



INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHERS GUILD

Dec 2021

IATSE 667 TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CAMERA TRAINEES

What is a Camera Trainee?

A camera trainee in I.A.T.S.E. is a trainee member working on I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 signatory productions with professional film crews. The trainee will be enrolled in the I.A.T.S.E. Training Program. This program focuses on field training and provides an entry position into a motion picture career for those who aspire to be Camera Assistants and ultimately Cinematographers. Note: training is predominantly at the 2nd AC level, with exposure to the higher camera categories.

What is the benefit of my joining I.A.T.S.E. as a Camera Trainee?

As a Trainee enrolled in the I.A.T.S.E. 667 Training Program you will be working with and taught by some of the best film makers in the world and work on many large studio productions.

Trainees are assigned to different productions by the I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 Office. Through the Training Program, Camera Trainees are placed on signatory productions on a rotational basis and in a way that each Trainee will be exposed to and trained on a variety of motion picture cameras, and work with various camera crews. Throughout the training program, the participant will ideally train with ARRI, RED, Panavision, Panasonic and Sony camera systems.

Trainees are required to complete rotations on a minimum 6 to a maximum of 10 productions in the Training program. This takes approximately one to two years (up to a three year maximum), which ensures that they are familiar with all professional camera systems and genres. Trainees will learn leading edge skills and develop professionalism through our training that is recognized throughout North America.

Once the training Program is completed, and upon successful upgrade to 2nd Assistant Cameraperson, you will be a freelance assistant and will be securing employment on your own merits and the contacts you have made as a Camera Trainee.

The I.A.T.S.E. 667 Camera Trainee is recognized in the Collective Agreement as part of the minimum crew requirements. The trainee rate is subject to the **provincial minimum wage** on all I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 Agreements. The trainee will receive overtime pay for all overtime work performed as per contract.

In addition to the trainee wage, **fringe benefits** will include:

1. **Vacation Pay**, remitted by producers when working under an I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 Collective Agreement. These funds will be paid directly to the member.
2. **Group Retirement Savings Plan (GRSP)** a benefit provided by the Producer under Collective Agreements which consists of a percentage of the member's gross wages plus vacation pay, remitted to the I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 Group RSP. Our Group RSP plan is with Great-West Life and all members must sign up with Great-West Life upon joining I.A.T.S.E. Local 667. An information booklet and application forms are provided with the membership application package.
3. **Health & Welfare Benefits** - a benefit provided by the Producer under Collective Agreements. A percentage of the member's gross wages plus vacation pay is remitted to the I.A.T.S.E. Local 667/669 Health & Welfare Trust Fund. All new members automatically qualify for the level 1 Benefits which consists of life insurance and access to confidential counselling provided by Shepell under the Member Assistance Program.

When you work under an I.A.T.S.E. Collective Agreement, the producer remits health & welfare benefits to the trust fund. At the end of the calendar year, these remittances are calculated for each individual member to determine their benefit level. We currently have four levels of benefits of varying cost and benefit eligibilities. The benefits may include dental, health care, vision care and short-term disability. You are also able to purchase into a higher benefit level, either 3 months after you become a member or in the first quarter of each year.

For more information go to www.iatse667.com, or contact the Local 667 office 416-368-0072, camera@iatse667.com

How to Apply to the I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 Training Program *:

To apply for a camera trainee position in the training program, you are required to submit an application to the I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 office. You must be a **Canadian Citizen** or have **Permanent Resident / Landed Immigrant Status**.

Please include the following in your application * (NORTHERN, OTTAWA and ATLANTIC RESIDENTS: if you do not have everything listed below, you can start with sending us a resume and add to the application at a later date):

- a. **Cover letter** of intent detailing why you have chosen to work in camera as a career option.
- b. **Resume** including:
 - i. Camera assistant, camera trainee and related film experience (not necessarily just camera any set/industry experience is an asset). Include number of days worked and state whether it was paid, volunteer or student position. Note the ACs on the show and DP/Operator. (see sample trainee resume on our website)
 - ii. Film, camera or media studies education
 - iii. Specific skills that may apply to the camera or camera equipment (including electronic or digital production)
 - iv. Languages spoken, town/city of residence
- c. A **copy of certification** proving successful completion of/or enrolment in a film-related program eg. Sheridan College's Motion Picture Camera Assistant Workshop*, CSC Camera Assistant Program, Maine Media Film & Television Workshops, or other College/ University film/television studies. Note: studies in motion film and digital media are not mandatory, but are strongly suggested.
* **Recommended (but not mandatory):** In conjunction with Sheridan College (Oakville, Ontario), I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 members have been hired to formulate and teach the Ontario **Sheridan College Motion Picture Camera Assistant Workshop 1 and 2**. Please contact Sheridan College for additional information iatse667@sheridancollege.ca. Sheridan course is **POSTPONED temporarily due to COVID 19**.
- d. **3x letters of reference**, particularly from camera crew members or film professionals with whom you have worked. A letter from a 667 member is recommended, but not required.

Please send your application to:

I.A.T.S.E. Local 667 p 419-368-0072

229 Wallace Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6H 1V5

OR email application to camera@iatse667.com

Please only use a simple folder or paper clips when putting together the package: no fancy binders or staples. If emailing, please send as one complete, stitched together PDF attachment, not a series of attached PDFs, JPEGs and/or WORD documents.

The deadline for all TORONTO applications is the Friday of the third week of December (approx. Dec 17th). **There is NO specific deadline for Northern Ontario, Ottawa or Atlantic resident applicants.**

We date stamp all application packages when we receive them in our office and maintain a file throughout the year. In the event you submit an application, you are encouraged to send in an updated resume when your film set work experience (specifically in camera) increases. Updates will be attached to your initial resume.

PLEASE NOTE: Not everyone who applies can be accepted. The market demand forms the basis of our camera trainee requirements. Therefore, placement in our training Program is driven by industry conditions and crew requirements.

In the event you are not selected, we encourage you to continue to seek alternate employment in the film industry to build up your experience and contacts in order to re-apply at a later date.