



AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCTIONS

INCENTIVES - LICENSING
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES
FOR INCENTIVES,
RECEPTION & FACILITATION



EKOME S.A.
National Centre
of Audiovisual Media
and Communication



HELLENIC
FILM COMMISSION



A. Incentives for the production of audiovisual works

A1

Investment incentive – Law 4487/2017 (Cash Rebate)

Law 4487/2017 and the relevant amendments thereof (Law 4563/2018), Joint Ministerial Decision No. 923 (*Government Gazette B` 1138/28.03.2018*) the relevant amendments thereof by Joint Ministerial Decision No. 9.128 (*Government Gazette B` 5810/24.12.2018*) and Joint Ministerial Decision No. 59 (*Government Gazette B` 1228/11.04.2019*), on the implementation of Law 4487/2017 in digital games), establish the legal framework for incentivizing the production of audiovisual works in Greece, by providing a **State grant (cash rebate) for an amount of up to 35%**. The incentive regards the reimbursement of a monetary amount covering eligible expenses incurred in Greece, for the purposes of production of audiovisual works in Greece, e.g. feature films, tv series, documentaries, animation as well as digital games.

General requirements for inclusion in the investment program:

- Inclusion of an investment plan in the incentive program requires that the total sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory amounts to at least one hundred thousand euro (€ 100,000.00) for said expenses, regardless of the size of the economic operator.
- Production of an episode or season of episodes of a fiction, documentary or animated television series or mini television series, regardless of duration, requires that the total sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory amounts to at least thirty thousand euro (€ 30,000.00) per produced episode.
- Production of an independent audiovisual work, the contents of which consist of a digital game, requires that the total sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory amounts to at least sixty thousand euro (€ 60,000.00) for said expenses, regardless of the size of the economic operator.
- The eligible and ineligible investment plans as well as the beneficiaries of eligible investment plans are respectively described in articles 24 and 25 of Law 4487, as currently in force.

Incentive rates:

- The sum of the incentive is calculated, after the certified completion of the investment plan and amounts to 35% of the total eligible expenses of the production.
- The incentive may be combined with other public incentives, subject to the condition that the total sum of the public incentives granted may not exceed 50% of the total cost of the audiovisual work.
- This rate is increased to 60% of the total cost of the audiovisual production in case of cross border productions and to 70% of the total cost of the audiovisual production in case of a "difficult" audiovisual work.

Eligible expenses:

As eligible expenses are considered all expenses for the production of the audiovisual work, incurred in Greek territory and not exceeding 80% of the total production cost of the audiovisual work (eligible production cost).

For fiction, documentary and animation works the following are considered as eligible expenses:

- IP rights expenses;
- Crew, Cast and Executive Producer compensation;
- Royalties (screenplay/soundtrack) up to 25% of the total eligible cost;
- Director, scriptwriter, producer, two leading actors fee up to 25% of total eligible cost;
- Production Design and Realization;
- Technical Equipment;
- Travel (travel expenses from-to Greece and domestic), Accommodation and Meals;
- Editing – Processing;
- Other expenses (e.g. General expenses, rent, stationery, office equipment, fees, duties, etc.) and
- Subtitling/ dubbing

For digital game productions the following are considered as eligible expenses:

- IP rights expenses [script, source code, music, famous persons (actors, musicians, athletes, etc.) image and voice licensing fees, character design];
- Design and realization of production [specialized services during shooting and on site (playtesters, physicians, nurses, etc.), research and development department, copyrighters, scriptwriters, script consultants, Executive Producer fees];
- Crew, Cast and Executive Producer compensation [Game development department – Game design department – Game production department – Art Direction and Design department – Translation department – Music technology department – sound design, dialogue re-recording and ambient sound effects – Actors and Dancers for motion capture – Technical installations department – Character design department (all categories of animation, 3D, etc.)];
- Game Design Document
- Technical Design Document
- Technical installations consumables
- Technical equipment – equipment lease and consumables for motion capture, rendering, 3D scanning, sound and video recording, etc., equipment lease and consumables for testing;
- Playtesting – specialized equipment lease and consumables (VR, smartphones for testing etc.);
- Technical Equipment;
- Travel, Accommodation and Meals;
- Editing – Processing and
- Other expenses (e.g. General expenses, rent, stationery, office equipment, fees, duties, etc.)

