

## **Covid 19 Independent Film Production Plan**

### **INTRO:**

Disclaimer: This framework has been created by filmmakers who spent countless hours researching and consulting experts across the industry as well as public safety experts. However, it is not intended to be the “be all end all”. It’s a list of suggestions from filmmakers, not doctors or attorneys. Just as we will do, anybody using this framework needs to consult the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (“OHSA”) if shooting in the United States. You also need to check with the regulatory authorities in the states in which you are filming.

If shooting internationally, consult the equivalent authorities. While your production may not be subject to industry union or guild requirements, consult their guidance as well. Significantly, this is a living document allowing independent filmmakers to examine the risk factors of every department and determine feasible actions to continue working safely while on a budget.

For the latest information from the CDC and OHSA visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>

Among other steps, the CDC and OHSA have recommended to protect people from exposure to Covid-19, people need to keep a social distance of at least 6 feet. As we all know, working on a film set requires close interaction with people, so 6 feet may not be possible for everybody on the set. However, we believe that taking the precautions laid out in this Covid 19 Independent Film Production Plan will mitigate the risks posed. Working together, we can move forward.

For this plan to succeed, every member of the cast and crew must care for and respect each other to the point of being inconvenienced by Personal Protective Equipment (“PPE”) and avoiding all public social outlets. This plan only works with a cast and crew that are committed to working safely, self-quarantining when not on set, and protecting each other and our industry.

According to our attorney, we will require all crew and talent to execute a Covid-19 addendum to their engagement agreements, agreeing to be bound by the terms of the Covid-19 Production Plan put in place for each particular project. Deviating from it should be grounds for immediate dismissal, even for talent. This is not a waiver of liability.

To that end, you must break down and analyze each script to identify safety concerns and Covid-19 risks. Your individual plan will depend on crew size, budget, and production elements. You should not start production without developing, and clearly communicating, the plan to keep cast and crew as safe as possible during this unprecedented period.