EDUCATION

Consider continuing film school and applying to MFA programs. There are advantages and the only real disadvantage is cost. When choosing a program, research the facility, past and current student work, faculty, and mission to see if the program is a good fit for you.

ADVANTAGES OF AN MFA PROGRAM

- Structure.
- Ability to focus specifically on writing for the duration of the program.
- Chance to be surrounded by other writer and gain a writing room like experience.
- Have a group of people to read and comment on your work.
- More opportunities for internships. Many internships are unpaid, but offer college credit in return which makes it beneficial to be a student.
- Equipment, software, and lab access.
- Networking.

FILM SCHOOL CHECKLIST

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 they have a mentorship program?

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?
COMPETITIONS & FESTIVALS

Submitting to competitions and festivals takes time, planning, and can cost money. You should account for all accordingly. Screenwriting Competitions, Festivals, and Programs Database

The Film Festival Database is geared more toward films, but many also have a screenplay category. Film Festival Database

HOW TO COPYRIGHT A SCRIPT

SUBMIT A SCRIPT TO THE WGA

Studio Binder offers a great breakdown of why a screenwriter should copyright their work as well as register it with WGA.

LINKS TO INTERNSHIPS & ENTRY LEVEL POSTINGS

BC Film Department Info Hub
NYC Filmmakers FB Group
NYC TV & Film Production FB Community
EntertainmentCareers.net
TV & Film Resources

Studio Binder on how to become a paid screenwriter in 2020
Not guaranteed, but offers really great tips on entering the business.

LINKS TO SCRIPTS

Pilot Scripts
Shore Scripts
Screenplay and Bibles
Sundance Inclusion Resource Map
The Ultimate Film Grants List for Every Filmmaker in 2020
Sundance Collab Resources
Indie Film Hustle Oscar Script Downloads
Script Slug
Internet Movie Script Database
Simple Scripts
Script-O-Rama
The Daily Script