Important note:

All expenses must be presented NET of VAT with the exemption of accommodation, transportation and feeding costs. Expenses for financial assets, fixed assets and their depreciation as well as marketing, promotion and communication costs, are excluded.

Procedure for the submission of the qualification application:

The applications are submitted during the entire year at the **National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication (EKOME S.A.)** through the **State Aid Information System** of the Ministry of Finance and Development.

- A. The interested parties are entitled to submit a qualification application at least sixty (60) days before the start date of the investment plan.

The “start of the investment plan” is defined as:

- The beginning of shooting of the independent audiovisual work in Greek territory
- Specifically for animation independent audiovisual works, the start of production works is the start the animation visualization works (ANIMATIC).
- The above mentioned definitions of “start of production works” of individual audiovisual works do not affect the possibility of qualification and aid for eligible expenses associated with the production works incurred after the submission of the qualification application for this investment scheme and prior to shootings and/or the pre-visualization works

- B. Specifically for digital games: The start of production works for digital game independent audiovisual works is the start of the drafting of the game design document that includes the list of game features, the mathematical statistical analysis of the mechanisms and the game level design. The above mentioned definition does not affect the possibility of qualification and aid for eligible expenses related to production works incurred after the submission of the qualification application for this investment scheme and prior to the beginning of the game design document.

The qualification application must also include the following, as described in **Joint Ministerial Decision 923 (Government Gazette B` 1138/28.03.2018)** and the relevant amendments thereof in **Joint Ministerial Decision 128 (Government Gazette B` 5810/24.12.2018)**:

1. Qualification application submitted electronically through the State Aid Information System, that must include the following:
2. Details of the investment plan operator and/or the aid beneficiary.
3. Brief presentation and description of the investment plan, the total budget of the project, the expenses that will be incurred in Greek territory and the financial plan.
4. Economic study.
5. Financing sources.
6. Solvency documentation of the investment plan operator and/or the aid beneficiary.
7. Financial details of the investment plan operator and/or the aid beneficiary.
8. Technical description of the investment plan, budget.
9. Presentation of the location (or locations) of setup of the production process.
10. Employment data.
11. Documentation of cultural criteria.
12. Qualification application submission fee.

The same applies to the production of digital games, pursuant to **Joint Ministerial Decision 59 (Government Gazette B` 1228/11.04.2019)**.

The qualification application is accompanied by the following supporting documents:

1. Written statement of the investment operator, that includes self-assessment regarding the cultural criteria met by the investment plan.
2. Audiovisual project works schedule, specifying the shooting dates required in Greece.
3. Detailed budget, specifying the eligible expenses incurred in Greece.
4. Financial plan that mentions any other state aid and the rate thereof.
5. Summary of the script or script.
6. Written statement – report of the investment operator regarding the main artistic contributors, as well as the employees that will be employed during the activities in Greece.
7. Fee.

Specifically for digital games, the qualification application is accompanied by the following supporting documents:

1. Written statement of the investment operator, that includes self-assessment regarding the cultural criteria met by the investment plan.
2. Investment plan works schedule.
3. Detailed budget, specifying the eligible expenses incurred in Greece.
4. Financial plan that mentions any other state aid and the rate thereof.
5. Summary of game design document.
6. Written statement – report of the investment operator regarding the main artistic contributors, as well as the employees that will be employed during the activities in Greece.
7. Fee.

Submission of applications and Evaluation Procedure.

- The completeness of the submitted applications and the respective supporting documentation is verified by EKOME, based on a standardized completeness verification system, within fifteen (15) working days from the submission of the application.
- If the application is complete, its legality is examined and it is evaluated by a Committee, on a time precedence basis and based on available funds.
- The legality examination and evaluation procedure is completed within thirty (30) days from the completion of the completeness verification.
- Investment plans that meet the legal requirements are included in the aid scheme of Law 4487/2017, with a decision of the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media following proposal of the Legality Examination and Evaluation Board.

