

FAQs for 93rd Academy Awards – General Entry

1. I'm ready to release my feature, and I want to submit it for Oscars consideration. What are my current options?

The eligibility rules for the 93rd Oscars have been adjusted to allow for two methods of qualifying a film: 1) releasing theatrically in one of six U.S. metro areas for the seven days/three screenings a day minimum, or in a legit drive-in in one of the same metro areas for a seven day/one screening a day minimum, or 2) streaming on a commercial platform and uploading the film to our secure, members-only Academy Screening Room (ASR), for a fee.

2. What are the six U.S. metro areas where I can open my film theatrically?

Los Angeles County; City of New York [Five Boroughs]; the Bay Area [counties of San Francisco, Marin, Alameda, San Mateo and Contra Costa]; Chicago [Cook County, Illinois]; Miami [Miami-Dade County, Florida]; and Atlanta [Fulton County, Georgia].

3. What constitutes a "legit" drive-in?

Any drive-in that screens films seven days a week and advertises and sells tickets to the public.

4. What is a commercial streaming platform?

To qualify, the streaming platform must charge a viewing fee (either on a per film basis or through subscription) and be accessible to the public.

6. What is the fee for the Academy Screening Room?

The non-negotiable fee is \$12,500 per film and covers the cost of Academy watermarking and a quality-control check. Films uploaded to the ASR are accessible to all 10,000-plus Academy members.

7. I can't afford the ASR fee. What are my options?

Open your film theatrically. (Uploading to the ASR is optional for films released theatrically.) If you've already streamed your film, you may request a waiver of the ASR eligibility requirement through an appeal to our Awards Rules committee.

8. I'm opting for a theatrical opening outside Los Angeles, but I don't know how to get Academy members to see my film. What do I do?

You may mail DVD screeners to all or select Academy members through one of our three approved mailing houses: Elite (customerservice@elitelf.com, 877-766-9353); Vision Media (awards.support@visionmedia.com, 877-335-8936); Hazmat Media (Hazmat@hazmatmedia.com, 310-659-2062).

Note: Academy staff cannot offer advice on how best to market your film to members. Promotional strategies are the responsibility of the filmmakers or studios/distributors and must follow all current campaign regulations:

https://www.oscars.org/sites/oscars/files/93aa_regulations.pdf

https://oscars.org/sites/oscars/files/93rd_campaign_regulations-amendment.pdf

9. If I'm releasing theatrically in a city outside Los Angeles, how do I enter this information on the Oscars Submission Form (OSF)?
In the "Release Information" section, enter the city and theater under "Other Theatrical Release," the screening times under "Other Screening Times" and the start and end dates under the two "Other Release Dates" fields.
10. What if I don't know the exact screening times of my upcoming release?
For the time being, you may enter "TBD" or "multiple daily screenings" and update us with the specifics later.
11. How do I enter information about my qualifying streaming release on the form?
In the "Release Information" section, enter the dates and specific streaming platform(s) in the "Non-Theatrical Exhibition" fields.
12. Can I upload my film to the ASR after the January 15, 2021 submission deadline?
Yes, if the first date of streaming is not more than 60 days from the January 15 deadline. All required and optional ASR uploading must be done by February 19, 2021. Please be aware that it takes 10 working days to ready your film for viewing on the site.
13. What if I've scheduled a late 2020 or early 2021 theatrical release in Los Angeles County or another qualifying city that is canceled due to COVID?
As before, canceled theatrical releases may be replaced by streaming on a commercial platform and uploading to the ASR, or by booking the film in another qualifying metro area.