



40th ASC AWARDS THEATRICAL FEATURE FILM AWARD

RULES OF ENTRY

PLEASE READ THE RULES OF ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY. FAILURE TO MEET ANY OF THE RULES OR REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION. ALL RULES, ELIGIBILITY, AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ASC AWARD THEATRICAL FEATURE FILM RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

THEATRICAL FEATURE FILM ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

- January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

- Theatrical Feature Film Release submissions open on SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
- Theatrical Feature Film Release submissions close on NOVEMBER 14, 2025

ASC AWARD ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

- For questions regarding the rules of entry, please contact Delphine@theasc.com
- For questions regarding the submission process please contact Sal@theasc.com

CRITERIA FOR THEATRICAL FEATURE FILM ELIGIBILITY

- Must be 60 minutes minimum or longer
- Released within the awards year eligibility period of JANUARY 1, 2025 - DECEMBER 31, 2025
- Publicly exhibited for paid admission in a commercial motion picture U.S. theater
- Qualifying run of seven (7) consecutive days in the same commercial motion picture U.S. theater
- Advertised during their qualifying theatrical run, including print and digital media
- Theatrical Feature Films that were released simultaneously on VOD, DVD, Broadcast, Cable, or Streaming on or after their first day of a qualifying theatrical run remains eligible
- International Feature Films are eligible provided they meet the above requirement

Non-Theatrical Distribution:

Films that receive their first public distribution in any manner other than as a theatrical motion picture release ARE NOT eligible for ASC Awards Feature Film category. For non-theatrical releases, see ASC Television Awards Eligibility and Rules of Entry, Category: Motion Picture Made for Television. Non-theatrical distribution includes but is not limited to: Broadcast and cable television; PPV/VOD; DVD distribution; Inflight airline distribution; Internet transmission

Documentary Feature Films:

All Documentary Feature Films and Documentary Series Episodes must be submitted in the Documentary Award category. See ASC Documentary Award Eligibility and Rules of Entry

ASC AWARDS THEATRICAL RELEASE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Eligibility is contingent upon the receipt of a completed ASC Awards Theatrical Feature Film Submission Form, which includes:
 1. \$375 Submission fee per entry
 2. Verification by the film's distributor or producer (unless waived by the ASC)
 3. Cinematographer(s) credit as they appear on screen
 4. The name and location of the U.S. theater where the film screened
 5. The dates of the U.S. theatrical qualifying run
 6. Viewing link or Blu-Ray to the full film for verification purposes (If available)
 7. Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM (PT) on NOVEMBER 14, 2025.

**FAILURE TO MEET ANY OF THE ABOVE CRITERIA & REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION
THE ASC SHALL RESOLVE ALL QUESTIONS OF RULES AND ELIGIBILITY, AND RESERVES THE RIGHT TO
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NO REFUNDS



40TH ASC AWARDS TELEVISION RULES OF ENTRY

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ASC AWARD TELEVISION CATEGORIES ELIGIBILITY

TELEVISION ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

- December 1, 2024 – November 30, 2025

DEADLINES

- TV Submissions open SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
- TV Submissions close NOVEMBER 3, 2025
- Nominations announce JANUARY 8, 2026

ASC AWARD ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

- For questions regarding the rules of entry, please contact Delphine@theasc.com
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CRITERIA FOR TELEVISION ELIGIBILITY

- Eligibility will be considered on a case-by-case basis
- An episode of a program is eligible provided it was originally broadcast or streamed on television within the United States on a commercial network, publicly sponsored broadcast system, or pay outlet between DECEMBER 1, 2024 – NOVEMBER 30, 2025.
- An “Entry” or “Submission” is a single episode of a program
- Multiple entries PER CATEGORY is permitted provided each submission represents a different series or program
- For One-Hour and Half-Hour Series only, the cinematographer must have **COMPLETED AT LEAST TWO (2) EPISODES** of the season series.
 - **NOTED EXCEPTIONS:**
 - *A cinematographer credited for the series “Pilot” or Season 1, Episode 1 may submit the episode regardless of whether they completed an additional season episode.*
 - *Cinematographers credited with multiple episodes of a previous season of the same series may be eligible*
- An individual who was nominated for or won for an episode from a series/season that overlapped the previous year’s eligibility period may not submit another episode from that same specific series/season for this year’s competition.

