

FAQs

THE PROGRAM

What happened to the HBO Access Writing Program?

The HBO Access Writing Program is being rebranded as the WarnerMedia Access Writers Program starting in 2021! This revamped program is being scaled across the entire enterprise to expand the talent pool of emerging voices.

How long will the program last? What are the time commitments?

The program will run from mid-July 2021 through late January 2022. The first week will be a “boot camp” with multiple sessions over the course of three days. After that, we will meet 1 – 2 times a week through January with a couple breaks for the holidays. Sessions will generally last 1 – 2 hours and will be done virtually. Timing of the sessions are TBD.

Will there be a stipend?

No.

CRITERIA

Do I have to live in or be able to travel to LA for the program?

No. The program will be 100% virtual.

I live outside the US. Can I apply? Will you handle my visa?

We accept submissions from international candidates, provided you have the right to work in the US. The Program will not be able to sponsor you or pay for your visa.

I am currently staffed (or was staffed before) on a TV show. Am I eligible?

Yes. As long as you haven't been staffed on more than one TV show.

I am currently a WarnerMedia employee. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes.

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APPLICATION

When is the deadline?

All applications must be submitted by 11:59pm PT on Sunday, March 21. No exceptions.

How do I apply?

All submissions must be made through our portal at warnermediaccess.submittable.com. Submissions via email will not be accepted.

Is there an application fee?

There are no fees associated with submitting to any WarnerMedia Access program.

Do you take writing teams?

Yes.

Do you accept letters of recommendation?

No. We do not require letters of recommendation.

Can my agent/manager just send you my stuff?

No. Only applications received through our submission portal will be accepted.

I missed the deadline! Can I just email you directly?

Sadly, no. We have a thorough evaluation process that takes several months to accomplish, so we are unable to push our timeline to accommodate late applicants. Please apply in 2022!

Will I receive feedback on my application?

Unfortunately, given the high volume of expected applicants, we are unable to provide feedback on submissions.

Will I receive confirmation that you received my application?

Yes. After you submit your application, you will receive an automatic confirmation email. If you do not, please email access.writers@warnermedia.com

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APPLICATION SAMPLES

Do I have to have two writing samples?

Yes. Please submit two original samples within the same genre, so we can adequately evaluate your writing capability. Samples must be a minimum of 30 pages and a maximum of 65 pages.

Do you accept anything other than TV scripts, like features, plays or short stories?

Television scripts are preferred, but we will accept any form of narrative writing as long as it is within 30 - 65 pages.

Do the samples have to be drama samples, or can they be different genres?

We welcome samples of any type or genre.

Do both samples need to be in the same genre/style?

In order to best evaluate you as a writer, we suggest submitting two samples that are in the same genre/style.

Are spec scripts accepted?

No. We want to get a sense of your unique voice, so only original samples will be accepted.

Do I have to give up ownership of the samples I provide?

No. We will require a signed submission release form, but you will retain full ownership of your material.

How are both samples weighted? If an applicant's first script is outstanding, but the second script is weaker, how would you evaluate the applicant?

We will be conducting a holistic evaluation of each applicant based on their application, samples and interview.

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SELECTION

How are writers selected?

Due to the high demand and limited space available for the workshop, a rigorous evaluation process will be implemented to identify the strongest writers who showcase a broad scope of perspectives. An application will be reviewed, along with multiple rounds of reading of both samples and a video interview. Writers will be judged on their technical craft, storytelling capability and overall readiness for staffing in a writers room.

How many writers will be selected?

We will select up to 20 writers.

When will I know the status of my application?

All applicants will be notified of their status by the end of June at the very latest. Given the high volume of expected applications, we discourage email check-ins until after July 1. Thank you for your patience!