



An Introduction to WGA Payroll

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COUNT US IN



ACCOUNTANTS ARE IATSE TOO! ✨



What is the WGA?

The Writers Guild of America is the joint efforts of two different US labor unions representing TV and film writers.

- The Writers Guild of America, East (WGAE), headquartered in New York City.
- The Writers Guild of America West (WGAW), headquartered in Los Angeles.

They negotiate the WGA Basic Agreement together.

WGA BASIC AGREEMENT

wga.org

Includes all of the contracts and MOAs

Includes up to date rate cards

Most projects will fall under the WGA basic agreement.

The WGA low budget agreement only applies to projects less than 1.2 million (not the same as IATSE or SAG or DGA)

The screenshot shows the WGA website at the URL wga.org/contracts/contracts/mba. The page features the WGA logo and a navigation menu with links to MEMBERS, EMPLOYERS & AGENTS, CONTRACTS & ENFORCEMENT, THE GUILD, NEWS & EVENTS, and WRITERS' ROOM. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled "Contracts" and displays the "2020 Writers Guild of America Theatrical and Television Basic Agreement". Below the title, a paragraph explains that the MBA is the collective bargaining agreement covering most work done by WGA writers, and provides contact information for the Contracts Department. A list of links is provided, including the 2020 Minimum Basic Agreement, Memorandum of Agreement for the 2020 WGA Theatrical and Television Basic Agreement, Summary of the 2020 MBA, and 2020 MBA Contract Changes FAQ. A section for Previous Minimum Basic Agreements lists links for the 2017, 2014, and 2011 agreements. A sidebar on the left contains links to CONTRACTS & ENFORCEMENT, Contracts, Minimum Basic Agreement, Schedule of Minimums, Other Contracts, Submit Your Contract, Enforcement, Know Your Rights, and Credits. A sidebar on the right features UPCOMING EVENTS, including "80 For Brady: Guild Screenings Q&A with Sarah Haskins & Emily Halpern + Reception" and "Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania: Guild Screenings Q&A with Jeff Loveness", and a POPULAR LINKS section with links to Schedule of Minimums, Minimum Basic Agreement, Residuals, Dues & Earnings, Writers' Deal Hub, Guild FAQs, and Contact Us.

WGA WRITERS GUILD OF AMERICA WEST

Search & Lookups

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Schedule of Minimums

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Contracts

2020 Writers Guild of America Theatrical and Television Basic Agreement

The MBA is the collective bargaining agreement that covers most of the work done by WGA writers. If you have questions regarding the application or interpretation of its provisions, contact the Guild's [Contracts Department](#) or call (323) 782-4501.

► [2020 Minimum Basic Agreement](#)

► [Memorandum of Agreement for the 2020 WGA Theatrical and Television Basic Agreement](#)

► [Summary of the 2020 MBA](#)

► [2020 MBA Contract Changes FAQ](#)

Previous Minimum Basic Agreements

► [2017 Minimum Basic Agreement](#)

► [2014 Minimum Basic Agreement](#)

► [2011 Minimum Basic Agreement](#)

Schedule of Minimums

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 19 *80 For Brady: Guild Screenings Q&A with Sarah Haskins & Emily Halpern + Reception*

Feb 25 *Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania: Guild Screenings Q&A with Jeff Loveness*

[View all Events](#)

POPULAR LINKS

[Schedule of Minimums](#)

[Minimum Basic Agreement](#)

[Residuals](#)

[Dues & Earnings](#)

