FACILITATING THE SECURITY DEPOSIT RETURN PROCESS

- Prepare for the financial assurances process before you begin the signatory process using the Financial Assurances Checklist and other tools available at SAGAFTRA.org/fa. Resolve all financial assurances issues before principal photography begins.

- If for some reason SAG-AFTRA allows principal photography to begin before financial assurances issues are resolved, handle them as soon as possible.

- Your assigned business representative will provide a list of items that remain outstanding when the picture is cleared to start principal photography. Please note them and follow up with your business representative at the end of principal photography to make sure you have provided everything.

DID YOU KNOW

Most common delay to security deposit return: Outstanding financial assurances issues.

TO CONTACT US

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SECURITY DEPOSITS AND FINANCIAL ASSURANCES
The security deposit process and the financial assurances process are very closely related.

Unresolved financial assurances issues can delay return of your deposit. Taking care of required financial assurances as soon as possible can help speed up the return.

PURPOSE OF SAG-AFTRA SECURITY DEPOSITS
Security deposits protect SAG-AFTRA members with respect to signatory producer obligations related to production and must be posted before the start of principal photography.

The SAG-AFTRA security deposit is held according to the terms of the Security Deposit Letter that signatory producers sign. The letter states, among other things, that the deposit is “security” for the payment of all performers and background actors under the SAG-AFTRA jurisdiction, including delivery of financial assurances to the union.

SECURITY DEPOSIT CALCULATION
Security deposits are calculated based upon 40% of all of the performer salaries (including pension & health contributions).

USE OF SAG-AFTRA SECURITY DEPOSIT FUNDS
1. PAYMENT OF PRODUCTION CLAIMS
The Security Deposit Letter authorizes the union to deduct funds from the security deposit to pay outstanding contributions and to settle outstanding claims.

2. FILING FEES
The Security Deposit Letter authorizes the union to deduct costs for filing documents related to the security interest in public offices, such as the United States Copyright Office and the appropriate secretaries of state. This number changes based on changes in the cost of filing. The deduction only affects pictures in which the union takes a secured interest.

SECURITY DEPOSIT RETURN
The security deposit is returned after the signatory production company delivers or has shown the following:

- That all initial compensation has been correctly paid to all performers and background actors engaged on the picture;
- That all claims on the picture have been resolved, including any liquidated damages claims;
- That all pension and health contributions have been correctly paid to the SAG-AFTRA pension and health plans;
- That all production documents have been submitted, including the Final Cast List, the Casting Data Report, performer contracts, Exhibit G’s, and in some cases, the final cost report; and
- That all financial assurances requested by the union have been delivered to SAG-AFTRA.