INCENTIVES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AUDIOVISUAL WORKS

- Investment plans that do not meet the legal requirements are rejected with a reasoned decision of the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media following the proposal of the Legality Examination and Evaluation Board.
- The applicant may lodge an appeal against the rejection decision, electronically through the State Aid Information System within an exclusive deadline of ten (10) days from the notification of the relevant act.
- A Special Appeals Examination Board will decide within a deadline of fifteen (15) days from the appeal lodging date and will report accordingly to the Minister who shall issue the relevant decision.

Approved plans audit procedure for payment of the aid.

The investment plan operator, no later than sixty (60) days from the investment completion date, submits to E.K.O.M.E. an application for certification, by issuance of a decision of the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media, of the completion of the investment plan (i.e. the production of the audiovisual work) at the date of submission of the audit request, in order to initiate the aid payment procedure.

The investment plan completion audit application is accompanied by the following supporting documents:

- Proof of compliance with the cultural criteria.
- The final list of employees in the production.
- The final schedule of the shooting dates and locations in Greek territory.
- A solemn declaration of the investment beneficiary declaring that the submitted information is true and accurate.
- A final report of a certified accountant, the cost of which is borne by the beneficiary.

An EKOME dedicated audit committee examines the submitted supporting documentation and prepares a relevant report which is submitted to the Legality Examination and Evaluation Board.

The total duration of the final audit procedure may not exceed thirty (30) days from the submission of the application. In case of missing documentation the time limit is extended by thirty (30) days from the submission date of the supplementary information.

The completion of the investment is certified by issuance of a relevant completion decision of the Minister of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media.

Payment of aid

- The payment of the aid is made as a lump sum, following the certification of the investment plan completion and the issuance of the relevant decision.
- The subsidy is paid within two (2) months, by electronic payment to a bank account of the scheme beneficiary.
- By exception, it is allowed to assign the claim on the subsidy to domestic bank institutions for the provision of a loan of value equal to the sum of the assigned subsidy, to be used for the realization of the investment plan.

A2

Tax incentive for production of audiovisual works

In accordance with article 71E of Law 4172/2013 as amended by Law 4549/2018 (Income Tax Code), a fiscal incentive is provided for the production of audiovisual works. Furthermore, Joint Ministerial Decision 1007/17.1.2019, Government Gazette B' 38 determines the eligible expenses, the categories of audiovisual works, the procedure and the schedule for the verification of compliance with the terms and conditions of the provisions of Article 71E.

General requirement for inclusion in the investment scheme:

- A producer (legal entity or natural person) that wishes to include his audiovisual work to the provisions of Law 4549/2018 must maintain a Dedicated Bank Account in a Greek Credit Institution and submit a Qualification Application to the National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication (EKOME).
- Mandatory condition is that the payable invoices are issued by the main producer of the audiovisual work or by the executive producer of the Project, or in case of co-productions by each producer proportionally to their participation share in the production.

Type of aid: The investment plans that qualify for the law are supported with a tax relief scheme.

Tax Relief

- 30% of eligible expenses incurred in Greece for each audiovisual work is deducted from the taxable income of a legal entity or natural person that is subject to taxation in Greece and invests in audiovisual works (article 20 Law 4487/2017).
- In case of co-production the deduction amount is calculated based on the participation share of the legal entity or natural person in the production.
- No aid is granted for the part of the budget originating from financial sponsorships for the production of audiovisual works.
- The cost rate deducted from the taxable income, added to any other aid received by the tax payer for the same audiovisual work, may not exceed 50% of the production cost of said work.
- If there are losses after the deduction of the incentive rate the loss is carried forward in accordance with the general provisions of article 27 of the aforementioned law (Law 4549/2018).

Categories of eligible expenses for the Tax Relief:

The following are considered as eligible expenses:

- IP rights expenses;
- Crew, Cast and Executive Producer compensation;
- Production Design and Realization;
- Technical Equipment;
- Travel, Accommodation and Meals;
- Editing - Processing and
- Other expenses (e.g. General office expenses: office space rent, equipment lease, utility bills, etc.)

