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## ACTRA Additional Background Performers

If you do a lot of work as a background performer under the Independent Production Agreement (IPA), consider joining ACTRA as an **ACTRA Additional Background Performer** and becoming a member of Canada's professional performers' union. To join ACTRA you must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. ACTRA members cannot work on non-union productions. Consider the commitments involved before you join ACTRA.

### How to qualify

If you have worked 24 days as a background performer on an ACTRA set within the last 12 months, you are eligible to apply for membership as an ACTRA Additional Background Performer. Apply in person at the ACTRA Toronto Membership Department by completing an application form and presenting proof of your 24 work days as a background performer. Bring a current photo and résumé. You will be mailed a photo-ID ACTRA Additional Background Performers membership card so you can attend ACTRA Toronto's free member conferences and take advantage of discounts available to ACTRA members.

### Dues and fees

ACTRA Additional Background Performers basic dues are **\$30**, paid each year in April. When you apply, you will be asked to pay an initiation fee of **\$75** plus the annual basic dues. To maintain your membership as an ACTRA Additional Background Performer you must work 15 days as a background performer a year, measured from March 1. **Please note:** the \$75 initiation fee is currently waived. New ACTRA Additional Background members are only required to pay the \$30 annual basic dues.

### Rights for ACTRA Additional Background Performers

ACTRA Additional Background Performers are protected by ACTRA's Independent Production Agreement (IPA). ACTRA Additional Background Performers benefit from the union's negotiating power with producers that results in better wages and working conditions, improved job opportunities and better protection.

ACTRA Additional Background Performers who qualify can register to participate in ratification votes on ACTRA agreements they work under, and serve on ACTRA Toronto's various committees. ACTRA Additional Background Performers do not have voting rights in elections and can't hold elected positions at ACTRA except to the ACTRA Additional Background Performer Committee.

**The ACTRA Additional Background Performer Committee** is an elected group representing the concerns of ACTRA Additional Background Performers within ACTRA. The committee addresses issues of concern to ACTRA Additional Background Performers, monitors relations between performers and agents, advocates ways to better protect and promote background performers and debates and presents proposals to ACTRA's negotiating committees.

**ACTRA members must keep an up-to-date photo on file with ACTRA Toronto, and keep us up-to-date on changes to your address, agent and other relevant personal information.**

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**ACTRA Toronto** has more than 15,000 members and is the largest organization within ACTRA (Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists). As an advocate for Canadian culture since 1943, ACTRA continues to secure the rights and respect for the work of professional performers.