



2024 Festival Submissions – Frequently Asked Questions

NOTE: These FAQs are to assist you with submission of your film or series (the “**Film**”) in consideration for the 2024 Toronto International Film Festival (the “**Festival**”), and to help you understand the *TIFF 2024 Terms & Conditions for Submission of Films Through FilmFreeway.com* (the “**Terms & Conditions**”). We encourage you to read through the Terms & Conditions in full. In the case of any conflict between these FAQs and the Terms & Conditions, the Terms & Conditions will prevail.

If you have any further questions, please contact submissions@tiff.net.

We use [FilmFreeway](https://filmfreeway.com) as our submissions platform. All submissions must be submitted through our FilmFreeway listing found here: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>.

THE BASICS

1. I have a question about my submission. Who can I contact?

Please contact the TIFF Submissions Team at submissions@tiff.net.

2. When do submissions open?

Submissions open **March 1, 2024**. Please refer to tiff.net/submissions for more information, or visit our listing on FilmFreeway: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>.

3. What are your submission deadlines?

- Early-Bird deadline: **April 2, 2024 at 11:59pm ET**
- Standard deadline for all categories: **May 10, 2024 at 11:59pm ET**

Please note: *TIFF may disqualify submissions from consideration if the submission is not complete by 11:59pm ET on the final day of the deadline window you selected.*

4. What are your categories, and how much does it cost to submit?

NOTE: All fees are denoted in Canadian dollars.



	Early-Bird Submission Deadline	Early-Bird Submission Deadline (Industry Member Rate)	Standard Submission Deadline	Standard Submission Deadline (Industry Member Rate)
Deadline	April 2, 2024 (11:59pm ET)		May 10, 2024 (11:59pm ET)	
Canadian Features	\$90.00 CAD	\$76.50 CAD	\$155.00 CAD	\$131.75 CAD
Canadian Documentary Features	\$90.00 CAD	\$76.50 CAD	\$155.00 CAD	\$131.75 CAD
Canadian Shorts	\$50.00 CAD	\$42.50 CAD	\$75.00 CAD	\$63.75 CAD
International Features	\$120.00 CAD	\$102.00 CAD	\$155.00 CAD	\$131.75 CAD
International Documentary Features	\$120.00 CAD	\$102.00 CAD	\$155.00 CAD	\$131.75 CAD
International Shorts	\$75.00 CAD	\$63.75 CAD	\$95.00 CAD	\$80.75 CAD
Primetime	\$75.00 CAD	\$63.75 CAD	\$100.00 CAD	\$85.00 CAD
Wavelengths	Only those invited by the TIFF programming team are eligible to submit to the Wavelengths category on FilmFreeway. If you were not invited to submit to Wavelengths, you are welcome to submit to another category in which your film is eligible.			
DCP & Projectionist Package	\$300.00 CAD Only those invited by the TIFF programming team are eligible to submit to the DCP & Projectionist Package category on FilmFreeway. If you were not invited to do so, please submit an online screener to another category in which your film is eligible.			



5. Are submission fees refundable?

No. Submission fees will not be refunded under any circumstances. Please carefully review our Terms & Conditions and eligibility requirements found on tiff.net/submissions or filmfreeway.com/TIFF prior to submitting your Film.

6. Do you issue fee waivers for any submissions?

Film submission fees help offset the administrative costs of processing submissions and carefully screening and considering each Film. TIFF only has a limited number of submission fee waivers for filmmakers, and it is not likely for a waiver to be granted. TIFF appreciates your understanding.

TIFF may consider requests for fee waivers from:

- a) Equity-deserving and underrepresented filmmakers who identify as women, Black, Indigenous, a person of colour, a person with a disability or accessibility challenges, or a member of the LGBTQ+ community;
- b) Countries that are subject to financial restrictions and embargoes that prevent them from submitting through the FilmFreeway platform; or
- c) TIFF Festival and Industry Alumni and Canadian creators in financial need, as demonstrated in the fee waiver form.

Please note that ONLY Films with a World premiere status at the time of submission, that have not had a public presentation anywhere in the world, will be considered for a fee waiver.

Please email submissions@tiff.net to request a copy of our Waiver Request Form. Requests made to TIFF from March 1 - 22, 2024 will have until the deadline of March 22, 2024 to submit a completed Waiver Request Form for consideration for a fee waiver and, if the waiver is granted, must submit their film by our Early-Bird deadline on April 2 at 11:59pm ET. Requests made to TIFF from March 23 - May 1, 2024 will have until the deadline of May 1, 2024 to submit a completed Waiver Request Form for consideration for a fee waiver and, if the waiver is granted, must submit their film by our Standard deadline of May 10 at 11:59pm ET.

