

## FAQ

### THE BASICS

*How much does it cost to submit my film?*

Nothing. The SAAs are free to enter.

*I am high school student, can I submit?*

Unfortunately, we only accept submissions from students attending a college or university.

*I am a part-time student, can I submit?*

Yes, as long as you are studying for a degree and meet all the other eligibility requirements.

*Can I submit more than one film?*

Yes. There is no limit on the number of films you can submit if you are a domestic student (studying in the US) provided they all meet the eligibility requirements. Remember you can only submit each film to one category only. International students, please read the rules relevant to your status.

*Is there a minimum running time for short films?*

No, there is no minimum, as long as it runs no more than 40 minutes including credits.

### ONLINE SUBMISSION PROCESS (FILMFREEWAY)

*Why do you need my faculty adviser's details?*

We verify all submissions with the faculty advisers to ensure you meet all our eligibility requirements. If you do not provide contact details or your faculty adviser is unable to verify your film, your submission will be disqualified.

*If I am having problems uploading to FilmFreeway, will you accept submissions via another method?*

No. All film submissions must be done through FilmFreeway.

*What if I submit my film to the wrong category?*

Please read the category descriptions carefully. As per our rules, a film can only be submitted to one category. However, if you do submit to a category, we feel is not accurate we reserve the right to move it to one more suited to your film.

*I am an international student, but I am studying in the US – which category should I submit to?*

If you are studying in the US, regardless of nationality or what language your film is in, you must submit to the domestic categories.

*I am from the US, but I am studying internationally - which category should I submit to?*

If you are studying in an international school, regardless of nationality or what language your film is in, you must submit to the international categories.

*My film has been disqualified. How do I find out the reason for this?*

You will have received an email from FilmFreeway detailing the reason. If you have not received this, please check your junk mail or your profile on FilmFreeway.

*My film has been disqualified. Can I resubmit?*

If you have identified the reason for your disqualification and it was a genuine error, you may resubmit. This will still count as the first submission so make sure you answer 'no' to the question of whether your film has been previously submitted to the SAAs.

*How do I change my privacy settings in Vimeo so that my film will play in FilmFreeway?*

If you are linking your video via Vimeo, be sure to update your settings in Vimeo to allow for embedding. Your video will still be password protected. Embedding simply allows the Vimeo video player to be displayed within the FilmFreeway interface. To allow embedding, go to your video in your Vimeo account, click 'Settings' > 'Privacy' > 'Where Can This Video be Embedded?' > 'Anywhere'

*Can I submit via Vimeo or YouTube?*

Yes. FilmFreeway seamlessly integrates with both Vimeo and YouTube. To submit with Vimeo or YouTube, go to 'My Projects' > 'Project File', then enter your video URL and password. You can update this link at any time.

*Can I replace or update my film with a new version?*

This may be possible if the judging process has not yet begun. Please contact us to determine if this is possible. If you replace or update your film when the judging process is underway, you risk being disqualified.

*I have missed the submission deadline date. Can I have a waiver code?*

Waiver codes are only released if you have a genuine reason for missing the deadline. Please email [saa@oscars.org](mailto:saa@oscars.org) to determine if you can qualify for one.

*If I have any technical questions regarding FilmFreeway, who should I contact?*

[support@filmfreeway.com](mailto:support@filmfreeway.com)

Phone: (604) 229-0600

Toll free: (800) 840-8870

*If I have any questions regarding eligibility or the rules, which have not been covered in the FAQs, who should I contact?*

[saa@oscars.org](mailto:saa@oscars.org)

## ELIGIBILITY

*If I shoot my own short film with my friends outside of my coursework, can I enter this into the SAAs?*

No. Films must have been made within the curricular structure of the teaching institution.

*Is the completion date the day we finished shooting, the day we finished the edit, or the date it was submitted for grading?*

The date you submitted for grading.

*But what if the film I submitted to my school was a rough cut and the final edit was completed later?*

Enter the completion date, as the date you finished the final rough cut. The film will still be eligible as long as it was completed within the qualifying dates and you are still a student or graduated within the qualifying dates.

*What if not all of the crew are students?*

As long as the director is a student, it will be eligible.

*What if I am not a filmmaking student specifically but I have made a short film?*

As long as the film was made as part of your coursework and you were graded/received credit, you don't have to be studying in a filmmaking program to qualify.

*What if I have 5 directors?*

As per our rules, the SAAs honor **up to three credited directors**. If your film has more than three directors, please submit the names of up to three who are the most responsible for creative content. Credits must be settled before the film is considered for an award.

*How do I know if my school is accredited?*

Follow this link for a list of accreditation agencies. If you are unsure who your school is accredited by, you can reach out to your Admissions Office.

*What if I wrote the script as part of my course, but the film was made independently?*

The film must have been produced and completed as part of your course so this would not meet our eligibility requirements.

*I completed my film after I graduated, can I still submit?*

You have up to a year after graduation to submit your film, provided it was completed within the eligibility dates.

*I submitted my film last year, but it didn't get through to the next round, can I resubmit this year?*

No. Films can only be entered once. Your film will be disqualified if it was entered and judged in a previous SAA competition.

*If my film premiered at a film festival can I still submit?*

Yes. There are no rules regarding previous screenings of your film theatrically or online.

*If my film is, or has been, streaming online, is it eligible?*

Yes. There are no rules regarding previous screenings of your film theatrically or online.

*What if my parent is an Academy member, can I still submit?*

Yes. If you have a family member or friend who is an Academy member, this does not disqualify you from the competition.

*What if my film is in another language besides English?*

All entries submitted must be in English, subtitled in English, or dubbed in English.

## **COMPETITION PROCESS**

*How many rounds are there in the competition?*

Three: Preliminary, Semifinals, Finals.

## **JUDGING**

*Who are the judges?*

Academy members who voluntarily opt in to vote in each round.

*Do the judges see my FilmFreeway profile, digital press kit, or personal details?*

No. The judges have access to your film only.

## **AFTER THE COMPETITION**

*Does each member of my team receive the prize money?*

Each winning film will receive award amount. The prize money will be split equally amongst the directors if there are more than one.

*Can I receive individual feedback on my film?*

No. Unfortunately, due to the thousands of entries we received, it is not possible to provide feedback.

*When will I receive my competition laurels?*

After the competition has ended and the ceremony has taken place