

Cinematographer Collaboration Checklist

Project Essentials

- Detailed project description and objectives.
- Confirmation of the platform for final content (cinema, streaming, television, etc.)
- Intellectual property rights: Who holds the copyright?

Compensation & Financials

- Detailed breakdown of the cinematographer's compensation, including base pay, overtime, bonuses, etc.
- Payment schedule (e.g., upfront, milestones, post-project) with exact dates.
- Penalty clauses for delays in payment.
- Provision for unforeseen expenses.

Creative Control & Feedback

- Level of creative input the cinematographer will have.
- Mechanism for providing and receiving feedback.
- Number of revisions or reshoots included, if any.

Equipment & Resources

- Clear list of provided equipment vs. equipment expected from the cinematographer.
- Compensation for equipment wear and tear or any damages.
- Clauses covering equipment loss or theft on set.

Logistics & Travel

- Detailed accommodation and travel arrangements for out-of-town shoots.
- Class/type of travel accommodation (e.g., economy, business class for flights; type of lodging).
- Per diem or daily allowance for meals and other expenses.
- Arrangements for transportation to and from the shoot location.

Team Dynamics & Communication

- Clear hierarchy: Who does the cinematographer report to?
- Mechanisms for conflict resolution.
- Regularly scheduled update meetings.

Safety & Insurance

- Details on insurance coverage: both for equipment and personal injury.
- Safety protocols and precautions in place, especially for risky shoots.
- Provisions for medical emergencies.

Post-production & Final Deliverables

- Cinematographer's involvement in post-production.
- Deadlines for each stage.
- Final deliverable formats.

Rights, Usage & Distribution

- Agreement on the cinematographer's right to use the content for their portfolio.
- Limitations, if any, on the distribution or sharing of the content.
- Duration of exclusivity (if applicable).

Contractual Obligations

- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
- Clauses covering project cancellation or early termination.
- Non-compete or confidentiality agreements.

Miscellaneous

- Method and frequency of communication.
- Guidelines for publicizing involvement on the project (e.g., social media sharing).
- Provisions for personal needs or accommodations on set.