

Rule Two Eligibility

1. Eligibility for Academy Awards consideration is subject to Rules Two and Three, and to those special rules approved by the Board of Governors that follow.

2. All eligible motion pictures, unless otherwise noted (see Paragraph 9, below), must be:

a. feature length (defined as over 40 minutes),

b. publicly exhibited by means of 35mm or 70mm film, or in a 24- or 48-frame progressive scan Digital Cinema format with a minimum projector resolution of 2048 by 1080 pixels, source image format conforming to SMPTE 428-1-2006 D-Cinema Distribution Master – Image Characteristics; image compression (if used) conforming to ISO/IEC 15444-1 (JPEG 2000), and image and sound file formats suitable for exhibition in commercial Digital Cinema sites. The audio in a typical Digital Cinema Package (DCP) is 5.1 channels of discrete audio, and that is the preferred audio configuration. The minimum for a non-mono configuration of the audio shall be three channels as Left, Center, Right (a Left/Right configuration is not acceptable in a theatrical environment). The audio data shall be formatted in conformance with SMPTE 428-2-2006 D-Cinema Distribution Master – Audio Characteristics and SMPTE 428-3-2006 D-Cinema Distribution Master – Audio Channel Mapping and Channel Labeling.

c. for paid admission in a commercial motion picture theater in Los Angeles County,

d. for a qualifying run of at least seven consecutive days,

e. advertised and exploited during their Los Angeles County qualifying run in a manner considered normal and customary to the industry, and

f. within the Awards year deadlines specified in Rule Three.

3. Films that, in any version, receive their first public exhibition or distribution in any manner other than as a theatrical motion picture release will not be eligible for Academy Awards in any category. (This includes broadcast and cable television as well as home video marketing and Internet transmission.) However, ten minutes or ten percent of the running time of a film, whichever is shorter, is allowed to be shown in a nontheatrical medium prior to the film's theatrical release.

4. Eligibility is contingent on the receipt by the Academy of the following information on Official Screen Credits forms obtained from the Academy, to be signed by the film's producer or distributor (unless waived by the Academy), which shall include:

a. full, complete and authentic credits,

b. the name of the Los Angeles County theater where the film has played, and

c. the dates of the Los Angeles County qualifying run.

5. Eligibility for all awards shall first be determined by credits as they appear on the screen and/or as certified to the Academy by the producing companies, but final determination in any event shall be made by the Academy. The Academy shall not be bound by any contract or agreement relating to the sharing or giving of credit and reserves the right to make its own determination of credit for purposes of Awards consideration.

6. In the event of any dispute concerning credits, the Academy reserves the right to declare any achievement ineligible or, alternatively, to reject all claims to credit, list credits as being in controversy and withhold any award until the dispute is resolved.

7. The alteration of an achievement by changing a picture from the version shown in Los Angeles County, upon which eligibility is based, shall subject such achievement to the risk of being declared ineligible by the Board of Governors.

8. Motion pictures from all countries shall be eligible for the annual awards listed in Rule One Paragraph 3, as long as they satisfy the requirements of the other applicable rules, and contain English-language subtitles if released in a foreign language.

9. Exceptions to the eligibility requirements and methods of qualifying listed in Rules Two and Three appear in the Special Rules for the Animated Feature Film award (see Rule Seven), the Documentary awards (see Rule Twelve), the Foreign Language Film award (see Rule Fourteen), the Music awards (see Rule Sixteen), and the Short Films awards (see Rule Nineteen).

Rule Fourteen: Special Rules for the Best Foreign Language Film Award

I. DEFINITION

A foreign language film is defined as a feature-length motion picture produced outside the United States of America with a predominantly non-English dialogue track.

II. ELIGIBILITY

A. The motion picture must be first released in the country submitting it no earlier than October 1, 2009, and no later than September 30, 2010, and be first publicly exhibited for at least seven consecutive days in a commercial motion picture theater for the profit of the producer and exhibitor. It must be exhibited by means of 35mm or 70mm film or in a 24- or 48- frame progressive scan Digital Cinema format with a minimum projector resolution of 2048 by 1080 pixels, source image format conforming to SMPTE 428-1-2006 D-Cinema Distribution Master – Image Characteristics; image compression (if used) conforming to ISO/IEC 15444-1 (JPEG 2000), and image and sound file formats suitable for exhibition in commercial Digital Cinema sites. The audio in a typical Digital Cinema Package (DCP) is 5.1 channels of discrete audio, and that is the preferred audio configuration. The minimum for a non-mono configuration of the audio shall be three channels as Left, Center, Right (a Left/Right configuration is not acceptable in a theatrical environment). The audio data shall be formatted in conformance with SMPTE 428-2-2006 D-Cinema Distribution Master – Audio Characteristics and SMPTE 428-3-2006 D-Cinema Distribution Master – Audio Channel Mapping and Channel Labeling.