ASC AWARD TELEVISION CATEGORIES RULES & TERMS

TELEVISION SERIES

- Is a minimum of six (6) One-Hour or Half-Hour original episodes.
- Half-hour series episodes have an episode running time of more than 20 minutes and up to 45 minutes
- Hour-long series have an episode running time of more than 46 minutes
- The theme, storyline, or principal characters must be predominantly featured in multiple episodes.
- Must be presented under the same title and each program season must be related to the previous and subsequent seasons.
- Must have a continuity of executive supervision and/or production personnel so that it is thought of as a whole rather than individual parts.

LIMITED SERIES

- Consists of two (2) or more original episodes based on a single storyline that tells one complete story with a clear beginning, middle, and end, which is resolved over the course of the program/season (i.e. plays like a movie told over a limited number of episodes)
- The storyline and/or characters does not recur in subsequent seasons
- Must present episodes under the same title with a continuity of executive supervision and/or production personnel so that it is thought of as a whole, rather than individual parts

ANTHOLOGY SERIES

- Anthology Series consists of two (2) or more original episodes that presents as a complete non-recurring story with a different set of characters for each episode
- May present a continuity of theme across all episodes
- Must present episodes under the same title with a continuity of executive supervision and/or production personnel so that it is thought of as a whole, rather than individual parts

MOTION PICTURE MADE FOR TELEVISION

- Is a single, original program that tells a complete story with a clear beginning, middle, and end, which is resolved within the program, and has a minimum running time of 75 minutes
- Originally broadcast or streamed on television within the United States on a commercial network, a publicly sponsored broadcast system, or pay outlet

****FOR DOCU-SERIES, SEE DOCUMENTARY AWARD CATEGORY RULES***

ASC AWARD TELEVISION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. One entry per series per cinematographer
2. \$425 fee per Television entry
3. Entries must include:
 - a. Downloadable link of the full program for verification purposes only
 - b. Upload a 4-minute excerpt on HD data file.
 - Excerpts must contain scenes or parts of scenes no less than 1-minute and up to 4-minutes.
 - Complete scenes do not have to be shown, but excerpts must not be edited to alter the original sequence of shots within a scene.
 - H264 or H265 1920x1080 at 23.98 or 24 fps total runtime 4 minutes
 - Label as NameofShow_episode#_4min
 - c. Upload separate 6-minute clip on HD data file
 - Excerpt may contain one continuous 6-minute clip, or two 3-minute clips from any part of the show.
 - 6-minute excerpt may contain footage from the original 4-minute clip
 - H264 or H265 1920x1080 at 23.98 or 24 fps total runtime 6 minutes
 - Please label as NameofShow_episode#_6min
 - d. Do not include title sequences featuring the director of photography's name.
 - e. Entries must be submitted with their original sound accompaniment.
 - f. Personal headshot (will be used on-screen in the event of a nomination)
 - g. Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM (PT) on NOVEMBER 3, 2025.

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NO REFUNDS



40TH ASC AWARDS DOCUMENTARY RULES OF ENTRY

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DOCUMENTARY ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

- December 1, 2024 – November 30, 2025

DEADLINES

- Documentary Submissions open SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
- Documentary Submission close NOVEMBER 3, 2025
- Nominations announce JANUARY 8, 2026

ASC AWARD ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

- For questions regarding the rules of entry, please contact Delphine@theasc.com
- For questions regarding the submission process please contact Sal@theasc.com

