

# FILM AND VIDEO EDITORS AND CAMERA OPERATORS

Film and video editors and camera operators record images that entertain or inform an audience. Camera operators capture a wide range of material for TV shows, motion pictures, music videos, documentaries, or news and sporting events. Editors construct the final productions from the many different images that camera operators capture. They collaborate with producers and directors to create the final production.

## DUTIES

Camera operators and film and video editors typically do the following:

- Choose and present interesting material for an audience
- Work with a director to determine the overall vision of the production
- Discuss filming and editing techniques with a director to improve a scene
- Select the appropriate equipment, from type of camera to software for editing
- Shoot or edit a scene based on the director's vision

Most camera operators have one or more assistants working under their supervision. The assistants set up the camera equipment and may be responsible for storing it and caring for it. They also help the operator determine the best shooting angle and make sure that the camera stays in focus.

Likewise, editors usually have a few assistants. The assistant supports the editor by keeping track of each shot in a database. Assistants may do some editing themselves.

The increased use of digital filming has changed the work of many camera operators and editors. Many camera operators prefer using digital cameras, because these instruments give the operator more angles to shoot from. Digital cameras have also changed the job of some camera assistants: instead of loading film or choosing lenses, they download digital images or choose a type of software program to use with the camera.

Nearly all editing work is done on a computer, and editors often are trained in a specific type of editing software.



## SALARY INFORMATION

Location	2018				
	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
California	\$42,090	\$58,130	\$85,910	\$150,230	\$208,000+

\*Pay period based on yearly amount.

## EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK



Stable growth rate  
is estimated to be **6%**



**1,650** estimated annual  
job openings

## RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Set and Exhibit Designers  
Photographers  
Film and Video Editors  
Costume Attendants  
Makeup Artists, Theatrical and Performance



## SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE MAJORS

Film Television and Media Arts for Transfer | Film Television and Media Arts  
Film Television and Media Arts Production Specialist