ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

**THE PERSUADER
THE ORGANIZER
THE BUILDER**

The Assistant Director (AD) is usually hired by the producer, director, or unit production manager to make sure the director has all the elements in place to complete their vision while also ensuring that the principal photography (aka "shooting") is completed on budget and in a timely, efficient and safe manner.

⚙ SKILLS NEEDED

✓ Problem solving and flexibility
✓ Time Management
✓ Communication skills
✓ Patience
✓ Endurance
✓ Multi-task Attention to detail
✓ Ability to lead and manage groups of people

$ SALARY

Starting Median: $1754/week as an Additional 2nd AD
Mid-Career Median: $3056/week as a 2nd AD

🎓 EDUCATION

Film school is not required, but attending a school and living in a city that has an active film environment is important.

☰ THINGS TO DO IN HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

✓ Get experience and work for free
  ✓ Look for internships on feature films or work on short films.
✓ Watch films and TV shows.

"There is not one day that is the same. I have the opportunity to work with many different people and various projects. I get to see the fruits of my labor rather quickly after shooting the TV show or feature film."

Alicia Cho, 2nd 2nd AD

💼 HOW TO LAND YOUR 1ST JOB

✓ 1st job will be a Production Assistant.
  ✓ Check film commission sites for all states to find out what is shooting.
  ✓ Contact the office and ask if they are looking for interns.
  ✓ Use your alumni and personal network to find anybody that will be willing to give you internship.
✓ Work hard to keep up with contacts, and not be afraid of rejection.
✓ In order to qualify to join the DGA (the union), you must have the following
  ✓ 600 days as a production assistant and 150 days as a DGA assistant director outside of Southern California
  ✓ 400 days as a non-union AD
  ✓ 400 days as a DGA trainee

📄 RESOURCES

Directors Guild of America | Variety | Production Weekly

To learn more about this career, visit

www. **GLADEO** .org