

## FAQ - Submitting your films to the SIFFCY 2017

### 1) When the submission deadlines and what are the fees?

The following deadlines are the dates by which we must receive your film. We must receive your digital upload, Vimeo link, or physical disc by the deadline date for which your film has been registered!

All submissions are handled identically, regardless of which deadline you choose. Late deadline submissions are processed and screened in exactly the same manner as early and official deadline submissions are. The only difference is the submission fee.

We encourage you to submit your film as early as possible to take advantage of lower submission fees.

**Early Submission Deadline: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 - \$10 entry fee for Feature film/Short**

**Late Submission Deadline: Saturday, September 30, 2017 - \$15 entry fee for Feature film/Short**

**(Note: Submission is FREE for Documentary & Films made by children)**

### 2) What are the submission categories and how do I choose the right one for my film?

Each year, we select 25-30 Feature Films & 60-80 Short, Doc & Students' Films to play in each of our Festival programs. However, you may not submit your film directly to any one specific program. Instead, you must select from one of four submission categories, listed below:

- A. **FEATURE FILMS (Live action + Animation, 60 min and above)**
- B. **SHORT FILM (Live action + Animation , Below 30-60 Min)**
- C. **SHORT / DOCUMENTARY (Any length below 30 min)**
- D. **SPECIAL FILMS BY STUDENTS(Any length)**

### 3) How do you distinguish short films from feature films?

Films with a total running time of **less than 60 minutes** (including credits) are classified as shorts. Films with a total running time of **60 minutes or longer** are classified as features. You should select your submission category based on what the final projected running time of the film will be, including credits. We have no minimum requirement for short films or maximum running time restrictions for features.

### 4) May I submit my project as a "rough cut"?

Yes, you can but you have to complete and submit the final film before due date if it's selected in the official program.

### 5) How old can my project be and still qualify for submission?

All projects submitted for 2017 Festival consideration must have been completed in either 2014, 2015, 2016 or 2017.

6) My project was not accepted last year. Can I submit it again?

Yes, but it is advised to make some significant change. Every year we have different theme so it may work.

7) What submission formats do you accept?

All projects must be submitted via one of three accepted formats: Digital upload via the Withoutabox OR Filmfreeway Secure Online Screener system, Vimeo link entered directly on the submission application mail, or mailed to us on a single disc (DVD).

8) If my project includes non-English dialogue, do you require English subtitles?

All projects MUST include on-screen English subtitles at the time of submission and in the final film (if selected in the official program)

9) Where should I send my physical submission?

If you choose to submit a physical disc to us instead of a digital upload or Vimeo link, please mail it to us at the address below.

**Submission of films - SIFFCY**  
**C/O Smile Foundation,**  
**V-11 Level one, Green Park Extn. New Delhi-110016, India.**  
**Ph: +91 9999299262, +91- 11- 41354565. Fax: +91-11-41354454**  
**Email: [submission@siffcy.org](mailto:submission@siffcy.org)**  
**Website: [www.siffcy.org](http://www.siffcy.org), [www.smilefoundationindia.org](http://www.smilefoundationindia.org)**

10) Do I really have to fill out the online application?

All submissions must be issued a unique tracking number in order to be recognized by our system. The only way to get a tracking number is to fill out the online application at [www.siffcy.org/submit](http://www.siffcy.org/submit), or by logging into your existing account at [www.withoutabox.com/siffcy](http://www.withoutabox.com/siffcy) or [www.filmfreeway.com/siffcy](http://www.filmfreeway.com/siffcy). Unregistered submissions will not be viewed! If you are having trouble with the online form, please email us at [submission@siffcy.org](mailto:submission@siffcy.org) and we will be glad to help guide you through the process.

11) May I submit multiple versions of the same film in different categories?

If you have created two different cuts of the same film with different running times, you may submit both as separate submissions. You must pay the submission fee for each separate version you are submitting.

12) If my project has aired on television, may I still submit it?

Yes, it is still eligible even though it has been broadcast on television.

### 13) What should I include with my submission?

- Preview DVDs of the film, labelled with the film title, director's name, year of production, length, format - Two DVDs of Each Film
- One DVD with the following information:
  - a) Filled Entry Form (PDF / Scanned copy)
  - b) Synopsis of the film (100 words for feature film & 50 words for Short films)
  - c) Two or more high resolution stills from the film (300 dpi)
  - d) Payment of entry fee for feature/short films: 10 USD ( USD Ten Only) .

### 19) What happens if you are unable to get my film to play?

We will make every effort to view your disc or online screener, but in the event that we are unable to watch your film, we will attempt to contact you to request another copy using the primary contact information that you provided on your application.

### 14) Will you notify me if you do not receive my film?

Due to the volume of submissions we receive (nearly 2,000 were received for 2015 Festival consideration), we are unable to contact each applicant individually if we do not receive his or her film. It is your responsibility to ensure that your package arrives at our office before the deadline you have selected.

### 15) Can I submit my project with a temporary music track?

Temp tracks, scratch music, and temp scores are perfectly fine for your submission, but please include a list of missing or temporary elements directly on-screen before the film begins.

### 16) Am I required to obtain rights clearance for trademarked or copyrighted material included in my project?

From a legal standpoint, you must clear all trademarked and/or copyrighted materials included in your project before you can exhibit it publicly. However, we do not check to ensure that you have not obtained clearance for these materials at any point during the application process, nor will we be held responsible for any inclusion of un-cleared trademarked or copyrighted materials in your project.

### 17) Do I need to meet a minimum age requirement in order to submit a project?

No, we encourage filmmakers of all ages to submit their work.

### 18) How many projects may I submit?

You may submit as many projects as you wish, but you only need to create one account.

### 19) What if my contact information or anything else about my submission changes after I've filled out the application?

You may inform us via email at any time to update or revise your application.

20) Can you return my Blu-ray or DVD to me once you're done watching it?

Upon the completion of our selection process, all physical discs are recycled at a secure facility. We usually do not return it.

21) When will I find out whether or not my project was selected?

We will contact all officially-submitted projects via e-mail during the first week of November 2017. Please ensure that the e-mail address you provided on your application will be operational at that time. If you have not heard from us by November 10th, please contact us at [submission@siffcy.org](mailto:submission@siffcy.org) for an official notification.

22) If my project is selected for the Festival, what exhibition formats do you accept?

We accept DCP, Bluray and DVD for exhibition at the Festival.

23) If my film is not chosen, may I speak with a programmer for notes or feedback?

Unfortunately, no. it simply isn't viable for us to correspond with up to thousands of applicants each and every year.

24) Do you offer fee waivers?

Yes at times, but in special cases. It is totally up to the festival directorate's discretion.

25) Where does my submission fee go?

Siffcy-Smile Foundation is a non-profit organization intends to sensitize the mass through meaningful cinema. The whole fees are utilized towards hosting the festival and logistics cost towards children. In no case the fees is refunded once paid. You are not entitled to a refund of the submission fees.

26) You don't actually watch all of these submissions, right?

NO. Our preview committee watch all the films submitted, out of all they shortlist 3X Nos of the films required for the official program, (For example : if we need 10 films for the official program, they shortlist 30 films). All these films are watched by the selection committee to select the final official program.

For further query please write to [submission@siffcy.org](mailto:submission@siffcy.org)

Thanking you  
Festival Director - siffcy