



SDGNZ RECOMMENDED EDITORS' RATE CARD

The rate quoted is considered fair and commensurate for an experienced story editor in film and television. It is still up to the editor to negotiate fees with a producer. The rate negotiated can be more or less depending on experience and talent, but a producer wishing to make programmes to a professional standard, be they drama, documentary, reality or corporate projects, should expect to be paying this amount. Every situation is unique and we strongly recommend that members contact the Guild over any queries. Nothing in this document is intended to hamper higher rates being sought and paid. The editors' rate card will be subject to an annual inflation adjusted increase each April.

Editor's rate, excluding tax: \$ 2,300 per week
 \$ 575 per day

Usually negotiated as a weekly rate for a 40 hour week, or an eight hour day.

The post production schedule should define a particular duration and finish date for the project's completion beyond which the fee should be re-negotiated at the appropriate rate (daily or weekly).

ADDITIONAL RATES CHARGEABLE

Unsociable Hours/Overtime

It is generally accepted that the normal working day is between the hours of 9am and 6pm, inclusive of a 1 hour lunch break. Reasonable working hours can fall between 7am and 8pm by negotiation. When a shift extends beyond these hours overtime rates should apply. Recommended rates are:

- First two hours @ T1.5, all hours thereafter @T2
- Work conducted outside these hours (as distinct from overtime) e.g. overnight shifts, should attract a penal rate of T1.25.
- Public holidays should be charged @ T2, or T1.5 plus a day off in lieu if possible within the duration of the production.

Pre-production / meetings

Editors should expect compensation for attending and providing input to any pre-production & pre-post production meetings, and / or discussing a production by phone call, where the total time involved exceeds 2 hours. The pro rata hourly rate should then be charged. This charge should also apply to overseeing sound mixes, grades, onlines etc.

Changing dates of bookings

Editors should expect compensation for dates changing at short notice. When booked for several weeks, it can be impossible to fill a sudden hole of a few days. SDGNZ suggests that on short notice changes to schedules, up to two days can be charged at full rate, on a sliding scale to 25%.



CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT

The SDGNZ Gold Book contains detailed contract advice, but here are a few tips:

- **Don't Work For Nothing** (those days are over)
Never start work without a clear deal contract, memo or fax that specifies your fee and payment dates. If these are not honoured, stop work and contact the Guild.
- **Buy Outs**
Refuse buys outs or flat fees that make no stipulation of total number of weekly hours expected to be worked, what hours of the day the shift(s) fall between and / or days in row without break to be worked.
- **Working Conditions**
All Editors are entitled to a workspace that provides adequate ventilation/temperature control, sound proofing, a suitable and comfortable chair, suitable/controllable lighting. The definition of workspace should mean 4 walls, a ceiling and a door, not open space or open partition.
- **Termination**
Your contract should specify that you will be paid in full if fired, unless you are “at fault” in which case you must be paid up to the date of termination. The Gold Book has detailed advice on this delicate matter.

