

FILM & PHOTO PERMITS

FAST. EASY. FREE.



Getting Started

Thanks for choosing the Tampa Bay area for your upcoming shoot! Before starting the film/photography permit application, make sure you have the following information:

- Confirmed shoot date(s).
- Location name, physical address or nearby streets, and any other defining information and/or aerial images. When filming multiple locations, click the **Add Shoot** button within the permit to add a second, third or more shoot locations.
- Prep date/time (if applicable) Shoot Start and End time and Wrap date/time (if applicable) for each location.
- Total number of people on set including cast, crew, client, and agency reps.
- Total number of production vehicles and other vehicles at each location, along with a detailed parking plan to accommodate the full number of vehicles. Note that some neighborhoods do not allow for on-street parking.
- A **detailed description** of the planned filming activity at each location.
- Emergency contact name, phone number and email address.
- Production company name and address (must match name of insured on the COI).

A Certificate of Insurance (COI) that lists the city or county in which you plan to film as an additional insured. Check to ensure the policy effective period covers all shoot dates. Examples of Certificate Holder names and other insurance info can be found under 'Useful Documents.' If your shoot involves locations in different cities, each must be listed as an additional insured.

NOTE: COIs can be uploaded after you submit the application, but your application will not be processed until they are uploaded.

First-time FilmApp users need to create an account. Then, simply log in and complete ALL required sections of the permit application, agree to the terms and conditions, and submit your application. After submitting, you'll be emailed an application confirmation that includes a reference number.

NOTE: When approved, a film permit will be emailed. Please print the film permit and have it available during your shoot.

Permits are required for film production taking place on public property. The Film Commission offers a streamlined permit process for all city and county jurisdictions in the Hillsborough County region, including Hillsborough County, City of Tampa, Plant City, and Temple Terrace. Each of these cities and counties have their own permit requirements, and the Film Commission is your best source of information.

If you're a photographer taking photos in Hillsborough County Parks or Conservation Areas, and your total crew (including subjects and photographer) is 5 people or less, a film permit is not required for your shoot. This is valid in Hillsborough County Parks and Conservation Areas only. This does not apply to any athletic facilities, playgrounds, or shelters. Facilities, shelters, etc must be reserved in advance on a case-by-case basis. Handheld cameras and tripods allowed. No additional equipment or props allowed.

Photographers wanting to schedule a photoshoot featuring more than 5 people, props, or additional equipment must still apply for a permit.

You need a permit if your shoot meets any of these additional criteria:

- The camera is being used on a crane, dolly, jib arm or anything other than a tripod or hand-held.
- Pedestrian or vehicular traffic is impeded.
- You will use any size grip and lighting truck to create artificial lighting set up.
- Stunts, special effects, animals, or real or prop weapons are involved.
- You will be filming before sunrise or after sunset in public places with posted operating hours.

A film permit is NOT needed when filming newsgathering activities. A film permit is NOT needed when photographing non paid or incidental photography unless the shoot includes items listed under 'additional criteria' above.

Nudity and/or changing clothes in public are prohibited.

Permits are issued at no charge, please be advised that additional fees may apply for supplementary services. These services include, but are not limited to, reserved parking, sidewalk and road closures, and the hiring of extra-duty officers and/or park rangers. It is mandatory for all outstanding invoices to be settled prior to filming. Credit card payments must be made through the FilmApp portal prior to the issuance of a permit. Payments must be received by the film office no later than 24 hours before the scheduled shoot date. Any payments made via check or cash must be sent via overnight delivery and must be received and processed by the film office within this same 24-hour timeframe preceding the shoot date.

Please note that a credit card processing fee of 3% will be applied to all credit card transactions. All payments made are non-refundable.