: This program is designed for professionals already working in the film and television industry who are seeking a focused professional development opportunity. It is the responsibility of the Writer-Intern to identify and contact potential Mentor Production Companies and Mentors to arrange proposed Internships. Familiarization with the established industry can be obtained

through consultation with professional associations and various trade publications. Potential Interns may be requested to attend an interview.

APPLICATION EVALUATION

The Story Department Internship Program is a competitive program. Applications are reviewed taking the following criteria into consideration:

- Skill level and experience of the Writer-Intern;
- Skill level and experience of the proposed Showrunner, Senior Writer(s), and/or Senior Story Editor(s) from the Mentor Production Company;
- Proposed professional relationship between Writer-Intern and Showrunner, Senior Writers(s), and/or Senior Story Editors(s) from the Mentor Production Company;
- Proposed responsibilities to be undertaken by the Writer-Intern during the Story Department Internship; and
- Commitment of Mentor Production Company to independent film and television production in British Columbia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Christine Larsen, Business Analyst at (778) 886-0177 or programs@creativebc.com