

**RULE NINE
SPECIAL RULES FOR THE
CASTING AWARD**

I. DEFINITION

Casting refers to the process by which a casting director collaborates with a film's director and producers on the creative consideration, and selection of actors who comprise the acting ensemble of a film.

II. ELIGIBILITY AND VOTING

- A. The Casting Directors Branch shall review a reminder list of all eligible films and, through a series of meetings, led by the Branch Executive Committee, shall vote to select a maximum of ten films for further consideration, as a shortlist. Achievements shall be judged within the parameters defined by the Executive Committee and on the basis of:
 - i. Significant engagement and collaboration with a film's director and producers in the creative consideration, and selection of the actors who comprise the acting ensemble of the film.
- B. Individuals who worked on a motion picture that is discussed may be asked to speak about their work. Whether they speak or not, they will not be present during that deliberation so that other branch members can discuss the film openly.
- C. The members of the Casting Directors Branch will discuss and vote on a secret ballot, in the order of their preference, for no more than ten motion pictures to be considered for the Casting award.
- D. The casting directors associated with the ten films on the shortlist for nominations shall be requested to provide the committee with the following:
 - i. Written descriptions of the casting process unique to their films and of their personal involvement in that process. A template for the statement with the guidelines regarding length and scope will be provided by the Branch Executive Committee.
 - ii. Photo grid of the cast and/or the full cast list.
- E. The Branch Executive Committee will then meet to discuss and determine which casting directors – not to exceed two in number – are primarily responsible for the casting and who have received on-screen credit. Producers and directors may be consulted in determining the contribution of potential nominees. Under exceptional circumstances (e.g., specialized casting, essential casting in multiple locations) the Branch Executive Committee will consider and determine the eligibility of one additional credited individual.
 - i. The Branch Executive Committee will resolve all matters of eligibility for this award.
- F. Any disputes concerning the list of designated nominees will not be accepted without a formal appeal. Appeals should contain short statements from the individuals concerned, and from team members working directly with these individuals, as appropriate. Appeals must be submitted to the executive committee by a December date to be determined.
- G. The Casting Directors Branch Executive Committee will present a 'Bake-Off' nominating event hosted by the branch governors, which shall be open to branch members and all eligible Academy voters, either in person or online. The event will aim to describe and illustrate the casting process for each shortlisted film and the contributions of each casting director to that process. A Q&A with the films' casting directors will be part of the event. Only the designated potential nominees will be allowed to address questions.
- H. The producers – in collaboration with the casting director(s) – of the ten films that will be considered for nomination (or their designees) shall be requested to provide the committee with the following:

- i. The Bake-Off reel – not to exceed five minutes in total running time – containing film or digital excerpts of selected scenes which are emblematic of the film's casting achievements, to be shown during the Bake-Off. The Academy will provide a list of format requirements.
 - 1. Excerpts must be from the final release version of the film and shall not exceed five minutes in total running time.
 - 2. All elements of the excerpts should be presented exactly as they appeared in the final release version of the film and must focus on the casting achievements under consideration.
 - 3. Each excerpt must start and finish without any editorial or sound blend between excerpts.
 - 4. If the reel does not meet the above requirements, it may not be shown.
 - ii. Photo grid of the cast and/or the full cast list.
- I. The film's producers or distributors shall grant the Academy the right to use the excerpts for any voting purposes, and for any nonprofit purposes of the Academy Museum, the Academy Foundation or Academy websites.
- J. Active voting members of the Casting Directors Branch shall be eligible to view the excerpts of the ten films under consideration at the annual nominating screening (Bake-Off) and/or on the Academy Screening Room. Written descriptions of the casting process shall be made available to all active branch members prior to the screening.
- K. Following the Bake-Off, voting shall be conducted as follows:
 - i. A ballot shall be submitted by all eligible members of the Casting Directors Branch for not more than five motion pictures, in the order of their preference, from the ten films under consideration.
 - ii. Viewing the ten films under consideration is required for voting.
 - iii. The five motion pictures receiving the highest number of votes shall become the nominations for final voting for the Casting award.
 - iv. Following the announcement of the five nominees, an edited video of the Bake-Off, focusing on the work of the nominees, and a photo grid of the cast and/or the full cast list will be made available online for all eligible Academy voters.
 - v. Final voting for the Casting award shall be restricted to active and life Academy members and shall be governed by the Academy's voting procedures for all award categories.
- L. Excerpt reels shall become the property of the Academy and be placed in the Academy Film Archive, with the proviso that the Academy will not use the excerpts for commercial gain.
- M. Such other rules or procedures necessary for the proper conduct of this award and all questions of eligibility and rules shall be resolved by the Casting Directors Branch Executive Committee, subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.