

Learn About the Copyright Alliance Initiative to Promote Diversity in Copyright (IPDC Program)



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What Is the IPDC Program?

Black creators, Indigenous creators, and creators of color (BIPOC creators) can apply to the program and, if eligible, will work with IPDC program volunteers to file their copyright registration applications with the U.S. Copyright Office at no cost to the creator.

While marginalized and underrepresented groups have made significant creative contributions in the United States, these groups have faced barriers to reaping the benefits of their contributions. Copyright protection and copyright registration are vital for empowering creators to own their works and make a living from their creativity. Participation in the copyright system and understanding the rights afforded under copyright law are important first steps.

Through the [Initiative to Promote Diversity in Copyright \(IPDC program\)](#), the Copyright Alliance is bringing together volunteers and sponsors from across the copyright community to encourage and support participation of BIPOC creators in the copyright system.

Participants in the program will be paired with volunteers who will work with them to complete and submit their copyright registration applications *for free*, with the goal of educating the participants on the benefits of registration and empowering those creators to be able to register their own works going forward.

What is the criteria to participate in the IPDC program?

The following criteria is used to evaluate all IPDC program applications and to select program participants:

- The IPDC program is open to Black creators, Indigenous creators, and creators of color.
- The applicant must not have registered more than five applications with the U.S. Copyright Office in the last five years.
- The applicant may not participate in the IPDC program more than three times.
- The applicant must be a Copyright Alliance member (or become a member when submitting their IPDC program application—*membership is free*).
- The applicant must be the sole creator and sole owner of the work.
- The work for which a registration is sought must not be the subject of any ongoing or likely dispute, infringement, litigation, or administrative proceeding.
- Preference may be given to creators with financial need.
- An application may be denied due to an actual or potential conflict of interest.

How much does it cost to participate in the IPDC program?

Participation in the IPDC program is fully funded by program sponsors and is *completely free* to creators who participate.

How do creators apply to participate in the IPDC program?

Any creator that meets the eligibility criteria and would like to participate in the IPDC program, may apply [here](#) by completing a brief online form to be considered for program participation. Any creator who is not already a Copyright Alliance Creator Member, can [join here](#) for free!

What happens after a creator applies for the IPDC program?

Once an applicant completes the online form, they will receive a confirmation message that confirms receipt of their IPDC program application. The email will also include educational resources related to copyright registration. The Copyright Alliance will review the application and follow up with any additional questions. If the applicant qualifies for participation in the program, they will receive an email matching them with a volunteer who will assist them in completing and submitting their copyright registration application(s) for free.

How long will the IPDC program run?

The IPDC program was developed as a pilot initiative and it is expected to run through March 31, 2024. The duration of the program may be reduced or extended due to funding or other factors.



For answers to questions about the IPDC program, please email IPDC@CopyrightAlliance.org.

For those who want to learn more about copyright registration, please [click here](#).

Creators interested in applying to the IPDC program can [apply here](#).

Thank You to Our Sponsors for Supporting the IPDC Program!

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