



# ***Episodic Director Creative Rights - Late Scripts***

The DGA Basic Agreement provides that in episodic television, the Employer shall deliver the “working draft” of the script to the Director prior to the commencement of the Director’s preparation period.

- A “working draft” is a draft script intended to serve as the basis for the completed shooting script, with the characters, locations and dialogue intended for the entire episode. The “working draft” is subject to change. An outline does not suffice as a “working draft.”
- A “working draft” of the script is due one day prior to the start of prep. When the “working draft” is delivered after this deadline it is considered “late.”
- The contract permits a series to have a limited number of late scripts before fines are owed.
  - The threshold before the late script fine is imposed depends upon the season. Once the threshold is crossed, all subsequent episodes become eligible for a fine. The thresholds are as follows:
    - Season 1: 50% of scripts must be delivered on time.
    - Season 2: 60% of scripts must be delivered on time.
    - Season 3: 70% of scripts must be delivered on time.
    - Season 4+: 75% of scripts must be delivered on time.
- **LATE SCRIPT PENALTIES**
  - The penalties are as follows (only applies to the episodes after the threshold is crossed):
    - Season 1: \$1000/day per episode.
    - Season 2+: \$1000/day per episode for the 1st three days. Then \$2250/day thereafter.
    - The fine is split as follows: The DGA Health Plan receives 50%, Director 33.33%, & 1AD 16.67%.
- **REQUIRED MEETINGS**
  - If the script is delivered on the 2nd day of prep (or after) of a half-hour show, or 3rd day of prep (or after) of a one-hour show, then the Writer/EP (along with a representative of the employer) is required to have a discussion with the Director regarding a plan for the completion of the episode.
  - If the above occurs 3 times (and each subsequent 3rd time) during the same season, then the required discussion will include a senior level executive of the Employer.
- **DGA TRACKING/ENFORCEMENT**
  - The DGA receives script confirmation forms on each episode of scripted television. The form identifies the date the script was delivered to the Director and is signed by the project’s UPM. The DGA’s Script Tracking Coordinator monitors each production, then pursues, collects and distributes late script fines.