



**What factors are my residuals based on?** Residuals are due when a production has distribution or exhibition that is not covered by initial compensation. Residuals formulas take into account such things as the contract in place during the specific year, time spent on the production, the production type and the market where the product appears (TV, video/DVD, pay television, basic cable, new media).

**How are residuals calculated?** Some residuals are based on a percentage of the revenue generated from distribution and exhibition. Some formulas are a percentage of initial compensation or the union rate applicable to individual principal performers.

**Who is entitled to receive residuals?** All performers hired under or upgraded to a principal performer agreement whose performance remains in the final product. This includes performers, professional singers, stunt performers, stunt coordinators, pilots, dancers employed under Schedule J and puppeteers.

**Do background actors receive residuals?** No, background actors do not receive them, unless they are upgraded to principal performers.

**Do you receive residuals for an initial release?** No. Initial compensation covers a production's initial release. Residuals are due only for use of a production in media markets beyond the exhibition covered by initial compensation.

**When are residuals due?** Here's a quick guide:

Made for theatrical, then released to:

- Network prime time - 30 days after initial broadcast
- Worldwide free television (other than the first U.S. network prime time exhibition) – four months if is the initial telecast, then quarterly based on revenue
- Worldwide pay television (premium pay cable/satellite, pay-per-view, on demand), home video (DVD/Blu-Ray), digital download-to-own, digital download-to-rent/subscription video on demand (paid streaming or download), advertiser supported/free to the consumer streaming – four months after initial release to each medium, then quarterly based on revenue

Made for broadcast television (network or syndication), then released to:

- Network prime time reruns - 30 days after air date
- Non-prime time network reruns - 30 days after air date
- Syndication reruns – 30 days after air date for The CW, otherwise four months after air date or quarterly based on revenue
- Foreign free TV - 30 days after Producer obtains knowledge of the first foreign exhibition (anywhere outside the U.S. and Canada) on broadcast, basic cable or free streaming media, but never later than six months after that first telecast. Thereafter, depending on the applicable TV agreement, additional quarterly residuals may become due based on revenue
- Basic cable/satellite in the U.S./Canada – quarterly, based on revenue
- Worldwide pay television (premium pay cable/satellite, pay-per-view, on demand), “in flight” (airlines, ships, trains, etc.), home video (DVD/Blu-Ray), Digital Download-to-Own, Digital Download-to-Rent/Subscription Video on Demand (paid streaming or download) – quarterly, based on revenue
- Free streaming – each 6 months within one year of the first television exhibition, then quarterly based on revenue

It generally takes about 30–60 days to process payments for delivery to performers after residuals reporting has been received from employers.

To initiate the claims process or inquire on specific productions, call (323) 549-6505 for assistance or submit the inquiry form: [Residuals Claim Inquiry Form](#)

Once a claim inquiry has been received, it is investigated by staff to research the facts and contract provisions specific to the picture or program. The timeframe to complete the research can vary, but a member of the department will respond.

Additional information related to residuals can be found at the [SAG-AFTRA website](#) including the residuals tracker to view payments. And if you’re a member who is still getting residuals checks by mail, please sign up for direct deposit.

Have a great and productive year!