7. Do you provide invoices for submissions?

No, TIFF does not provide invoices for submissions. However, you can access a receipt for your submission directly from FilmFreeway:

<https://filmfreeway.com/help/article/16048/how-do-i-access-a-receipt-for-my-submissions>

8. How do I access the Industry Member rate?

The Industry Member rate is an exclusive benefit to TIFF's Industry Membership. To join as an Industry Member and view the perks of Membership, please visit <https://tiff.net/join/industry-membership>.

If you are already an Industry Member, please email industry@tiff.net to request your individual submissions promo code.



ELIGIBILITY

1. Do you accept re-submissions?

No. If the Film was previously submitted to TIFF for consideration for a prior TIFF Festival, the Film will not be eligible for submission to TIFF for a second time, nor will the Film be eligible for submission to TIFF for a future edition of the Festival.

2. Do you accept works-in-progress?

Yes, we do accept work-in-progress copies of Films, and our programmers are accustomed to watching Films that have final elements outstanding. Before submitting a work-in-progress copy of your Film, please note that:

- a) Due to the high volume of submissions we receive, we can only accept one version of your screener. You need to be prepared for the screener that is uploaded to FilmFreeway to be watched. If you are not prepared for the uploaded screener to be watched, please do not submit until you are ready.
- b) Should your Film be invited to our Festival, the final version of your Film must be completed and delivered to TIFF by August 16, 2024.

3. Do you accept screenplay or script submissions?

No.

4. Do you accept virtual-reality submissions?

No.

5. How do I know if my Film falls in the Canadian or international category?

Your Film can be submitted in the Canadian Features, Canadian Documentary Features, or Canadian Shorts category if: i) the Film was directed by a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada; and ii) Canada is listed as a major country of production and/or the Film has a credited producer who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada.

If you do not meet these two criteria, please submit to the appropriate international category.

6. Can we submit documentaries to your shorts categories?

Yes, as long as the Film's run time is under 40 minutes (including credits) and the Film meets our eligibility requirements, you are welcome to submit short documentaries to our shorts categories.



7. What is your Primetime category?

Primetime accepts both Canadian and International serial content. The series can be fiction or documentary, and can also be a web, television, or streaming series (but please note that TIFF does not accept submissions that have already been publicly available online in North America).

To submit your series for consideration, you must submit a minimum of two (2) chronological episodes, including the series or season premiere episode, with a minimum combined runtime of 60 minutes or longer (including credits). In the case of anthologies, chronological episodes are not required.

8. What is Wavelengths? Who can submit to Wavelengths?

Wavelengths is a tightly curated international showcase of artist film and video, including feature-length experimental fiction, innovative and essayist documentaries, avant-garde shorts, and films from the contemporary art world.

TIFF does not accept unsolicited submissions to the Wavelengths programme. Only those invited by the TIFF programming team are eligible to submit to the Wavelengths category on FilmFreeway. If you were not invited to submit to Wavelengths, you are welcome to submit to another category for which your Film is eligible. Upon review, if a TIFF programmer believes in its sole discretion that your Film should be considered by another programmer, or in another section or category, they may internally refer your Film accordingly. Requests for an invitation will not be answered.

9. How do I submit to Midnight Madness?

We do not have a submission category for Midnight Madness. Feature films that want to be considered for inclusion in the Midnight Madness programme have the opportunity to indicate this in our FilmFreeway application form.

10. Does my Film need to be completed by a certain date in order to be eligible for your Festival?

Yes. In order for your Film to be eligible for our Festival, it must have been completed on or after September 7, 2023.

11. What are your premiere status requirements?

Upon submission, films or series must have a World, International or North American premiere status. At our sole discretion, TIFF reserves the right to accept submissions with only a Canadian premiere status.

Upon selection, TIFF prefers that all Short and Feature Films presented are, at minimum, North American premieres (in relation to the levels of premiere status as outlined below). The Film's premiere status will be taken into consideration when final programming decisions are made.



Premiere Status Definitions:

World Premiere - The film or series *has not had and will not have* any public screening anywhere in the world before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

International Premiere - The film or series *has only had* a public screening in its country of origin (if the country of origin is not in North America) before its scheduled presentation at the Festival. It *has not had* any other public screenings outside of its country of origin.

(Please note: If a United States production premiered only in the United States, it would qualify as an International Premiere. However, if a United States production premiered in the United States and outside of the United States and Canada, the film would be considered a Canadian premiere.)

North American Premiere - The film or series has already had public screenings in other countries, but has not yet screened anywhere in Canada or the United States before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

(Please note: Public screenings in Mexico or Caribbean Islands will not affect a film's North American premiere status.)