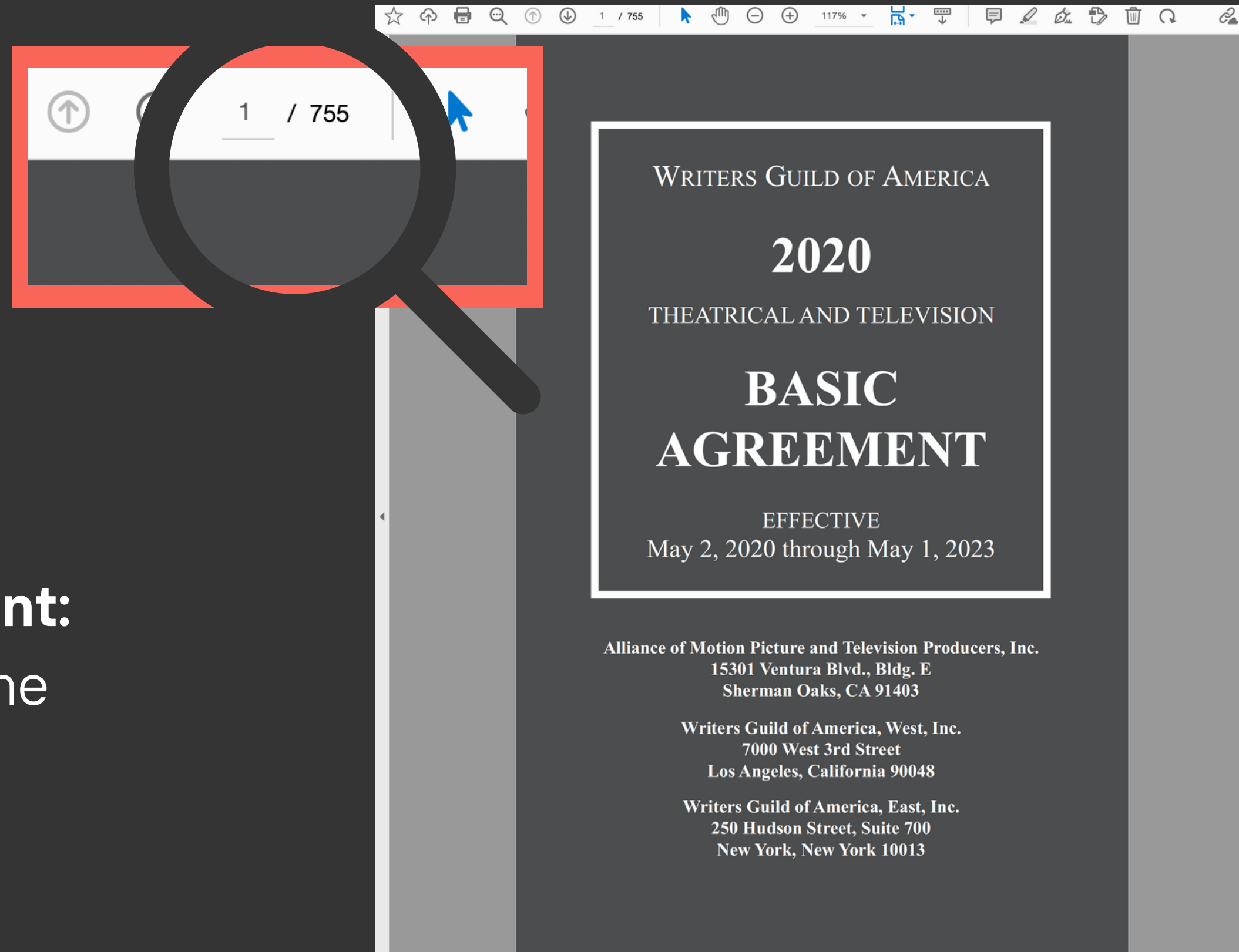
[Writers' Deal Hub](#)

[Guild FAQs](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Sourcing Contract Provisions

Daunting to confident:
Techniques to become
familiar with such an
immense agreement



COMMON TYPES OF PAYMENTS

- **WEEK TO WEEK
TERM EMPLOYMENT**

Staff Writers can be employed on a week to week basis or on a term basis (guaranteeing a specific number of weeks of employment)

- **"ADDITIONAL CAPACITIES"**

Payments for dual role positions such as Writer-Producer are divided between a WGA portion (subject to PHW) for writing services and a nonunion portion for producing.

COMMON TYPES OF PAYMENTS

- **SCRIPT PAYMENTS**

Payments specifically for writing part or all of a screenplay. These payments can be made to any professional writer (not just a staff writer).

- **CHARACTER PAYMENTS**

Payments for the reuse of a character from one series or episode that becomes a central character in another series or episode.

Timecards & Payment Schedules

Thank you for your time!

ANY QUESTIONS?