

ALBUQUERQUE'S Film Sector

Thrillist in 2019 and 2020 ranked Albuquerque at the top of its “Best American Cities for Creatives (That You Can Actually Afford to Live In).”

Albuquerque is the nation’s leading alternative for film production outside of L.A. and New York – essentially serving as the industry’s Third Coast.

- MovieMaker Magazine ranks Albuquerque as No.1 on its list of best big cities in which to live and work as a moviemaker, calling us a “marquee player” in the industry and a “regional powerhouse.”

No other state has more attractive or competitive incentives.

- Albuquerque offers a 25%-30% refundable tax credit on goods and service expenses.
- The Film Crew Advancement Program gives productions a 50% reimbursement of below-the-line crafts workers’ wages for up to 1,040 hours of work if the job trains them in additional skills that will help advance their careers.
- The Non-Resident Below-the-Line Crew Credit is a 15% credit allowed for the payment of wages for BTL crew who are not New Mexico residents.

Netflix and NBCUniversal have set the stage for other film giants to choose Albuquerque as a production hub.

- Both companies occupy local state-of-the-art studios and have committed to minimum production spends over a 10-year period.



Albuquerque has one of the largest and most diverse crew bases between the coasts.

- Our educational institutions routinely develop curriculum to ensure skill sets align with industry demand. Community College of Central New Mexico graduates primarily BTL crew; University of New Mexico offers degrees in ATL work, like directing, screenwriting and producing, set design and special effects.

Our airport is easy to navigate and has 2-hour direct flights to/from LAX and Burbank.

Albuquerque and New Mexico can double as just about any location in the world due to our diverse landscapes.

- Examples include Pittsburgh, Louisiana, New York, Chicago, Germany, Israel, Morocco, Africa, the Middle East, and even Mars!

Albuquerque saves production companies money and time.

- Film schedules are more likely to run on time due to our abundant sunshine and lack of natural disasters.

Albuquerque shares and promotes Hollywood’s values.

- The City has an Office of Equity & Inclusion intended to better address racial disparities and to achieve equity across all populations and indicators. We are among the most culturally diverse U.S. cities.

WHY Albuquerque

The City of Albuquerque recognizes that COVID-19 is transforming the way people and companies do business. Locations that are resilient, low-risk, and healthy are essential for businesses to be successful in this uncertain and ever-changing environment. The City of Albuquerque is committed to providing existing and new businesses with the information and support necessary to thrive.

We challenge you to find a more competitive, livable city than Albuquerque.

Albuquerque is New Mexico's urban center and offers the complete economic development package amid one of the most diverse and creative populations in the country. Albuquerque is a modern, mid-sized city that can provide a blend of contemporary urban amenities and rugged outdoor activities in a climate that's enjoyable year-round making it easy to live a balanced life.

Companies seeking to expand or move to an affordable, resilient, and business-friendly location will find a natural fit in Albuquerque. A city with 310 days of sun per year, access to the outdoors, minimal traffic, housing that is affordable, and a collaborative business community, Albuquerque offers a high return on investment and an environment that supports worklife balance.

An average 23 minute one-way commute, less traffic means people get to work on time and spend more hours with family than on the road. Offering quality, sizeable, and affordable housing, the median home price is \$230,000, and the monthly cost of living averages \$1,500 per month. The Albuquerque International Sunport is a 20-minute drive from anywhere in the city and offers direct flights to 20 major metros. No hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, or other natural disasters to disrupt life or business, and low humidity allows for optimal climate control for any products.



AN EXCELLENT QUALITY OF LIFE

Nestled in the high desert at the base of the Sandia Mountains, along the Rio Grande Valley, lies Albuquerque. Albuquerque provides residents a refreshing blend of scenic beauty and neighborly charm with all the amenities of a big city.



A MULTI-CULTURAL METROPOLIS

Albuquerque is a place built on its unique multi-cultural heritage. From dozens of boldly painted downtown murals, to museums and hidden art galleries, the local creative scene visibly saturates the city. Major cultural events like the International Balloon Fiesta have made Albuquerque a global destination.



INVESTED IN BUSINESS

Albuquerque offers a supportive business environment that encourages and facilitates partnerships, innovation, and growth, as well as a natural environment that provides certainty of operations year-round. The combination makes our city a premier location for expansions and relocations.



AN INTELLECTUAL POWERHOUSE

Albuquerque offers a flagship research university, just minutes from downtown, with nationally recognized law, engineering, and medical schools. Albuquerque also offers a community college that often partners with local businesses and industries to develop programs and curriculum specific to the needs of employers.



A WORKFORCE WITH A GOOD WORK ETHIC

Albuquerque offers a young, diverse, affordable and educated workforce that is loyal, hard-working and has a sense of pride. Albuquerque ranks among the top metros in the nation for the percentage of workers with a college degree.

