

93rd ACADEMY AWARDS ANIMATED FEATURE FILM RULES

I. DEFINITION

An animated film is defined as a motion picture in which movement and characters' performances are created using a frame-by-frame technique, and usually falls into one of the two general fields of animation: narrative or abstract. Some of the techniques of animating films include but are not limited to hand-drawn animation, computer animation, stop-motion, clay animation, pixilation, cutout animation, pinscreen, camera multiple pass imagery, kaleidoscopic effects created frame-by-frame, and drawing on the film frame itself. Motion capture and real-time puppetry are not by themselves animation techniques. An animated short film has a running time of 40 minutes or less. An animated feature film has a running time of more than 40 minutes. In an animated film, animation must figure in no less than 75 percent of the picture's running time. In addition, a narrative animated film must have a significant number of the major characters animated. If the picture is created in a cinematic style that could be mistaken for live action, the filmmaker(s) must also submit information supporting how and why the picture is substantially a work of animation rather than live action.

II. ELIGIBILITY

- A. **Due to the global pandemic caused by coronavirus/COVID-19, all matters of rules and eligibility for the 93rd Academy Awards are subject to change based on national guidelines, state-mandated government orders and Academy-determined best practices.** Except as indicated above, motion pictures in this category must meet all the requirements in Academy Awards Rules Two, Three and Four.
- B. The Short Films and Feature Animation Branch Executive Committee shall have the right and responsibility to resolve all questions of eligibility and rules.

III. SUBMISSION

- A. The producer or distributor of the film must register online at the Academy's Awards Submission site and submit an Oscars Submission Form.
- B. The print or DCP submitted for Academy Awards consideration must be identical in content and length to the print or DCP used for the qualifying exhibition.
- C. The following submission materials, including those from non-U.S. entrants, must be received by the submission deadline published by the Academy. Due to the global pandemic caused by coronavirus/COVID-19, **all dates for the 93rd Academy Awards are subject to change** based on national guidelines, state-mandated government orders and Academy-determined best practices:
- Completed online submission form
 - 35mm or 70mm film print or DCP, 3D capabilities accepted
 - Streaming digital media content delivery
 - 300 DVDs of the entry, without trailers or other extraneous material, capable of playing on Region 0/NTSC standard definition DVD players. DVDs must be in individual paper sleeves and must include the title, running time and director name only. No artwork, contact information, company name or film logo is acceptable on the DVD labels or sleeves.
 - Full cast and credit list in English (Legal billing)
 - 3 to 5 representative film stills, including a key frame
 - A poster from the film's original release

Submitted films not in the English language must provide accurate, legible English-language subtitles.

- D. Required materials must be submitted through the online submission site or shipped **prepaid** to:

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
ANIMATED FEATURE ENTRY
8949 Wilshire Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Those entries not chosen as nominations for final balloting will be returned to the sender at the Academy's expense. Prints or DCPs, screeners and digital content submitted will be retained by the Academy until the voting process is completed and will not be loaned out for use.

- E. Films submitted in the Animated Feature Film category qualify for Academy Awards in general entry categories, including Best Picture.
- F. An animated feature film may be submitted in only one Awards year for Academy Awards consideration.

IV. NOMINEES AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

- A. An entry form naming the intended award recipient(s) and including the signatures of **all** the credited producer(s) and director(s) is required. This is to ensure that all parties are properly informed, and that agreement on the designated award recipient(s) is settled prior to submission.
- B. The award recipient(s) shall be designated by those responsible for the production of the film. The designated recipient(s) must be **the KEY CREATIVE INDIVIDUAL(S) most clearly responsible for the overall achievement**. A maximum of FOUR persons may be designated as nominees, one of whom must be the credited director and the other of whom must have a producer credit ("producer" or "produced by"). In the case of a **TWO-PERSON TEAM with shared and equal director or producer credit**, an additional statuette may be awarded.
- C. If a producer is named, that individual must have performed a major portion of the producing functions, in accordance with Academy producer criteria. Production companies or persons with the screen credit of co-director or any credit other than **DIRECTOR** or **PRODUCER** shall not be eligible as nominees for the film. Persons with screen credits of executive producer, co-producer, associate producer, line producer, produced in association with or any other credit shall not receive nominations or Academy statuettes. To qualify as a producer nominee for a nominated picture, the producer must have been determined eligible for a PGA award for the picture, or have appealed the PGA's refusal of such eligibility.
- D. Final determination of the qualifying nominees for each nominated film will be made by the Short Films and Feature Animation Branch Executive Committee, including the right to name any additional qualified producer as a nominee.

V. VOTING

- A. All active and life Academy members will be invited to participate on the Animated Feature Nominating Committee. Those serving on the nominating committee will be required to see a minimum percentage of submitted eligible films as defined by the then-current procedures.
- B. All submitted eligible films will be made available to the Animated Feature Nominating Committee. The committee will vote by secret ballot. A nominations ballot shall be made available to all active members of the Short Films and Feature Animation Branch. The Nominating Committee members shall vote in the order of their preference for not more than five motion pictures.
- C. Final voting for the Animated Feature Film award shall be restricted to active and life Academy members.