

# EE British Academy Film Awards

## Key changes to rules and processes for 2019/20

### ELIGIBILITY

It is the intention that all films are entered within the spirit of the rules and not purely to qualify for the Awards. Therefore, the Film Committee, as the final arbiter on what qualifies, would like to see that films respect industry norms, make every effort to be released across a wide geographical area, are scheduled at conventional cinema times, are not four-walled, and that admission figures are shared.

#### British Film Categories- BFI Diversity Standards

As introduced for the 2019 awards, all films entered in the Outstanding British Film or Outstanding Debut by a British Writer, Director or Producer must have met any two of the four BFI Diversity Standards. Entries should be submitted separately to the BFI for consideration against the standards **as early as possible**, but by 8 October 2019 at the latest. BFI funded films which have already been assessed against the Standards do not need to resubmit an application. Please contact [Julia.brown@bfi.org.uk](mailto:Julia.brown@bfi.org.uk) to submit directly to BFI.

BAFTA's intention in introducing this rule is to encourage better representation and increased inclusivity across the British industry, rather than to exclude any films or film-makers from the awards. Films will not be excluded if they can show (through their BFI assessment) that they have made all best efforts to make the project as inclusive and representative as possible.

For more information about the BFI Diversity Standards, or to submit a film for consideration go to <http://www.bfi.org.uk/about-bfi/policy-strategy/diversity/diversity-standards>.

### CAMPAIGNING

#### BAFTA Members Viewing Portal

Entrants have the opportunity to make the entered film available for members on the secure BAFTA members voting site by either (1) uploading directly to BAFTA's entry site, or (2) host on their own existing video delivery platform which can be integrated with the new BAFTA Screener Hub. Entrants who wish to provide secure links to films on their own platforms will need to discuss capabilities with the BAFTA Media Tech department who have full information about the Hub service, so please contact [awards@bafta.org](mailto:awards@bafta.org) to arrange a meeting. Both options will require the entrant to make a video record using the video management page of the entry site. Further details can be found in the rules and guidelines at <http://awards.bafta.org/entry>.

#### Access to mailing lists

As introduced last year, due to BAFTA's data policy in light of the new General Data Protection Regulation, entrants who wish to have direct access to BAFTA email mailings lists (and mailing fulfilment houses who wish to have access to postal lists for sending DVD screeners on behalf of entrants) will need to complete a detailed application so that we can assess the security, storage and use of any data provided. Once completed, approved entrants will have the same access and use of lists as previously. This application form will be available at the end of August.

Entrants who are not approved for direct access to data can send emails to voters via the membership department. Please see the full rules and guidelines for more detail.

## Email rules

Emails to members can only be sent up to Friday 27 December for Round One, and Sunday 26 January for Round Two. In the period prior to nominations being announced, email invitations to distributors screenings must be consolidated – full details are in the Rules & Guidelines.

## Invitations to events between the voting rounds

The rule still stands that emails should not be sent during Round One voting if they relate to opportunities to view the film after Round One closes, but now exceptions to this will be considered on a case by case basis, particularly for films which open theatrically in January or February 2020.

## Screener mailing form

Please note, to keep BAFTA and voting members informed about DVD and digital screeners being sent out to them, entrants now need to complete the following form before a mailing goes out:

<http://bit.ly/ScreenerTracking>.

## ENTRY

### NEW CATEGORY - Casting

There is a new Casting award being presented at the 2020 ceremony. The category is open to all casting director(s) whose work is released in line with BAFTA's eligibility criteria. The category will be longlisted by the new Casting chapter, with nominations and the overall winner selected by a jury. Entrants who wish to submit for this category must provide a compulsory statement, signed by the producer/director and the casting director. This can be provided during Stage One or Stage Two. Documentaries and Shorts are not eligible in this category.

### Sound and Special Visual Effects – candidates for nomination

The rule still stands relating to individual candidates for nomination in these categories. Please note that if any candidates for nomination are submitted on appeal (because they are credited in roles not specified in the rules), a statement detailing the contribution and split of work for ALL candidates for nomination must be submitted with the Stage Two entry. The Stage Two entry form takes entrants through the submission of these candidates step by step; please follow the on screen instructions carefully to ensure you enter the correct information relevant to the film if entering these categories.

### Performance

Entrants are not required to indicate whether they consider a performance as leading or supporting on the entry form.

As before, all individual performers will be listed for both the Leading and Supporting categories. The category in which individuals are placed is determined by the voters' selection in Round One voting: the performer will be placed in the category in which they received the largest proportion of votes. All votes cast for that individual in both the Supporting and Leading categories will be counted and the five performers in each category with the most total votes will be nominated.

### Appeals & Statements

Any appeals and supporting statements should be submitted by the Stage Two entry deadline (21 November 2019).