# DISTRIBUTOR'S ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT

When a distributor acquires rights to distribute a film, the Basic Agreement requires the producer to obtain and deliver a Distributor's Assumption Agreement (DAA) so that the distributor assumes primary responsibility for the signatory producer's residuals reporting and payment obligations.

**Items Needed:** Copies of distribution agreements and sales agency agreements.

### What If a DAA Cannot or Will Not Be

Provided? If a producer cannot obtain a DAA from a distributor(s) or the sales agent is not requiring licensees to sign assumption agreements as a condition of sale, in order to settle the producer's breach for failure to provide DAAs, the union will accept a residuals reserve and/or become party to a collection agreement.

## **RESIDUALS RESERVES**

Residuals reserves are cash deposits for the producer's use to pay future residuals when due.

How Reserves are Calculated: The union calculates reserves by reviewing factors such as genre, budget, cast and residuals paid on similar films. If the producer provides pre-sales and sales estimates, those figures are factored into the calculation.

Items Producer Needs to Provide: Copy of sales agency agreement with pre-sales figures and sales estimates ("ask/take" prices).





## TO CONTACT US

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## FINANCIAL ASSURANCES

THE DIFFERENT TYPES



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# COLLECTION ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT (CAMA)

CAMAs are agreements between parties with a financial stake in a project who are entitled to receive a portion of a film's gross receipts.

These parties agree that all gross receipts will be deposited with a third-party account administrator and distributed in an agreed-upon order and amount.

## The Union's CAMA Requirements

For a CAMA to be acceptable to the union, the CAMA must:

- (1) Be effective upon the first dollar of worldwide gross receipts;
- (2) Place the union's residuals set-aside in second position in the distribution schedule after only CAMA administrator's fees and expenses; and
- (3) Contain the customary language regarding the 6.2% SAG-AFTRA residuals set-aside and payment of residuals.

## **GUARANTIES**

Guarantors are additional parties who agree to be responsible for the signatory producer's obligations if the producer defaults on its obligations under the Basic Agreement.

From Whom a Guaranty May Be Required SAG-AFTRA may request guaranties from:

- Entities that are rights-holders on the SAG-AFTRA Security Agreement (other than the signatory producer);
- Parent companies of the signatory and/or copyright owners;
- Financially responsible parties enabling or controlling production.

Items Needed: All corporate structure documents (articles of incorporation/organization and bylaws/operating agreements) for the signatory, rights-holders and parent companies; financing documents; and complete chain-of-title.

## **SECURITY INTERESTS**

SAG-AFTRA requires a security interest in all rights related to a film. This includes distribution rights.

What Will Be Required: All rights-holders will need to sign the SAG-AFTRA Security Agreement.

Items Needed: Complete chain-of-title (including all assignments, option/purchase agreements, proof of payments, sales agency and distribution agreements) to determine who owns the film and exploitation rights.

Additional: If other parties hold security interests in the film and exploitation rights, the union may request these documents to establish its lien priority position:

**Intercreditor Agreement** – Offered to known banks, bond companies and bona fide third-party production lenders.

**Interparty Subordination Agreement** – Required for all other secured parties, including equity investors, non-bank lenders, sales agents and distributors.