

Prince Edward Island Film Production Fund Deeming

Deeming is a way for a production to have imported labour be “deemed” as a resident of the jurisdiction for the duration of the employee(s) time working in the jurisdiction where production is happening.

Deeming is only available via pre-approval of deemed position and trainee(s), where it has been evidenced that no PEI resident is qualified and available to fill the role requested for deeming. The approach is akin to a simplified version of acquiring a Labour Market Opinion to support a request to offer employment to a skilled worker through an immigration stream.

This is a benefit to the production as it means the incentive will apply to that employee as if they were a local worker. It is a benefit to the jurisdiction in that the deemed employees must provide training and/or mentoring to local production workers. This training increases the capacity of the jurisdiction to provide professional crew to future productions.

Deeming is generally used for “Below the Line” crew members. There are two types of crew members – “Above the Line” refers to the members who are responsible for the creative development of the production and “Below the Line” which are members responsible for day-to-day in production and pre/post-production.

There are only a few film jobs that are consistently above the line—director, executive producer(s), producer(s), screenwriter(s), casting director(s), and principal cast (stars). Occasionally, Director of Photography is included in the above the line credits—however, this is usually only reserved for extremely well-known cinematographers.

The following are film production departments, where (below the line is generally eligible for deeming for heads of the department:

Writer

Director

Production Manager/Line Producer
Art Director
Production Designer
Editor
Director of Photography
Composer

Wardrobe
Key Hair
Key Makeup
Construction
Special Effects
Accounting

Electrical
Key Grip
Stunts
Location Sound Mixer
Visual Effects Artist

If there are positions deemed that are outside of below the line Department Heads, there must be a significant training component to local crew members.

Who do I contact with questions?

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