Canadian Premiere - The film or series has already had public screenings in other countries, including the United States, but has not yet screened anywhere in Canada before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

(Please note: A film should not submit to the Festival if it has already had a public screening in Canada prior to the 2024 Festival. TIFF strongly recommends that your film has, at minimum, a North American premiere status in relation to the levels of premiere status as outlined herein at the time of submission.)

N/A (No Premiere Status) - The film or series has already had a public screening in Canada (or will have a public screening in Canada) any time prior to the Festival and will therefore not have any premiere status. **A film with no premiere status is not eligible for TIFF consideration.**

12. What is a public screening?

We consider a "public screening" to be a screening where the public and/or press attended and the screening was advertised and/or ticketed. Exceptions include a screening where the public attended, but there was a non-disclosure agreement and no advertising, and/or a private friends-and-family/cast-and-crew screening. There may also be exclusions for compulsory school showcases. Please contact submissions@tiff.net if you are uncertain about your Film's premiere status.

13. Can my film be posted online?

A Film will not be eligible for consideration and should not be submitted if:

- a. the Film was completed prior to September 7, 2023; or
- b. the Film was previously submitted to TIFF for consideration for a prior TIFF festival; or



- c. the Film has been for sale on DVD/Blu-ray/VOD; or
- d. the Film:
 - (i) had theatrical releases in North America,
 - (ii) has aired on television and/or a public streaming platform in North America; or
- e. the Film has been publicly posted or exhibited online in North America (Films that are publicly posted or exhibited online but geoblocked to a region outside of North America are still eligible for our Festival); or
- f. the Film does not have, at minimum, a North American premiere status (in relation to the levels of premiere status as outlined in #11 above) at the time of submission; or
- g. the Film has had, or will have, a public presentation in Canada prior to the Festival, and therefore will not have a premiere status prior to September 5, 2024.

14. My Film has been presented at an online festival. Is it still eligible?

Films that are publicly posted or exhibited online but geoblocked to a region outside of North America are still eligible for our Festival. If the online festival where your Film was presented does not violate these terms, then your Film would still be eligible for TIFF. Please read more in our Terms & Conditions [here](#).

15. Can a trailer, clip, and/or actor reel in connection with the Film be publicly posted online?

Yes. Posting a trailer, clip, and/or actor reel online from your Film does not disqualify your Film.

16. Do you allow Films with branded content?

All Films must adhere to our *Intellectual property, legal claims and indemnities* section of our Terms & Conditions. Please visit tiff.net/submissions or filmfreeway.com/TIFF for more information.

17. Do you accept Films with runtimes between 41 and 59 minutes?

We do not accept submissions of short films and feature films with runtimes between 41 and 59 minutes (including credits). Short films must have runtimes of 40 minutes and under (including credits). Feature films must have runtimes of 60 minutes and over (including credits). Primetime serial content must have a combined runtime of 60 minutes and over (including credits). For Films invited to submit to Wavelengths, we will accept runtimes of any length.



SUBMITTING YOUR FILM

1. How do I submit?

In order to submit your Film, you must register and submit your Film online via FilmFreeway. Visit our FilmFreeway listing here: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>.

2. Where do I send my Film?

All submissions must be submitted online via FilmFreeway: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>. Online screeners or downloadable files received separately via email will not be accepted. FilmFreeway allows for direct digital uploads, Vimeo links, or YouTube links. For more information on FilmFreeway project and video uploads, please visit <https://filmfreeway.com/help>.

3. Can I send a DCP screener for my film?

DCPs will only be accepted by invitation from TIFF's programming team, and additional fees apply. Please submit an online screener to the applicable category for your Film on FilmFreeway: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>.

4. Can I submit more than one Film project?

Yes, you can submit more than one Film project for consideration. You must complete separate applications for each project that you plan to submit and you must pay a separate submission fee for each submission; this can be done under the same FilmFreeway account. For more information on how to add multiple projects and submissions to your FilmFreeway account, please visit:

<https://filmfreeway.com/help/article/15998/how-do-i-create-a-project>.

5. Can I submit my Film to more than one category?

No. We ask that you submit your Film to one category only. If, after viewing your submission, a TIFF programmer believes in its sole discretion that your Film is better suited to another category or programme, they may internally refer your Film to such category accordingly.

6. Is there specific information you require in our FilmFreeway project?

Yes. Aside from filling out our custom form, we require that the following information be added to your FilmFreeway project:

- Director's Name (under "Credits")
- Country of Origin (not to be confused with Country of Filming - see Question 8 for a definition)
- Film Language
- Runtime (duration including credits)
- Date of Completion
- Film Screener (the screener must contain English subtitles if the original language is not English)
- Screener Password (if applicable)



7. I did not add your required information to my FilmFreeway project. How can I update my submission project details?

For information on how to update your FilmFreeway submission project details, please visit <https://filmfreeway.com/help/article/16023/how-do-i-edit-my-project-details>.