The qualification application is accompanied by the following documentation:

- Special written application filled in and signed by the private producer of the legal representative of the applicant enterprise.
- Tax and Social Security Certificates of Good Standing of the applicant.
- Detailed budget of the audiovisual work and list of the main contributors thereof.
- Shootings schedule and locations and processing laboratories.
- Detailed financial plan with breakdown of the financing sources accompanied by all the supporting documentation of coverage thereof
- (co-production agreements, decisions of national or international organizations, etc.).
- IP assignment agreements with the scriptwriter and the director.
- Co-production agreement.
- Executive production assignment agreements, accompanied by relevant details of third parties.
- Attestation of the competent Tax Office regarding the commercial activities exercised by the company.
- Fee.

B. Licensing Procedure

Article 36 of Law 3905 (*Official Government Gazette 219/23.12.2010*) determines the licensing procedure for cinema productions or other filming in Greece.

Filming on **private property** requires a permit issued by the owners of said property. The following procedure shall be followed regarding cinema productions in public spaces:

B1

Filming in Open-Air Spaces

No permit is required for filming in open-air spaces, **subject to special permits provided for by law** and issued by the relevant archaeological, municipal or other authorities.

a.

Issuance of filming permit in Monuments, Archaeological and Historical Sites and Museums by the competent departments of the Ministry of Culture and Sports.

Competent Department: The relevant competent department of the Ministry of Culture and Sports.

Issuance of a permit to film in museums, monuments and archaeological and historical sites requires approval by the competent Ephorate of Antiquities, Service of Modern Monuments and Technical Works or Museum or the competent Central Council, as appropriate. The permit issued following the submission of a relevant application of the interested party.

The application for filming is submitted to the Authorities as follows:

- For filming in individual monuments, archaeological and historical sites or museums to the email of the competent Ephorate of Antiquities, Service of Modern Monuments and Technical Works or Museum.
- For filming in UNESCO monument(s) or more than one monument, archaeological and historical site or museum to the following emails:
dameep@culture.gr
 (Directorate of Archaeological Museums, Exhibitions and Educational Programs)
dpkar@culture.gr
 (Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities)
dbmm@culture.gr
 (Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities)
dpansm@culture.gr
 (Directorate of Protection and Restoration of Modern and Contemporary Monuments)

The application form for filming in **Museums, Monuments and Archaeological and Historical Sites** requires the following information:

- Details of the Entity on behalf of which the application is submitted (full name, address, telephone, email)
- Category of the Entity (natural person, production company, governmental entity, advertising company, etc.)
- Applicant's Details (full name, profession/capacity, address, telephone, email)
- Details of Producer/ Appointed Producer (trade name, address, telephone, email)
- Film Details (title, filming purpose, brief description of content)
- Film Use (cultural, scientific, educational, informative content, documentary, fiction, etc.)
- Specific Details (exact filming dates, crew members, other competent public entities that will issue filming permits, description of equipment, description of filming set arrangements)

In the application are attached:

- Copy of the script
- List and description of the technical equipment
- List of the crew members
- Fiction films require Certificate of the Greek Film Centre, certifying that the script does not promote violence, racism or sexism and does not violate applicable Greek law.
- Fiction films using sets require description of the sets.
- Solemn declaration of the applicant declaring that he will comply with the provisions of applicable law and that he is aware of the relevant statutory fees.
- A relevant is required if the producer submits the application through a third party representative.

The Central Services of the General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, i.e. the Directorate of Archaeological Museums, Exhibitions and Educational Programs (ΔΑΜΕΕΠ), the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities (ΔΙΠΚΑ), the Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities (ΔΒΜΑ) and the General Directorate for the Restoration, Museums and Technical Works (ΔΠΑΝΣΜ) are competent for forwarding the application for consideration by the Central Archaeological Council (ΚΑΣ) and the Central Council for Modern Monuments (ΚΖΝΜ) respectively, and for the issuance of the relevant Decision.

Relevant Laws:

- Ministerial Decision No. ΥΠΠΟΤ/ΓΔΑΠΚ/ΑΡΧ/Α1/Φ42/1020/62 (*Government Gazette. 1138/Β/10.4.2012*) defines the approval of terms and procedures for filming in monuments, archaeological and historical sites and museums.
- The payable fees, according to the nature of the application, is defined by Ministerial Decision No. ΥΠΠΟΤ/ΔΟΕΠΥ/ΤΟΠΥΝΣ/126463 (*Government Gazette 3046/Β/30.12.2011*).

