



Requester Information

Legislator Name: Weiler, Todd

Created Date: January 28th 2026

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Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

Utah Film Center proposes a \$350,000 infrastructure investment to prepare Utah's digital creative workforce for the Olympics. Funds will complete the Film Center's film-focused creative hub and incubator with coworking spaces and educational and professional development spaces for workshops and certification opportunities for entry- and mid-level professionals across the digital creative industry.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Mariah Mellus

Organization: Utah Film Center

Position: Executive Director

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time	Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$0.00	\$0.00
In-State Travel	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$0.00	\$0.00
Out-of-State Travel	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$0.00	\$0.00



Category	One-time	Ongoing
Technology Purchases	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$0.00	\$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$350,000.00	\$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: \$0.00 2027: \$0.00	\$0.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
\$0.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00

Funding Sources:

General Fund

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	\$0.00
2027 (One-time)	\$350,000.00
2027 (Ongoing)	\$0.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
\$0.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00

Is this a multi-year project?

Yes



Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

This \$350,000 request is part of a \$6.5 million capital campaign, with \$3.45 million already raised. We are seeking public and private support to close gaps in Utah's digital creative workforce and deliver the strongest return through infrastructure investment in 2026 to prepare the workforce for the Olympics.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Economy

01938

Agency:

063 / Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

Private Not for Profit

Grant recipient

Yes

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

Utah Film Center

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

This investment benefits Utah independent and commercial filmmakers, digital content creators, and related trades (including tourism and hospitality), strengthening statewide employment pipelines, building talent ready to produce coverage of the Olympics, and supporting Utah's broader economy.



What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

The incubator will equip creative trade professionals with the technical and professional skills needed for employment and retention on large-scale in-state productions and commercial work. This investment will retain creative talent in Utah, strengthen the economy, and build a modern, highly skilled workforce ready for digital content production before, during, and beyond the Olympics. Workforce development investments outlast individual productions, positioning Utah professionals for future in-state opportunities.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The following performance measures will demonstrate the value of this investment: # of incubator participants placed in productions around the state; average wage of commercial, creative and related trades; retention of creatives in Utah; positive industry feedback on workforce preparation; and ability to meet the need of Olympic productions with an in-state workforce.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

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