What the Program Is: Washington Filmworks (WF) is a non-profit organization that manages the film office and financial resources to support the statewide film industry. Washington Filmworks is piloting a Media Mentorship Program, with a focus on BIPOC and individuals from underrepresented groups. The program has three parts:

Education: We’ll teach you the fundamentals of the film industry, including what each department on a film set does, what organizations support people trying to find work in the industry, and what to do on a film set. By the end of the class, you’ll know how to read a call sheet, what to say on a walkie, and what a gaffer does!

Mentorships: After you’ve learned the basics of the industry, Washington Filmworks in partnership with IATSE 488 will connect you with a mentor who will be able to answer your specific questions, talk to you one-on-one, and help introduce you to other people who work in departments that you’re interested in.

Opportunity to Work as a Production Assistant: Each person who goes through the program will be able to apply for a job as a production assistant on a project that Washington Filmworks approves for funding assistance! Washington Filmworks will put your resumes and cover letters forward to productions. If hired, you will also have the added benefit of an on-site mentor. Someone designated to help you learn the ropes and answer questions while you work as a production assistant.
What does a production assistant do? A production assistant is an entry-level position on a film set. No day is the same when you are a production assistant and the role of a production assistant varies on each job. Some tasks that you might do on set include moving and operating equipment, answering phones, transporting people, and acting as a “gopher” taking items from one department to another.

Compensation
Each participant will be given a stipend to cover their participation in the educational intensive and up to 5 hours of your time with an off-site mentor. If hired by a production, you will be paid by the production.

Application Requirements
- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must be a Washington State resident
- Must reside near one of Washington State’s two production centers of Seattle or Spokane
- Must submit a resume and cover letter
- Must submit one Letter of Recommendation

Next Steps
If you meet the application requirements and are interested in learning more about the program, please contact our partner organizations directly:

Northwest Film Forum (Seattle)  Spokane Film Project (Spokane)
Vivian Hua  Rebecca Cook

Have a question for Washington Filmworks? Email us at Info@WashingtonFilmworks.org.