Residuals & Self-Distribution Revenue Tracker — Quickstart

Slate & Ledger • what your film earns after release, not what it cost to make • 2026-2027 edition

Open it

Open the workbook in Excel, Google Sheets, or Apple Numbers — it's built and tested to open and recalculate correctly in all three. This is for **after** a real distribution deal exists: every input defaults to $0 or “No,” and every result shows $0 or a placeholder figure until you plug in real deal numbers. That's expected, not a bug — it pairs with the Micro-Budget Film Budget Builder, picking up once your project is finished and released.

1 SAG-AFTRA residuals

- If your cast was paid under a SAG-AFTRA contract, enter each performer's **Role** and **Original Compensation** (their day rate or contracted fee) in the Per-Performer Residuals table near the bottom of the Residuals – SAG-AFTRA tab.
- Fill in whichever distribution categories actually apply above it — Free TV, Pay TV/Basic Cable, Home Video/DVD, SVOD, Foreign, or New Media/AVOD — and the per-performer table sums everything they're owed across every category that applies.
- Have a formal SAG-AFTRA signatory New Media/AVOD distribution deal (not self-distribution)? Use the New Media/Ad-Supported Internet section on this same tab.

2 WGA residuals

- If your screenplay was written under a WGA contract, use this once a real distribution deal exists. Theatrical reuse (Free TV/Pay TV/Basic Cable/New Media) uses a real, sourced **1.2% of Distributor's Gross Receipts** — consistent across the 2017/2020/2023/2026 agreements.
- Home Video/DVD uses a flagged placeholder rate — the WGA doesn't publish one clean public percentage for it the way it does for theatrical reuse.
- Splits the total across up to 4 credited writers by percentage.

3 YouTube Ad Revenue Tracker (self-distribution)

- For self-distribution **outside** a union contract: enter gross ad revenue and it applies YouTube's standard **55/45 creator split**, recoups your remaining production costs, then splits the remainder across up to 10 participants (cast, crew, writer/director, investors) — a check flags if the shares ever add up to over 100%.

4 New Media Deferred Comp

- If your project was budgeted using the Film Budget Builder's **New Media (Deferred) Union Tier**, use this tab once the project is actually released or sold — that's the real trigger that makes the cast's already-negotiated pay immediately due. This is base compensation coming due, not a residual and not a deferred-pay deal like the YouTube tracker — a genuinely different obligation, with its own tab.

Good to know

- **Color key:** blue text on yellow = enter your own numbers; black text = calculated, don't overwrite; green text = a calculated result highlighted for visibility. A ■ note flags a structural placeholder (the shape is modeled correctly, but the exact current percentage isn't publicly tabulated or is periodically renegotiated) — confirm those with SAG-AFTRA or the WGA directly. The **Sources** tab carries the full citation for every sourced rate.
- **Need more rows** than are built in? Select an existing row, copy it (Cmd/Ctrl+C), right-click the row below it, and choose Insert Copied Cells. A plain blank Insert Row will NOT carry the formula over — always copy an existing row.
- This is a **single-period snapshot**, not a running ledger — duplicate the relevant tab per distribution period if you're tracking more than one.
- DGA residuals aren't modeled (no automatable minimum published at this budget level — contact the DGA directly), and the WGA's High Budget SVOD residual is noted informationally only, not calculated.

Not legal, financial, or production advice, and not guaranteed accurate for your production. Confirm every rate and requirement directly with SAG-AFTRA's Contracts Department, the WGA's Residuals Department, or a qualified entertainment attorney or accountant before relying on it for a real payment. One-time purchase — no subscription, no account, no server. Provided “as is”, 2026-2027 edition.