B. The picture must be advertised and exploited during its eligibility run in a manner considered normal and customary to the industry. The picture need not have been released in the United States.

C. No type of television or Internet transmission may occur at any time prior to the motion picture's theatrical release.

D. The recording of the original dialogue track as well as the completed picture must be predominantly in a language or languages other than English. Accurate English subtitles are required.

E. The submitting country must certify that creative control of the motion picture was largely in the hands of citizens or residents of that country.

F. The Academy will make the final determination in all questions of eligibility.

III. SUBMISSION

A. Each country shall be invited to submit its best motion picture to the Academy. Selection of that picture shall be made by one organization, jury or committee that should include artists and/or craftspeople from the field of motion pictures. A list of the selection committee members must be submitted to the Academy no later than August 2, 2010.

B. Only one picture will be accepted from each country.

C. The Academy will provide official entry forms to the proper committee in each country so that the producer of the selected picture can supply full information for that picture.

D. The official entry forms, together with a cast and credits list, a brief English language synopsis of the film, a biography and photograph of the director, still photographs, a poster, and an original newspaper or magazine clipping advertising the picture's run, must be received in the Academy office not later than 5 p.m. PT on Friday, October 1, 2010. Other fact sheets also may be sent to further document the submission.

E. Prints or DCPs should be shipped prepaid for award consideration to arrive at the Academy no later than 5 p.m. PT on Friday, October 1, 2010.

F. The print submitted for award consideration must be identical in form with the final version in general release in the country submitting the motion picture.

G. Countries whose motion pictures are shortlisted will be required to provide a second English-language subtitled print or DCP of the film to facilitate voting screenings. This second print or DCP is due at the Academy by 5 p.m. PT on Thursday, January 20, 2011.

H. Prints submitted will be retained by the Academy throughout the voting process.

I. "Every award shall be conditioned upon the delivery to the Academy of one print or one copy of every film nominated for final balloting for all Academy Awards. Such print or copy shall be in a format and of a quality equivalent to the film's theatrical release; if a film exists in more than one format, then the version deposited shall be the film print. Such print or copy shall become

the property of the Academy, with the proviso, however, that the Academy shall not use such print or copy for commercial gain. Such print or copy shall be deposited with the Academy and, subject to matters not within its control, shall be screened by the Academy for the membership in advance of distribution of final ballots” (Academy Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 6). The Academy will retain for its archives one print of every motion picture receiving a nomination for the Foreign Language Film award. Prints of those films receiving nominations will be returned to the sender at Academy expense.

IV.VOTING

A.All submissions sent to the Academy will be screened by the Academy’s Foreign Language Film Award Committee(s). After the screenings, the committee(s) will vote by secret ballot to nominate five foreign language motion pictures for this award.

B.Final voting for the Foreign Language Film award shall be restricted to active and life Academy members who have attended Academy screenings, or other exhibition, of all five motion pictures films nominated for the award.

C.Viewing Foreign Language Film entries on videocassette or DVD will NOT qualify a member for voting purposes in this category.

D.The Academy Statuette (Oscar) will be awarded to the motion picture and accepted by the director on behalf of the picture’s creative talents.

V.ADVERTISING / PUBLICITY RESTRICTIONS

Only motion pictures that receive nominations or Academy Awards may refer to their Academy endorsements in advertising and publicity materials. A motion picture that is selected for inclusion in the semifinal round competition may not identify itself as an “Academy Award finalist,” “Academy Award shortlist film” or the like in its individual marketing or publicity.

VI.ELIGIBILITY IN OTHER CATEGORIES

A.Motion pictures submitted for Foreign Language Film award consideration may also qualify for the 83rd Annual Academy Awards in other categories, provided they comply with the rules governing those categories.

B.In order to qualify for other categories, the motion pictures must be publicly exhibited by means of 35mm or 70mm film or in the digital format specified in Paragraph II.A above for paid admission (previews excluded) in a commercial motion picture theater in Los Angeles County, for a run of at least seven consecutive days, beginning between January 1, 2010, and midnight of December 31, 2010.

C.Motion pictures nominated for the Foreign Language Film award shall not be eligible for Academy Awards consideration in any category in any subsequent Awards year. Submitted pictures that are not nominated for the Foreign Language Film award are eligible for Awards consideration in other categories in the subsequent year, provided the pictures begin their seven-day qualifying run in Los Angeles County during that calendar year.