

**Q : Which organization grants a shooting permit?**

A : Thailand Film Office. It is under the Office of Tourism Development, where a shooting permit is granted, not to be confused with the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT).

**Q : How do I start?**

A : Film makers wishing to shoot a film in Thailand are required to hire a Thai co-ordinator companies to help, as there are procedures to follow both before and after the filming permit is granted. They also help you with local permissions and contacting Thai authorities and local Thais concerned in your production.

**Q : What else does the coordinator do?**

A : The coordinator does such transactions as helping the film crew to obtain work permits, giving you advice on tax payment, and general production support.

**Q : How do I find a coordinator?**

A : Thailand Film Office has a full list of coordinators. Some coordinators specialize in serving Japanese clients, and some have experience working with American or European film makers. By laws, Freelance is permitted to work for a production not exceeding 15 days.

Its qualification is not suitable for a big production e.g. feature films, TV series, docudramas or fictions. For both parties benefits, the agreement letter must be done. You can find the list of local co-ordinators that registered with the Thailand Film Office at HYPERLINK "<http://www.thailandfilmoffice.org>" [www.thailandfilmoffice.org](http://www.thailandfilmoffice.org) .

**Q : What kind of production can apply for a shooting permit at the One Stop Service Center?**

A : TV commercial, Documentaries, Music Video and TV programmes that should not contain any negative content or adverse actions towards the Kingdom of Thailand can be apply for permission at the One-Stop-Service Center.

**Q : What documents do I have to submit at the One-Stop-Service Center?**

A : 1. A letter made by the assigned local co-ordinator, informing the Director-General of the Office of Tourism Development of the purpose of applying for a shooting permit.

2. An assignment letter made by the foreign filmmaker, showing they have chosen and hired a local co-ordinator.
3. An application form.

4. Supporting documents needed for permit consideration :

- ◆ Storyboard for TV commercials
- ◆ Treatment for documentaries
- ◆ Theme (concept) and Lyrics for music videos
- ◆ Details of content and objectives of programme
- ◆ presentation for TV programmes.

5. A schedule of filming in Thailand specifying exact dates and locations. (for all types of productions)

6. Namelist, passport numbers, positions and arrival dates of foreign film crews.

**Q : How long does it takes to receive permission at the One Stop Service Center?**

A : The process will be completed within 3 working days.

**Q : Where the other types of production can be submitted?**

A : The types of film productions which are Feature Film, Docudrama, TV drama and Mini Series should submit for a shooting permit at the Thailand Film Office 4th floor, building 2, Office of Tourism Development.

**Q : What documents required for submitting?**

A : The required documents are as follows (Original and 25 copies of each):

1. A letter made by the assigned local co-ordinator, informing the Director- General of the Office of Tourism Development of the purpose of applying for a shooting permit.

2. An assignment letter made by the foreign filmmaker, showing they have chosen and hired a local co-ordinator.

3. An application form.

4. Supporting documents needed for permit consideration :

- ◆ Synopsis
- ◆ A treatment
- ◆ Full script

5. A schedule of filming in Thailand informed period of filming and locations.

6. Namelist, passport numbers, positions and arrival dates of foreign film crews.

**Q : How long will it take to get the approval ?**

A : For feature films, TV series, docudramas, or any fictional stories: Allow no less than 14 working days for the Thailand Film Office to consider the script.

NOTE : Depending on the requirements of the script ie. Involving national parks, temples and so on. The period for approval may take slightly longer as the Film Office has to arrange for the other government departments concerned to view script as well.

**Q : How do I know if my film will obtain permission to shoot?**

A : Permission will be issued after we studied your script. If it is not acceptable, the Film Office will inform you of the reasons. Whether you agree to make changes to your script is up to each film maker.

**Q : Are there any restrictions?**

A : When shooting in Thailand, it is advisable that you do not have anything in the script that offends Thailand's national institutions, religion, customs and culture. The film must not be deemed as threat to security. Finally, shooting must not cause any significant effect/damage on the environment.

**Q : What is the process to film in such places as the National Parks, Historical Parks, Grand Palace, or temples?**

A : You must first obtain the permission to film from the film office. Then your local coordinator can proceed to contact the related locations with the filming permission in hand.

**Q : Are there any fees for the filming permit?**

A : No, there is no fees for the filming permit .

**Q : Are there any other expenses?**

A : Yes there is. Once the permit is granted, a representative from The Film Office is required to attend the shooting days. A per diem for the representative is 2,000 Baht per day and is covered by the film maker. Should the official need to travel outside of Bangkok then air fares, accommodations and meals should be arranged for the official, this cost is also covered by the film maker.

For documentary, commercial advertisements, and music VDO, the film crew will be accompanied by one representative.

For feature films, docudramas and TV series, the Thailand Film Office will assign one representative to accompany each shooting unit. If the shoot is more than 10 hours a day, there will be two representatives per unit.

**Q : How do I need to pay for location fee?**

A : Location fees and other production matters should be discussed with the appointed local coordinator. This is why it is essential to appoint an experience coordinator. The local coordinator will deal with production issues.

**Q : What is the duty of Thai Film Board's representative?**

A : The duty of Thai Film Board's representative is to make sure that what is actually being shot has followed the script that has been previously approved. Should scenes vary from the script the representative is there to advise as to whether it is possible to shoot those scenes or not.

**Q : Which kind of visa do we need ?**

A : Crews intending to work in Thailand within 15 days can do tourist visa. Only crews working more than 15 days must have a non-immigrant multiple type visa.

**Q : Do short stay crew need work permits ?**

A : Yes, they need to have. Both require work permits. Crews working within 15 days will need a form notifying by the Employment Department whereas crews staying over 15 days will need to submit more detailed documents, your local coordinator can help you with this.

**Q : Is there a fee for the work permit?**

A : Yes there is a fee but only for crews working more than 15 days. The fee rate is based on the working period. The minimum fee rate is 750 Baht for working within 3 months. A fee of 1,500 Baht is for a period of 6 months. A fee of 3,000 Baht is valid for over 6 months but no longer than 1 year.

**Q : Do the crew have to apply and collect the work permit at the Employment Department themselves?**

A : No, the coordinator can organize the work permits for the crews.

**Q : I got the approval from Thailand Film Office and I showed the permission letter to some location but I didn't get the permit to film in that places. What should I do ?**

A : The film permission enables you to film in Thailand but you have to negotiate each location yourself or by your local coordinator. The owners of the locations will need to know that you have filming permission in hand.

**Q : I have not done an ATA CARNET for the equipments. Can I bring in and out these equipments without ATA CARNET?**

A : Yes, if you don't have ATA CARNET you must prepare cash or bank guarantee accepted only Thai Banks to guarantee your equipments. The amount of cash or bank guarantee is based on the values of equipments.

**Q : Do I need to get permission before shooting in Thailand?**

A : Yes, you do. Shooting without a permit is a violation of the law.