

# The Importance of E&O Insurance for TV & Film Producers



Errors and omissions insurance (E&O) is a common protection for service professionals such as accountants, real estate agents and contractors. E&O is also a vital protection for TV and film producers, as it protects an individual or company from financial loss due to legal action. It is typically required when a production company signs a distribution or broadcast contract.

### What E&O Covers

E&O insurance for TV and film producers covers the costs of legal liability and defense against lawsuits alleging unauthorized use of titles, formats, ideas, plots and characters. It also covers the costs of lawsuits claiming plagiarism, breach of contract, unfair competition, piracy, invasion of privacy, slander, libel and defamation of character.

### How to Obtain E&O Coverage

E&O insurance is usually acquired after a film, television pilot, television series or documentary is finished and ready for distribution. Anyone involved in the creation and dissemination of creative property needs E&O insurance.

Filmmakers and production companies must perform due diligence in order to get an E&O insurance policy. This may include obtaining written releases for the use of the faces or likenesses of any recognizable living people used in the production, musical rights from the owners

or composers of the music, and clearance reports that state that the necessary copyrights have been obtained for any copyrighted materials used in the production.

The next step in obtaining coverage is to complete an application. The application usually includes the following:

- The **producer's biography or resume** to show that the producer has production experience
- The **script, synopsis and copy of the production** for review
- A **title report** completed by a title search company to ensure that the title of the production is not too similar to an existing production, which can potentially lead to legal action

Every production is unique and requires a tailored E&O policy. Working closely with TPG Insurance Services will help you feel secure knowing that you have coverage if you face litigation after your production is distributed.

Provided by TPG Insurance Services