



FLICKERFEST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Festival Dates

When is Flickerfest 2027?

The 36th International Flickerfest Short Film Festival will take place from Friday 22nd January to Sunday 31st January 2027 at Bondi Beach, Sydney, Australia. Flickerfest is an Academy Award® Qualifying, BAFTA, Goya and Genie Qualifying festival.

Entry Fees & Deadlines

What are the entry fees and deadlines for Flickerfest 2027?

Flickerfest 2027 Call for Entries are now open.

International, Australian & Documentary Competitions

Early Bird Entries

- Deadline: Friday 14 August 2026
- Entry Fee: USD \$35.00 per film

Regular Entries

- Deadline: Monday 14 September 2026
- Entry Fee: USD \$40.00 per film

Late Entries

- Deadline: Wednesday 14 October 2026
- Entry Fee: USD \$45.00 per film

FlickerUp Youth Competition

- Deadline: Monday 23 November 2026
- Entry Fee: USD \$17.00 per film

Please note that all entry fees are charged in US dollars (USD). As an international film festival receiving submissions from filmmakers around the world, Flickerfest uses a globally recognised submission platform that processes fees in USD.

Entrants are encouraged to submit early to take advantage of Early Bird rates.

For full entry information, eligibility requirements and Terms & Conditions, please visit:

<https://flickerfest.com.au/entries/>



Entry Requirements

What are the general eligibility requirements?

To be eligible for Flickerfest:

- Films must be 35 minutes or under, including credits
- Films must have been completed within the last two years, after May 2025
- Films must be in English or include English subtitles
- Films must meet Flickerfest premiere requirements for the Australian territory
- Screening copies for selected films must meet Flickerfest technical delivery requirements

Premiere Status Requirements

Does my film need to be an Australian Premiere?

Yes. For the International, Australian and Documentary competitions, we prefer an Australian Premiere at the time of screening at Flickerfest in January.

An exception may be made for films that have screened at another Academy Award® Qualifying short film festival such as Sydney Film Festival or MIFF . These films will be eligible for consideration.

Premiere status is an important factor in the selection process, and filmmakers must provide accurate screening history when submitting.

If you are unsure whether your film meets the premiere requirements, please contact the Flickerfest team at coordinator@flickerfest.com.au prior to submission.

All eligibility and premiere status determinations are made at the discretion of the Festival.

Broadcast & Online Availability Requirements

Can I submit a film that has already been broadcast or released online?

No. For all Flickerfest general competition categories, films must not have been:

- Broadcast in Australia
- Made publicly available online prior to screening at Flickerfest



This includes public online releases on platforms such as YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook or similar services.

The FlickerUp Australian competition for youth 18 and under do not have to meet this requirement

Fee Waivers

Can I apply for a fee waiver?

To keep things fair for all filmmakers, we do not offer fee waivers. We keep our submission fees low to make the festival accessible to all and encourage filmmakers to take advantage of our Early Bird rates.

Competition Categories

What competition categories does Flickerfest offer?

Flickerfest presents the following Academy Award® and BAFTA Qualifying competition categories:

- **International Competition** – Animated and Live Action Short films from outside Australia
- **Australian Competition** – Short films made in Australia or by Australian residents
- **Documentary Competition** – Short documentaries from Australia and internationally

Non Oscar Qualifying Competition Categories include:

- **Rainbow LGBTQI** Short films from Australia and internationally
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FlickerUp Youth Competition

Does Flickerfest have a youth category?

Yes.

FlickerUp Youth Competition is open to:

- Australian secondary school students
- Filmmakers aged 18 years and under



Out of Competition Programmes

Does Flickerfest screen films outside of competition?

Yes.

In addition to the competition programmes, Flickerfest curates a range of special showcase programmes, including comedy, relationship shorts and Australian First Nations screenings.

Films may be selected for screening in these programmes even if they are not selected for competition. Selection is highly competitive and at the discretion of the Festival Programming Team.

AI Policy

Can I submit a film that uses Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

Flickerfest recognises that AI tools may be used as part of the filmmaking process where they support human creativity and production workflows.

However, films must remain primarily driven by human authorship, creative direction and performance. Works in which human characters, performances, scripts or core creative elements are substantially generated by AI are not eligible for selection.

All entrants must fully disclose substantial use of AI tools, including (but not limited to) image, video, animation, voice, scriptwriting and post-production tools in their directors statement on Filmfreeway.

Films must remain creatively controlled and authored by human filmmakers. Flickerfest reserves the right to request further information and determine eligibility on a case by case basis.

As a film festival that celebrates independent artists, selected Flickerfest films prioritise human emotion and traditional craftsmanship over purely algorithmically generated art.

Works in Progress

Do you accept works in progress?



Yes.

Works in progress may be submitted for consideration, provided they are sufficiently complete to be assessed by our pre-selection committee. The final film needs to be completed by November 20th 2026

Resubmission Policy

Can I resubmit a film that was previously not selected?

No. Films that have previously been submitted to Flickerfest and not selected are not eligible for resubmission in future years.

We encourage filmmakers to submit new works and future projects for consideration.

Screening Formats & Delivery Requirements

What screening formats does Flickerfest accept?

Selected films must be delivered in **H.264** or **ProRes** file formats suitable for exhibition.

Full technical specifications and delivery instructions will be provided to selected filmmakers.

Selection Process

How many films are selected?

Approximately 200 films are selected for screening each year.

Flickerfest receives thousands of submissions annually. Programming decisions are based on:

- Artistic merit
 - Originality
 - Storytelling strength
 - Technical execution
 - Programme balance
 - Eligibility requirements
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Selection Notifications

When will I be notified if my film has been selected?

Entrants will be notified of the outcome of their submission by the **16th December 2026**.

Due to the high volume of entries, Flickerfest is unable to provide individual feedback on unsuccessful submission

All applicants will be notified via the email address provided at submission. Please ensure contact details are current and check spam/junk folders during the notification period. We also request a phone number to be provided upon submission for contact purposes.

Selected filmmakers will receive further information regarding screening formats, delivery requirements, publicity materials and festival participation at the time of notification.

Festival Submission Changes

What if my film is accepted into another festival after I have submitted to Flickerfest?

We understand this can happen due to differing festival timelines.

As Flickerfest generally requires an Australian Premiere, entrants must notify the festival team as soon as possible if their film is accepted into another Australian festival after submission.

Please contact the Flickerfest team at coordinator@flickerfest.com.au to discuss your film's eligibility and screening status. Depending on where your film is in the selection process, we may be able to advise on its standing and whether premiere eligibility is affected.

Open communication is strongly encouraged to ensure your film can be fairly considered within the programming process.