



## 2020 Festival Submissions – Frequently Asked Questions

We are now using [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](mailto:submissions@tiff.net).

#### **2) When do submissions open?**

Submissions open **February 11, 2020**. Please refer to [tiff.net/submissions](https://tiff.net/submissions) for more information, or visit our listing on FilmFreeway: <https://filmfreeway.com/TIFF>.

#### **3) What are your submission deadlines?** (Please see the below chart as exceptions to these deadlines may apply)

- Early-bird deadline: April 3, 2020 at 11:59pm EST
- Standard deadline: May 29, 2020 at 11:59pm EST

*Please note: TIFF may disqualify submissions from consideration if the submission is not complete by 11:59pm EST 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.

Category	Early-bird submission deadline & fee	Standard submission deadline & fee
Canadian Features	April 3, 2020 \$70.00	May 29, 2020 \$135.00
Canadian Documentary Features	April 3, 2020 \$70.00	May 29, 2020 \$135.00
Canadian Shorts	April 3, 2020 \$35.00	May 29, 2020 \$65.00
International Features	April 3, 2020 \$100.00	May 29, 2020 \$135.00



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<b>International Documentary Features</b>	April 3, 2020 \$100.00	May 29, 2020 \$135.00
<b>International Shorts</b>	April 3, 2020 \$65.00	May 29, 2020 \$95.00
<b>Primetime</b>	April 3, 2020 \$65.00	May 29, 2020 \$95.00
<b>Wavelengths Shorts</b>		May 29, 2020 \$35.00
<b>Wavelengths Features</b>		May 29, 2020 \$70.00

### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **1) Do you accept re-submissions?**

If the Film was previously submitted to TIFF for Festival consideration, the Film will not be eligible. However, we will accept a “new cut” of a film that was previously submitted to TIFF, provided that the Film still meets our eligibility requirements. We define a “new cut” as a Film that has undergone substantial changes, including but not limited to: editing, reshoots, or a new run time. Please submit a brief statement with your submission with reference to the new cut.

#### **2) Can I submit more than one film project?**

Yes, you can submit more than one film project. You must complete separate applications for each project you plan to submit, but can do so under the same FilmFreeway account. For more information on how to add multiple projects to your FilmFreeway account, please visit: <https://filmfreeway.com/help/article/15998/how-do-i-create-a-project>.

#### **3) Can I submit my film to more than one category?**

No. We ask that you only submit your film to one category. If after viewing your submission a programmer feels that your film is better suited to another category or programme, they may refer your film internally.



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### 4) Do you accept works-in-progress films?

Yes, we do accept work-in-progress copies of films, and our programmers are used to watching films that have final elements outstanding. Before submitting a work-in-progress copy of your film, please know that:

1. due to the high volume of submissions we receive, we can only accept and view one version of your screener, and will not be able to accept an updated version later in the submissions season;
2. works-in-progress films need to be finished by August 7, 2020;
3. should your film get invited to our Festival, the final version of your film would need to be completed and delivered to TIFF by August 14, 2020.

### 5) Do you accept screenplay or script submissions?

No.

### 6) Do you accept virtual-reality submissions?

No.

### 7) How do I know if my film falls in the Canadian or international category?

If the director of the film you are submitting is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada AND Canada is listed as one of the countries of production (meaning that 50% or more of the funding is Canadian), then your film should be submitted in the Canadian Features, Canadian Documentary Features, or Canadian Shorts category. If you do not meet these two criteria, please submit to the appropriate international category.

### 8) Can we submit documentaries to your shorts categories?

Yes, as long as the Film's run time is under 49 minutes and the Film meets our eligibility requirements, you are welcome to submit short documentaries to our shorts categories.

### 9) What is your Primetime category?

Serial content with a minimum of two chronological episodes, including the pilot, featuring a combined run time of 60 minutes or longer. In the case of anthologies, chronological episodes are not required.

