



**The UIL Young Filmmakers Festival  
Participant Guide for 2018-19**



# 2018-19

## 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.uil texas.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 Compliance and Education  
1701 Manor Road, Austin, TX 78722  
Telephone: (512) 471-5883  
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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](mailto:OCR.Dallas@ed.gov)

## **Participants**

- Students producing the film must be currently enrolled and attending a UIL member high school. The production team must be enrolled full-time at the participating school.
- 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 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.

## **Time Limits and Entries**

- Each school may submit three (3) films in each category. The categories are:
  - 1) narrative,
  - 2) documentary, (This does not include Broadcast News or PSA's)
  - 3) computer/ digital animation and
  - 4) traditional animation (claymation, hand drawn, stop motion) This does not include live actors filmed and then edited to create a "strobe" effect.
- 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. The "Community Standards and Copyright Compliance Form," which is part of the entry form, must certify that the entries have been carefully examined and approved for presentation by the administration or an approved designee. (See Page
- 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 2015 would be eligible for submission in the Spring 2016 Festival.)

## **Entry Procedures**

- Schools will be asked to submit an intent to participate form by December 1, 2018. The form can be found at [www.uiltexas.org/film](http://www.uiltexas.org/film) This is a survey and not an enrollment form.
- Submission Deadline - January 10, 2019.
- The entry form will become active January 1, 2019. The form can be found at [www.uiltexas.org/film](http://www.uiltexas.org/film)
- The State Finals are scheduled in Austin, Texas. date and site TBA.

## **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 e-mail at 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 advice throughout the process.

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

No.

**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.

**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 Mock-umentary fall under narrative or documentary?**

Narrative. Since a mock-umentary 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 the State Contest Director. A music log should be maintained. 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.

## **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.

## **How about anything on language or content?**

C&CR - 1036 (c)(1)(B) The administration of the producing school shall assure that the production does not offend the moral standards of the community. When the final edited product is examined and approved by the administration of the producing school, the production is eligible for presentation at any contest site. A “community standards and copyright compliance form” signed by the school’s principal serves to certify that the production has been carefully examined and approved for presentation.

When producing your film, remember that League rules require sponsors and administrators to eliminate profane references to a deity, obscene language, actions or scenes from the approved production. It is up to each school’s administration to determine that all profanity and obscenity has been eliminated and that their play and production does not offend the moral standards of their community.

1. Profanity is characterized by irreverence or contempt for God or any sacred principles or things. The use of any deity’s name when not in reverence or prayer would be profanity by definition. The use of “Jesus,” “Oh, God,” “God knows,” etc. is considered, by definition, profane when not used in reverence or prayer and shall be removed. This is not an option.

2. Indecent and obscene language shall also be eliminated. Foreign language that is profane, indecent or obscene shall also be eliminated.

3. Since most competitors are minors, particular attention shall be paid to any action that insinuates or enacts sexual activity. It shall be reviewed by school administrators to make sure it complies with the Standards rule before the “Community Standards and Copyright Compliance Form” is completed. The form is part of the entry form.

4. Each school’s administrator must affirm that they have seen the play as submitted when they complete the “Community Standards and Copyright Compliance Form.” The form is part of the entry form.

It is the duty of each director and their administrator to make a responsible selection for the students you

work with and the community you represent. Make sure that you discuss the choice of script and questionable language and business with your administrators.

If the film as submitted has been viewed and determined to be in compliance with League rules by the administrator of the producing school, the production is eligible for submission .