

FAQ

2019 PSTC Pre-Certification Process

Motion Picture Tax Credits Application in B.C.

- 1. What is tax credit pre-certification?** Pre-certification introduces a preliminary step to the Production Services Tax Credit (PSTC) application process. Applicants planning to do qualifying motion picture work in B.C. will need to complete a simple form and a registration number will be generated for each project.
- 2. Why is pre-certification being introduced?** B.C. has maintained a reputation for the most efficient tax credit processing timelines in the world, yet we are committed to continuous improvement. The information collected early through the new pre-certification process will be used in aggregate by Creative BC for development of competitive insights, volume forecasting and service preparation. Creative BC's tax credit administration and provincial film commission teams, together with industry and government stakeholders, will leverage the data as another tool to understand, enhance and sustain our value delivery.
- 3. What information will be gathered at pre-certification?** Applicants will need to complete the short, on-line registration form providing high level data such as: production format; project title; company name and business number; estimated budget; B.C. labour and DAVE labour expenditures; and whether regional or distant locations will be considered and leveraged for production activity.
- 4. When will pre-certification come into effect?** The anticipated date for pre-certification to become part of the PSTC application process is September 24, 2019. Any projects that have yet to submit a PSTC application by this date will need to complete the pre-certification registration first to obtain a registration number.
- 5. Is there an administration fee attached to pre-certification?** There will be no fee required for pre-certification registration.
- 6. How early in our production planning process should we submit the pre-certification form?** We thank our clients for early submission of pre-certification and registration. The sooner Creative BC obtains information, the more knowledgeable and proactive our services and supports can be.
- 7. Does my current production need to apply?**

The anticipated start date for the pre-certification process is September 24, 2019, with the following guidelines for productions in various phases:

- if **productions have already filed a PSTC application** with Creative BC, they will NOT be required to register for pre-certification of the current project that is under way
- if **production HAS started work in B.C. already (without PSTC application)**, your project will have until October 31st to apply for pre-certification
- if **production has not started work in B.C. already**, your project will have to submit for pre-certification by October 31, 2019 OR within 60 days of the project's start-date-of-work in B.C., whichever date is the later.