



The UIL Young Filmmakers Festival

Participant Guide for 2020-2021

UPDATED JANUARY 5, 2021



2020-21

UIL Young Filmmakers Festival

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs. See Section 360, Non-Discrimination Policy, UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/general/nondiscrimination>

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Mark Cousins

University Interscholastic League
Director of Eligibility and Education

1701 Manor Road, Austin, TX 78722 Telephone: (512) 471-5883

Email: policy@uiltexas.org

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit

<http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> or call 1-800-421-3481 or contact OCR in Dallas, Texas: Office for Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Education

1999 Bryan Street, Dallas, TX 75201-6810

Telephone: 214-661-9600, Fax: 214-661-9587, TDD: 800-877-8339 Email:

OCR.Dallas@ed.gov

**Submission Deadline – FEBRUARY 5, 2021.
11:59 PM**

Participants

- Students producing the film must be currently enrolled and attending a UIL member high school. The entire production team must be enrolled full-time at the participating school during the 2020-21 school year.
- Contact UIL Director of Eligibility and Education if you have questions regarding student eligibility.
- There is no minimum or a maximum number of contestants. Actors are not contestants if that is their only role in the project.
- Adult involvement in the project is limited to sponsors and onscreen talent.
- Only high school students eligible under UIL rules are eligible for the high school contest.
- There is no amateur rule for this contest.
- Sponsors in the UIL State Student Film Festival shall be full-time employees of the school districts they represent. Their actual involvement in producing the film shall be in an advisory capacity only.

Time Limits and Entries

Each school may submit three (3) films in each of the following four categories:

1. Narrative,
2. Documentary, (This does not include Broadcast News or Public Service Announcements-PSA's)
3. Computer/ Digital Animation and
4. Traditional animation (For example: Claymation, 100% hand drawn, Lego, stop motion) This does not include live actors filmed or photographed and then edited to create a "strobe" effect.

See the link defining the categories found on the UIL Film page.

Narrative and documentary films shall be 3- 7 minutes in length.

Animation entries shall be 30 seconds to 3 minutes in length. This includes any credits.

Eligible Material

- Submitted films must be original works and are required to have clearances for music or other copyrighted material featured in the project. A log of any music used shall be kept on file at the school. See sample music log on UIL website.
- The administration of the producing school shall assure that the production does not offend the moral standards of the community. A signed “Community Standards and Copyright Compliance **Form**” signed to certify that the entries have been carefully examined and approved for presentation. This form can be found on the UIL Film page and on the OAP Resources and Forms.
- Only those films produced during the current school year will be considered for submission into the contest. Films produced during the Spring or Summer months are also eligible for the Festival held the following Spring (**e.g. A film produced in the Spring or Summer of 2020 would be eligible for submission in the Spring 2021 Festival if all the students producing the film are eligible students under the current UIL rules.**)

Entry Procedures

- Schools will be asked to submit an intent to participate form by December 1, 2020. The form can be found at www.uiltexas.org/film This is a survey and not an enrollment form.
- **Submission Deadline – FEBRUARY 5, 2021. 11:59 PM**
- The entry form will become active January 1, 2021. The form can be found at www.uiltexas.org/film
- **MARCH 12-13 Virtual State Awards ceremony. SEE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.**

Evaluation

- Films submitted to the Festival shall be previewed, critiqued and ranked by our adjudicators.
- Originality, cinematic storytelling, and technical execution are the basis of the scoring.
- Entries will go through a preliminary round. Those qualifying will go through a second qualifying round.
- Those qualifying from the second round will go through a State Semi-final round. Those entries advancing to state in each category will be screened, in whole or in digest form, and ranked first through sixth at the State Festival.

Schools shall receive a written evaluation of the film via the Film Contest Portal for each level.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is there an entry fee?

No.

Can my advisor help me write, edit or shoot the film?

They may be on set and help. In fact, that is strongly advised. They may give artistic and technical advise throughout the process.

May we use pre-generated materials software or automated animation software?

No.

How about anything on language or content?

See Section 1036 (c)(1)(B) of the current UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*.

When is eligibility checked?

Eligibility is checked at the time of submission. The project is entered as a team representing the school. Ineligible students shall not be allowed to represent the school at the state finals.

Submission Deadline – FEBRUARY 5, 2021 11:59 PM

What does it mean that there is no “amateur rule?”

Unlike athletic events in UIL, a participant in the film contest can have professional film, TV or commercial credits.

Can our students work with my friends that go to another school?

Only as on-screen or voice talent.

Can I use my little brother/sister from middle school in the cast? What about adults?

Yes.

Does Mockumentary fall under narrative or documentary?

Narrative. Since a mockumentary is fiction, it will fall into that category.

What will I need to prove I have permission to use the music and stock footage?

Receipts will need to be produced if requested by the State Contest Director. A music log should be maintained and kept on file at the school. See Film page for sample music log.

May I use stock footage?

Your film may contain stock footage as needed for a documentary. Stock footage in narrative and animation entries should not be more than 10% of the total running time.

Am I locked in to compete if I file an intent to participate?

No. This is merely an “intent” to participate. This will help us plan for acquiring judges and planning for the evaluation process.

Will I need location permissions? Waivers? etc.?

Schools should check with each location. Waivers from talent, etc shall be the responsibility of the participating school.

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Will the school receive any points towards Academic Championships?

Schools placing at State shall receive points that count towards the overall Academic Championship. Additionally, points from One-Act Play, Film and Theatrical Design shall count towards the overall State Theatre Championship. The points are equivalent to any group contest in Academics.

Can I view winning films from previous years?

Yes. Award winning films from previous years may be found on the UIL Film page.

I am new to this contest. Are there any workshops or presentations I can view that could help me prepare?

Yes. There are UIL Film workshops throughout the year. Please check the UIL Academic and Theatre sites for dates and opportunities.



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