The **Ministry of Culture and Sports** has published **application forms** for permits to use images of, film and photograph monuments, archaeological and historical sites and museums at its official website:

<https://www.culture.gr/el/service/SitePages/view.aspx?iID=2691>

b.

Issuance of permit to film by a Municipality

Competent Authority: The relevant Municipality

Issuance of a permit to film in public spaces requires approval of the relevant Municipality where the filming is to be performed. The request is submitted directly to the relevant competent Municipality.

The application must state the following:

- Details of the interested party, e.g. production company or television network (full name, address, telephone, email)
- Exact dates of filming.
- Exact locations of filming in the relevant Municipality.
- Detailed description of the scope of the request.

The Municipality examines and processes the application within the framework of applicable legislation and ensures compliance with the requirements set for the appropriate execution of audiovisual productions and proper use of public space.

The permit to film in public spaces is granted free of charge if the audiovisual production serves social or cultural purposes. In all other cases the filming permit is subject to payment of an advertisement fee, pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decrees.

The **City of Athens** has posted an **application form** in its official website:

<http://www.cityofathens.gr/sites/default/files/khe/entypa/pdfs/00000085.pdf>

In some cases, the issuance of a permit for the temporary use of public space within the City of Athens requires the **approval of the Ministry of Culture**, in particular for locations in an archaeological zone or areas subject to article 10 par. 1, 3 and 6 of Law 3028/2002, as replaced by article 1, par. H of Law 4254, or the approval of any other competent service whose approval is deemed necessary. In some cases, the approval of other entities is required. The terms of the approval of the aforementioned authorities will be expressly stipulated as conditions for the issuance of the aforementioned permit.

C. Issuance of permit to photograph – film wild fauna or flora species by the Ministry of Environment and Energy

Competent Department: Directorate General for the Protection and Development of Forests and the Rural Environment, Ministry of Environment and Energy.

In case of submission of application for the issuance of a permit to photograph – film wild fauna or flora species, the interested party must submit an application to the Directorate General for the Protection and Development of Forests and the Rural Environment.

The application for permit to photograph – film wild fauna or flora species must include the following:

- Details of the interested party/ Responsible for photography – filming (full name and professional capacity of the applicant in case of natural persons or official title in case of legal entity).
- Details of any cooperation with university, research institute, paper or electronic press.
- Subject of photography – filming.
- Purpose / Aim of photography – filming.
- Period of photography – filming / Visit.
- Area of photography – filming.
- Members of the photography – filming team on the field.
- Reference -No of previous (relevant) granted license, if any.
- Solemn declaration that the interested party:
 - a) is aware of the obligation to present a representative sample of the photographing / filming to the licensing authority in paper or electronic form upon completion of thereof, as required by the permit.
 - b) is aware that the permit application is independent of any applications for permits or certificates required by other departments, military authorities etc.
 - c) acknowledges that pursuant to the provisions of § 3 of article 11 of National Law 3937/2011, a basic precondition for the issuance of a survey permit is the applicants' waiver of any licensing rights arising therefrom in favor of the State.

The Ministry of Environment and Energy has posted an application form in its official website: <http://www.ypeka.gr/Default.aspx?tabid=918&language=el-GR>

The application must be sent by mail or email to the email address of the department **diaxeirisi.dason@gmail.com**, providing the aforementioned information.

Note that the interested party, upon completion of his work, is obligated to forward a representative sample thereof to the Department for its archives

B2

Issuance of photography or filming permit to television crews.

The International Media Support Department of the Directorate of Media Policy of the Directorate General of Media and Communication of the Ministry of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media provides professional facilitations to foreign media TV crews and photojournalists for filming and photographing in the context of documentary productions and productions with informational, tourist, scientific and cultural content related to Greece.

The foreign TV crews that wish to photograph or film in Greece must submit their request to **public.relations1@mindigital.gr** in order to receive the **professional facilitations form**, if they so wish. Said form is equivalent to a letter of recommendation to the competent civil and police authorities and does not constitute a permit. It regards filming in open public spaces where the issuance of a permit by the competent authorities is not required.

The International Media Support Department of the Directorate of Media Policy undertakes mediation for the issuance permits to TV crews for the following categories of requests.

Fees may apply in some cases of photography/filming.

a.