8. What is meant by Country of Origin?

Country of Origin refers to the country or countries that provided production funding and/or the country in which the primary production company is based. It does not refer to the *Country of Filming* (where the Film was shot). If there is more than one Country of Origin, please list the country that provided the most production funding to your FilmFreeway project. You will get an opportunity to list all Countries of Origin in our custom FilmFreeway form.

9. What is meant by the Date of Completion?

The Date of Completion is the date when the Film was completed. If your Film is a work-in-progress, please note the approximate future date by which the Film will be completed. Films selected by TIFF for the Festival will be required to supply TIFF with an exhibition copy of the completed Film by August 16, 2024.

10. Do you accept DVDs or Blu-ray screeners?

No, we do **NOT** accept DVDs or Blu-rays. We only accept online submissions by way of FilmFreeway: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>.

11. How can I tell when you've received my Film submission?

Due to the high volume of submissions we receive, we are unable to confirm receipt of your Film on an individual basis. Please note: It may take several weeks for us to review your submission and update your status. Please consult your FilmFreeway Film page frequently to check your submission status noted as follows:

- **In Consideration:** Your submission is under review. If your submission remains "In Consideration" and we have not contacted the submitting party to request additional information, then all submission requirements are satisfied. Please note: This review process may take several weeks.
- **Incomplete:** TIFF is awaiting receipt of a submission screener or requires additional information. If we require further information regarding your submission, we will change your status to "Incomplete" and will contact the submitting party directly via our submissions@tiff.net email. Please note: This process may take several weeks.
- **Disqualified:** TIFF has disqualified the submission from consideration due to the submission's not being completed by 11:59pm ET on the final day of the deadline window you selected, or being ineligible. We will contact the submitting party directly via our submissions@tiff.net email to inform them of this disqualification.



12. Can I update my screener?

Due to a high number of submissions for our team to process and review, we are unfortunately only able to receive one version of your screener. Please be prepared for the screening link you submit to be the one that will be watched.

13. Do you have any technical requirements for film submissions?

We have no technical requirements for submission, provided that the Film is submitted via [FilmFreeway](#) and includes a digital screener.

FilmFreeway accepts all major video formats in full quality HD up to 10 GB. FilmFreeway transcodes videos for playback compatibility and performance and recommends that you use settings close to these output settings:

Maximum video bitrate: 2200 Kbps, H.264, mp4

Audio: 128 Kbps, AAC, 2 channel stereo

Aspect ratio preserved; maximum video height of 720 pixels

FilmFreeway is also able to accept both Vimeo and YouTube screeners. 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.

ODDS & ENDS

1. Am I allowed to submit to other festivals?

Absolutely. We just ask that you keep us informed of any official selections by emailing us at submissions@tiff.net, as this may impact your Film's Premiere Status.

2. I have been accepted to another festival and haven't received a decision from TIFF. Can I email you about this?

Yes, you can email submissions@tiff.net to inform us, but unfortunately we are not able to help you make a decision about participating in other festivals, and cannot consider your Film early.

3. Will my submission be watched?

Yes. All submissions are reviewed and considered fairly and thoroughly by a TIFF international programming team. In the case of consideration of Primetime submissions, we only require our team to review the pilot episode.

Please keep in mind that our programmers do not solely screen submissions in Toronto, and have the ability to screen films offline. Please also keep in mind that Vimeo statistics are not always accurately recorded,



especially when an embedded video or third-party application such as FilmFreeway is used. Please visit Vimeo's FAQ page for more information on their analytics and third-party players: <https://vimeo.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360033196832-Analytics-FAQ>.

4. When will I be notified of the decision regarding my Film?

You will receive an official decision by the end of August through FilmFreeway to the email address associated with the submitting party on your project listing. Please make sure to provide an email address that is checked frequently. Decisions will **not** be released via phone call or email from TIFF. Please avoid emailing us and requesting a decision. We appreciate your patience.

5. If we are officially invited to your Festival, we need to provide an exhibition copy of our Film by August 16, 2024 – but we may not be notified of your official decision until August 16, 2024. Please explain.

August 16, 2024 is the last possible date by which we will inform applicants of our official decisions. Official decisions are sent out on a rolling basis throughout August. If you are officially invited to our Festival, we will work with each Film team on a case-by-case basis to ensure that an exhibition copy arrives in time for our Festival.

6. Can I receive notes or feedback on my submission?

Due to the large volume of films we receive, we are unable to provide individual feedback regarding your Film submission.

7. When is the 2024 Toronto International Film Festival?

The 49th edition of the Toronto International Film Festival will run September 5–15, 2024. Visit <https://tiff.net> for more information.