



## FAQS

### DOCUMENTARY FEATURE FILM

Contact: [documentaries@oscars.org](mailto:documentaries@oscars.org)

**1. Will my film be ineligible if it screens at schools and/or film festivals?**

Public screenings at schools and film festivals do not affect the film's eligibility. Film festivals that utilize online screenings, should have either a transactional pay wall or a password-protected entry.

**2. My documentary feature is scheduled to be released at the end of the year, do I need to submit by the October 3, 2022 deadline?**

Yes. The submission form and theater booking documents must be submitted by the deadline.

**3. How long do I have to qualify my film?**

You have two years from completion to qualify the movie.

**4. Once I submit for Best Documentary Feature, is it automatically entered to compete for Best Picture and the craft categories?**

No. Best Documentary Feature is a specialty category. In order to be eligible for Best Picture and all other craft categories, the film must complete a qualifying theatrical run and submit a General Entry application. Please note that Music has a separate application form.

**5. If my film qualified by winning a qualified award, is it required to have a qualifying theatrical run?**

No, by winning a qualifying festival award (see festival list for specific awards or other qualifications), the film is automatically eligible to be submitted in the Documentary Feature category.

**6. What if my documentary is a country's official entry for Best International Feature?**

If a documentary is a country's official selection, the movie is also eligible to enter Best Documentary Feature. A Best Documentary Feature form must be completed for consideration.



**7. The entry form only allows for four possible nominees, but another person who worked on the film deserves an award.**

Upon submission, normally two or three individuals may be named as possible nominees for a documentary feature, one of whom must be the credited director who exercised directorial control, and the other(s) of whom must have a director or producer credit. Production companies or persons with the screen credit of executive producer, co-producer or any credit other than director or producer shall not be eligible. All final determinations of eligibility are made by the Documentary Branch Executive Committee.

**8. I'm not sure if my film should be entered as a Documentary**

Please review the Documentary rules for the category definition. We leave the decision up to the filmmakers on which categories to enter. However, all final determinations of eligibility are made by the Documentary Branch Executive Committee.

**9. I submitted my film last year, but since then I've added new material or re-edited. Can I submit it again?**

No. We do not accept works in progress; the version submitted to the Academy must be the final and definitive version of your film. Entries must have the necessary clearances for commercial theatrical exhibition.

**10. Can my movie be entered if it is part of a series?**

Only individual documentary works are eligible. This excludes from consideration such works as: multi-part or limited series, episodes extracted from a larger series, segments taken from a single "composite" program, and alternate versions of ineligible works.

**11. My film was broadcast on television outside the U.S. before it opened theatrically in the U.S. Is it still eligible?**

If the film received a theatrical release outside the U.S. before it was broadcast on television, and if the television broadcast was only outside the U.S., the film could still be eligible. Please contact [documentaries@oscars.org](mailto:documentaries@oscars.org)

**12. How much does it cost to upload a documentary feature to the Academy Screening Room?**

There is no cost to upload to the Documentary Feature category. However, there is a cost if you choose to upload to General Entry which makes the movie available to all active Academy membership.