Issuance of permit to film or photograph in archaeological sites and monuments

Competent Department: Ministry of Culture and Sports

The issuance of the permit requires filling the relevant application of the Ministry of Culture and Sports (<https://www.culture.gr/el/service/SitePages/view.aspx?ilID=2691>) and sending it to **public.relations1@mindigital.gr**

The request to film/photograph in archaeological sites and monuments must be submitted **at least one month in advance** and must be accompanied by the following:

- Script - Description of work
- List and description of the technical equipment
- Details of the crew members (Valid ID card/Passport details: first name, last name, father's name, date of birth, passport number, passport expiry date, capacity of the crew member).
- Solemn declaration of the applicant declaring that he will comply with the provisions of applicable law and that he is aware of the relevant statutory fees.
- A relevant authorization is required if the producer submits the application through a third party/representative.

Subsequently the application is forwarded to the competent Department of the Ministry of Culture and Sports by the International Media Support Department.



b. Issuance of permit to film or photograph in Means of Public Transport in Athens – Attica – Thessaloniki and the Regional or National Railway Network

I. Filming, videotaping and photographing within the premises and the railcars of METRO, the Electric Railway, Tram.

Competent Department: Urban Rail Transport S.A. (ΣΤΑ.ΣΥ Α.Ε. – Σταθερές Συγκοινωνίες)

The terms and pricelist, as appropriate, are specified by decision No. 369/22.6.2012 (ΑΔΑ: Β4ΛΑΟΡΛΟ-4ΒΔ) of the B.o.D. of Urban Rail Transport S.A. No fees are paid for journalistic video recordings.

1. If the activity is of a journalistic nature, e.g. a report, the request is submitted by email to the Press & Public Relations Office: press@stasy.gr

The request must include:

- Description of the activity. relevant document.
- The Media Organization submitting the request. If the recording is performed by third parties (natural persons or legal entities) that act on a mandate of the media organization, this must be certified by relevant document.
- Desired dates and locations for filming/ videotaping / photographing.
- Details of the crew members and the crew manager (valid ID card/ passport details: first name, last name, number).

2. For any other recording the request is submitted by email to the Commercial Operations Department: commercial@stasy.gr, Tel. +30-2144141192, +30-2144141206, +30-2144146432

The request must include:

- Description of the activity (request for test recordings or in all other cases summary of the script and detailed description of the scenes that will be filmed in Urban Rail Transport S.A. premises or vehicles. submitting the request.
- Desired dates and premises or vehicles for filming/ videotaping / photographing.
- Details of the crew members (valid ID card/ passport details: first name, last name, number).
- Details of the legal entity or natural person

II. For recordings in Athens Road Transport S.A. (ΟΣΥ) Vehicles (Buses) or premises. Commercial Operations Department

Tel. +30-2104270810 - e-mail: dimxseseis@ethel.gr

III. Recordings in the Regional or National Railway Network.

1. Hellenic Railways Organization (ΟΣΕ) For recordings in stations and Lines Press and Public Relations

Department: +30-2105297826 - press@osenet.gr

2. TRAINOSE For recording using railcars Corporate Communications Department:

Tel. +30-2130121840 - m.nasopoulou@trainose.gr

IV. ORGANIZATION OF URBAN TRANSPORTATION OF THESSALONIKI (ΟΑΣΘ)

For recordings using buses: Tel. +30-2310981204, +30-2310945811 - oasth@oasth.gr

c. Issuance of filming or photographing permit in border areas, military/port installations and airports

Competent Department: the relevant competent entity

Filming in military/port installations, airports, border areas as well as underwater or aerial filming require a special permit by the competent bodies. The interested parties must submit their request to the International Media Support Department (public.relations1@mindigital.gr), **at least three weeks in advance**, mentioning the following:

- Script - description of project
- The media organization they represent
- Arrival and departure dates in Greece
- Filming/photographing dates and locations in Greece
- Details of the crew members (Valid ID card/Passport details: first name, last name, father's name, date of birth, passport number, passport expiry date, capacity of the crew member).

