

How to Get an Open Signal TV Series (A Guide for First-Time Producers)

Are you interested in having a series on Open Signal's cable channels? Once you have a series, you're guaranteed regularly scheduled timeslots for one season, which helps you to promote your show and develop your audience. You'll also get to schedule regular studio time at Open Signal to record your show.

If you want a series, you'll need to apply two months before the start of a season, during Open Signal's two-week series application window. We have four seasons throughout the year – fall, winter, spring and summer. We'll let you know when application periods are coming up, both through signage at our facility and via email alerts.

Series Application Process

1. **Submit pilots (2)**

For your application to be considered, you'll need to create two pilot shows first, of the same length and with the same theme. For example, if you intend to do a health show consisting of thirty-minute local interviews in our studio, your pilots should resemble that content and format.

You can submit these pilots at the same time you're applying for a series. The pilots don't have to be content you made at Open Signal – for instance, if you already have a web series, you can submit two episodes of that.

The purpose of the pilot rule is to help you with planning your series. You can use these two episodes to launch your show, which helps with managing your upcoming show deadlines.

2. **Schedule yourself to come in to Open Signal**

Your pilots and shows need submitted and uploaded onsite at Open Signal from your Open Signal online dashboard.

3. **Create a new series project and series request**

Projects are created in your Open Signal dashboard. The settings of your project are used to create series shows and are shared with TV Guide. It is important that this information is filled out correctly. [See directions here.](#)

4. **Need assistance?**

Please contact distribution [at] opensignalspdx.org, or ask a front desk staff member.

Series Frequency Options

Series frequency is the number of episodes assigned to you during a 3-month season:

- Monthly = 3 shows
- Bi-weekly = 6 shows
- Weekly = 13 shows

We want you to be successful with your series. We are here to help you with the demands of creating or delivering shows with a deadline. For your first series, we advise you to choose a series frequency that you think you can easily manage.

Here are some recommended guidelines:

- If you are going to produce a show in our studios or outside them with our field equipment, try monthly or bi-weekly frequency.
- If your shows are pre-produced and ready to submit (either produced elsewhere or from your own library), try a weekly series.

All shows have a required submission deadline of 48 hours before their premiere date. If you are unable to produce a LIVE show, you must submit a suitable replacement show, which we ask you upload yourself onsite at Open Signal.

Please contact staff if you need assistance. Missing two or more scheduled airings may result in series cancellation.

If you have any questions regarding the series application process, please feel free to contact Emily Roland, Media Services Distribution Lead, at distribution@opensignalspdx.org or 503-482-8798.