

Indie Toolbox

All Our Rate Guides

Amanda Hickman October 4, 2019

AIR is actively developing a series of guides designed to update our 2012 rate guides, help independent producers set fair and reasonable rates, and to help everyone create accurate and realistic budgets. We've released three of those guides and have a few more in the edit queue.

We worked with experienced radio freelancers to estimate the number of days they spent on stories, reviewed union contracts and interviewed countless podcast production houses to capture insights into salaries in the industry, interviewed editors and producers about what they expect to pay for professional work, and researched salary and compensation surveys in (and adjacent to) radio and audio.

Find all of our rate guides right here!

- * 2019 Guide to Day Rates
- * 2019 Guide to Tape Syncs
- * 2019 Guide to Public Radio Features
- * 2019 Guide to Engineering and Composition Rates

Forthcoming guides will cover sound design, composition, engineering and editing. We'll update AIRDaily and this post when those are live.

We are committed to updating these rates but anything that is more than a year old should be adjusted to account for inflation and changes in the cost of living. That change isn't consistent year over year, but 2.5% per year is a reasonable figure to use if you don't have access to a better figure.

Is there another guide that you need, to help you figure out how to price your work or budget for a new show? We want to hear from you! Contact amanda@airmedia.org if you have feedback on our rate recommendations.

Thank you!

We're immensely grateful to everyone who took the time to share their experiences and expectations and help shape these guides. We owe a debt of gratitude to each of these folks for their time, insights and candor. Particular thanks to:

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Recommended

What indies want to know
Rate Guide: Tape Syncs
Rate Guide: Engineering and Composition
All Our Rate Guides
Rate Guide: Day Rates
Rate Guide: Public Radio

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