# Assistant Director

## WHAT DOES AN AD DO?

Assistant Directors are responsible for the assembly of all the elements needed for filming and for the daily operation of the shooting set. Their objective is to provide the Director with everything they need to put their vision on film. Their duties are supervisory, organizational, administrative.

Working within the structure that is governed by budgets, union and guild contracts, industry custom, and so on, they make schedules, attend to the cast, direct extras, oversee the crew as each shot is prepared, create detailed reports of each day’s events, among many other things, and are looked to by cast and crew to solve the many problems that continually arise.

## THE ROLE OF THE AD INCLUDES...

- Tracking daily progress against the filming production schedule.
- Arranging logistics.
- Preparing daily call sheets.
- Checking cast and crew.
- Maintaining order on the set.
- Taking care of the health and safety of the crew.
- To be an effective AD, it's important to have the experience of doing all the PA positions.

## PATH VIA PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Production Assistant (PA) is a great entry way into the film industry. There are many different departments to work in. The positions on the left are in the directing department and can lead up to assistant director.

- Production Assistant Description
- Set Etiquette Guide
- PA Handbook

## RESOURCES

- BC Infohub
- Brooklyn College Film Department Internship Page
- Magner Career Center
- Film & TV Resources
- NYC Camera Assistants
- Production Junction
- NYC Film Crew Calls
- Local Zero Heroes New York
- NYC Filmmakers Group
- NYC TV & Film Production FB Community
- EntertainmentCareers.net
- mandy.com
- Subscribe to the BC Film Dept Newsletter
- Contact Us: Film@brooklyn.cuny.edu
THE DGA AD TRAINING PROGRAM

The New York Assistant Director Training Program is designed to provide opportunities for a limited number of individuals to become Assistant Directors in film, television & commercial production.

2 year program consisting of 350 days of on the job training with monthly seminars.

Trainees are placed on sets of various features, television series and commercials shooting in the New York vicinity and under the supervision of DGA members.

Upon completion of the program graduates are qualified to join the DGA.

Full info and details about applying can be found here.

CONSIDER A GRADUATE PROGRAM

What’s the cost per year?
› Can you get loans?
› A Scholarship?
› Grants?

How many years?
› 4? 2?

In which year will you be able to take film focused courses?
Do you have a lot of general education courses?
Do you need to take the GRE/ SATs?

What else does the application involve?
Are the professors accomplished?
What are their credits?
Do they keep office hours?
Do they have Hollywood connections?
Are their alumni flourishing?
Are they working inside the industry?

Do you have one-on-one time with the professors?
What courses are offered?
Directing?
Shorts?
Features?
Specific Genres?
Writing?
Features?
Shorts?
TV?
Editing?
Avid / Final Cut?
Path to professional certification?
Animation?
Production?
What do you make and when?
What kind of equipment is available to students?
Do they continue to update their filmmaking equipment?

What are their plans for the years you attend?
Do they have an internship program?
Are they in Los Angeles or New York? Or an International equivalent where production happens?
How do they place alumni in jobs?
Do you make a Graduate Film / Senior film?
What’s the average budget?
Do they give grants?
Do you have to raise your own money?
Will you need a job while you’re a student?
Do they offer grants for that?
Teacher Assistant Positions?
How will this school get you where you want to be?
Will this degree get you connections?
Will you be able to get a job?