### 10) How do I submit to Midnight Madness?

We do not have a submissions category for Midnight Madness. If you want your film to be considered for inclusion in the Midnight Madness programme, please indicate this in your FilmFreeway application by selecting "Midnight Madness" as one of the answers to the following submission question: "Please find a list of **film tags** below with their definitions. Check all that apply."

### 11) 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 July 1, 2019.



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### 12) What are your premiere status requirements?

TIFF will accept submissions that have already premiered in North America (with the exception of Toronto) but the film's premiere status will be taken into consideration when final programming decisions are made. TIFF prefers that all Short and Feature Films presented are, at minimum, North American premieres.

#### Premiere Status Definitions:

**World Premiere** — The film will not have a public presentation before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

**International Premiere** — The film will not have a public presentation anywhere outside its country of origin before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

**North American Premiere** — The film will not have a public presentation anywhere in North America before its scheduled presentation at the Festival. Please note: any play in Mexico or Caribbean islands will not affect the film's North American premiere status.

**Canadian Premiere** — The film will not have a public presentation anywhere in Canada before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

**Toronto Premiere** — The film will not have a public presentation anywhere in Toronto before its scheduled presentation at the Festival.

**N/A** — The film has had a public presentation in Toronto and therefore will not have a premiere status. **Please note: a Film is not eligible for our Festival if it has had, or will have, a public presentation in Toronto and therefore will not have a premiere status prior to September 10, 2020.**

### 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 July 1, 2019; or
- b. the Film was previously submitted to TIFF for Festival consideration (please note: we will accept a "new cut" of a film that was previously submitted to TIFF, provided that the Film still meets our eligibility requirements. We define a "new cut" as a Film that has undergone substantial changes including, but not limited to: editing, reshoots, or new run time. Please submit a brief statement with your submission with reference to the new cut); or
- c. the Film has been for sale on DVD/Blu-ray/VOD; or
- d. the Film:
  - (i) had theatrical releases,
  - (ii) has aired on television,
  - (iii) has been available on a public streaming platform in North America; or



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- 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 has had, or will have, a public presentation in Toronto and therefore will not have a premiere status prior to September 10, 2020.

### 14) What is a public screening?

We consider a public screening to be a screening where the public attended and the event was advertised and/or ticketed. An exception to this would be if the public attended, but there was a non-disclosure agreement and no advertising, and/or a private friends-and-family/cast or crew screening. There may also be exclusions for compulsory school showcases.

## **SUBMITTING YOUR FILM**

### 1) How do I submit?

In order to submit your film, you must register and submit your film 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 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) Do you accept DVDs, PAL, or Blu-ray screeners?

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

### 4) How can I tell when you've received my film?

Unfortunately, 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.

- **In Consideration:** Your submission is under review. If your submissions 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 submission or requesting 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](mailto:submissions@tiff.net) email. Please note: this process may take several weeks.



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- **Disqualified:** TIFF has disqualified the submission from consideration due to the submission's not being completed by 11:59pm EST on the final day of the deadline window you selected. We will contact the Submitting Party directly via our [submissions@tiff.net](mailto:submissions@tiff.net) email to inform them of this disqualification. You are allowed to then resubmit your disqualified project during another deadline window.

### **ODDS & ENDS**

#### **1) 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>.

#### **2) Am I allowed to submit to other festivals?**

Absolutely. We just ask that you keep us informed of any official selections.

#### **3) 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](mailto: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.

#### **4) Will my submission be watched?**

Yes. All submissions are reviewed and considered fairly and thoroughly by an international programming team. Please keep in mind that our programmers do not solely screen submissions in Toronto, and have the ability to screen films offline. In the case of Primetime submissions, for consideration we only require our team to review the pilot episode. 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>.

#### **5) 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 or email. Please avoid emailing us and requesting a decision. We appreciate your patience.

#### **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.

NOTE: These FAQs are to assist you with your submission, and to help you understand the *2020 Terms & Conditions for Submission of Films through FilmFreeway.com*. We encourage you to read through these terms and conditions in full. In the case of any conflict between this FAQ document and the terms and conditions, the terms and conditions will prevail.