CRITERIA FOR DOCUMENTARY ELIGIBILITY

- Documentary film with a minimum total running time of 30 minutes OR a single episode of a Documentary Series with a minimum total running time of 30 minutes
- Must have had a commercial theatrical release, broadcast or streamed on television within the United States on a commercial network, a publicly sponsored broadcast system, or pay outlet, or played at a major film festival between DECEMBER 1, 2024, and NOVEMBER 30, 2025
- A documentary project may not have more than two (2) primary credited director(s) of photography or cinematographer(s) to be eligible. A documentary with more than 2 credited cinematographers or directors of photography is INELIGIBLE
- Cinematographers credited under “Additional Photography”, or “Additional Cinematographers” are not eligible for submission
- Multiple episodes of the same series with different directors of photography/cinematographers may be submitted separately, i.e., one series episode per director(s) of photography per entry
- Cinematographers may submit multiple entries provided each submission represents distinctly different film or series titles
- No more than 25% of the documentary may be archival footage, or footage from another source that isn’t the credited cinematographer(s). This includes historical footage, stock footage, news footage, third-party footage, footage captured by the subjects, etc
- No more than 25% of the documentary may be re-created footage. Re-created footage in which the filmmakers have full “scripted” control over the environment with “performers” (actual subjects or actor portrayals) and full control over lighting, takes and retakes, sound, camera

setups, location, set dressing, etc. – does not qualify for documentary cinematography as it borders into scripted narrative

- Reality television is ineligible for consideration. Reality television includes contest-driven or competition programming and programming following the life or work of select individuals intended primarily for entertainment rather than to be informative on a particular subject. Also excluded are variety, news, broadcast sports and talk shows

DOCUMENTARY SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. One entry per title/series per cinematographer(s)
2. \$275 fee per Documentary entry
3. Entries must include:
4. Downloadable link of, or reasonable access to the complete film or full episode
 - a. 5–7-minute continuous segment representing the best cinematographic selection of the submission. This segment must be a whole portion, in continuity, and may not be a montage or edited in any way
 - b. Uploaded 5-7-minute excerpt on HD data file
 - H264 or H265 1920x1080 at 23.98 or 24 fps total runtime between 5 – 7 minutes
 - Please label as NameofProject_doc (if Documentary Film) OR NameofProject_Episode#
5. Cinematographer(s) name credit as they appear on screen
6. The dates and location of the theatrical qualifying run, broadcast, or film festival
7. Do not include title sequences featuring the director of photography's name
8. Entries must be submitted with their original sound accompaniment
9. Personal headshot (will be used on screen in the event of a nomination)
10. Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM (PT) on NOVEMBER 3, 2025.

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40TH ASC AWARDS MUSIC VIDEO RULES OF ENTRY

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MUSIC VIDEO ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

- November 1, 2024 - October 31, 2025

DEADLINES

- Music Video submissions open SEPTEMBER 15, 2025
- Music Video submissions close NOVEMBER 3, 2025
- Nominations announce JANUARY 8, 2026

ASC AWARD ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

- For questions regarding the rules of entry, please contact Delphine@theasc.com
- For questions regarding the submission process please contact Sal@theasc.com

CRITERIA FOR MUSIC VIDEO ELIGIBILITY

- Submitted work must have had an official commercial release, been broadcast or streamed, between November 1, 2024 and October 31, 2025.
- Music Video is no longer than 10 Minutes, no shorter than 2 1/2 Minutes.
- No more than two (2) primary credited director(s) of photography or cinematographer(s). If there are two, both cinematographers must be listed on the submittal.
- Cinematographers credited under "Additional Photography", or "Additional Cinematographers" are not eligible for submission.
- Submitted works should bear no credits. The cinematographer's name should not be featured in the submitted work. If the work has credits as part of the finished product, the cinematographer's name should be edited out for judging impartiality.
- Cinematographers may only submit a maximum of two (2) entries.
- No more than 25% of the music video may be archival footage, or footage from another source that isn't the credited cinematographer(s). This includes historical footage, stock footage, news footage, third-party footage, footage captured by the subjects, etc.

MUSIC VIDEO SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. No more than two cinematographer(s) credited for the submitted work.
2. \$175 fee per Music Video entry.
3. Entries must include:
 - a. Downloadable link to the complete music video.
 - H264 or H265 1920x1080 at 23.98, or 24 fps.

- Please label as Name of Project_Cinematographer(s)LastName(s).
- b. Cinematographer(s) credit.
- c. The dates and platform of the release of the submitted work.
- 4. Entries must be submitted with their original sound accompaniment.
- 5. Personal headshot (will be used on-screen in the event of a nomination).
- 6. Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM (PT) on NOVEMBER 3, 2025.

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