Subsequently the request is forwarded to the competent body for approval and verification of compliance with the relevant requirements and limitations.

d. Issuance of permit to video record using unmanned aerial vehicle systems (UAV - Drones)

Competent Department: Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority

The members of the filming crews that wish to film using **unmanned aerial vehicle systems (UAV- Drones)** are kindly requested to submit their request to the International Media Support Department (public.relations1@mindigital.gr), after filling the relevant application (http://www.ypa.gr/en/HCAA_UAS_FLT_request_editable.pdf) of the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority (HCAA), **at least 10 days before filming**.

C. Competent bodies for the reception and facilitation of audiovisual productions

C1

EKOME S.A. - National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication S.A.

The mission of the National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication (**EKOME S.A.**) (Law 4339/2015) is the promotion of public and private initiatives, foreign and domestic, in all sectors of the audiovisual industry. Its establishment constitutes one of the most important and innovative state policies aimed at the protection, support and promotion of audiovisual media and communications in Greece. The key elements of EKOME's strategy are the creation of infrastructures that will help boost entrepreneurship and attract foreign direct investment in the Greek audiovisual industry, the establishment and operation of the national repository of digitized audiovisual archives and the development of an institutionally guaranteed framework for the promotion of Media and Information literacy in Greece.

Pursuant to **Law 4487/2017**, EKOME becomes the organization for the receipt and processing of application for the inclusion of investment plans in the framework of Law 4487/2017 for the promotion of the production of audiovisual works.

More information about EKOME S.A. are available at its official website <https://www.ekome.media>

a. EKOME S.A. - National Network of Film Offices.

EKOME S.A. pursuant to Law 4339/2015 (article 45 par. 2 passage 1b) becomes the competent body for the "national coordination of co-competent bodies, organizations, ministries and the regional and local governments for the establishment and operation of the appropriate infrastructure required for the realization of international audiovisual productions in Greece". In this framework EKOME deploys the National Network of Film Offices in Regions and Municipalities across Greece, after securing a grant from the Public Investment Program.

The Film Offices in practice:

- Provide information for the area of their competence (locations, professional and business potential, infrastructure: tourist - technical – accessibility).
- Facilitate the contacts between the audiovisual production and the central and local authorities, e.g. for the issuance of access and use permits for locations, buildings, monuments, etc.
- Promote and highlight the comparative advantages of their Region and enhance the tourist and business background of the area.
- Take every action necessary for the support of the audiovisual industry, the enhancement of the microeconomy and the macroeconomy of their area of responsibility from pre-production to distribution of the audiovisual work, the adoption of best practices and the continuous upgrade of the skills of the domestic workforce.

The Regions and the Municipalities, within the framework of their competencies, cooperate with EKOME for the design and implementation of the National Network of Film Offices.

C2

HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION - Greek Film Centre (GFC)

The Hellenic Film Commission, the Directorate of the Greek Film Centre (Legal Entity of Public Law under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture and Sports) responsible for the attraction of international productions in Greece, is in line with the global recognition of the contribution of audiovisual productions in the promotion of a country worldwide. It is a member of the **Filming Europe - European Film Commissions Network** (EUFCN, www.eufcn.com) and the **Association of Film Commissioners International** (AFCI, www.afci.org).

The Hellenic Film Commission is the primary contact point of foreign filmmakers interested in shooting audiovisual productions in Greece. It issues to the producers **FILMING FACILITATION LETTERS** and **GFC CERTIFICATES** certifying that the script does not promote violence, racism and sexism and does not violate applicable Greek laws in case of requests for filming in archaeological sites (pursuant to Ministerial Decision No. ΥΠΠΟ/ΓΔΑΠΚ/ΑΡΧ/Α1-Φ42/1020/62, *Government Gazette τ. Β' 1138/10.04.2012*).

Its main functions are:

- Interface between foreign producers and the Greek Industry Guide
- Guidance on filming permits and incentives
- Promotion of Locations and Industry Guide in international exhibitions and festival markets.
- Organization of training seminars for Greek professionals of the audiovisual industry.
- Support of location scouting trips of foreign producers.
- Cooperation with the competent Ministries and Public Authorities.
- Networking with local authorities.

The official website of the Hellenic Film Commission (www.filmcommission.gr) provides all relevant information on filming audiovisual productions in Greece, financial incentives, Locations Photo Gallery, detailed Industry Guide with professionals of the audiovisual industry, Greece promotion showreels, news, etc.



www.enterprisegreece.gov.gr



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