

## FAQs – VIFF International Film Submissions 2020

VIFF is now accepting International submissions of any genre for our 2020 festival, which will screen more than 180 features and 80 shorts in a multi-venue showcase of exceptional films from around the globe.

VIFF takes great pride in championing international cinema's most exciting new voices, offering diverse programming and fostering enlightening dialogue. Bong Joon-ho (*Parasite*), Sean Baker (*The Florida Project*) and Jia Zhangke (*Ash Is Purest White*) are but a few of the now-renowned filmmakers who attended VIFF early in their careers.

### When are the submission deadlines and entry fees?

The following dates are the deadlines to submit your film through [FilmFreeway](#). All submissions must be sent through that platform. Submissions fees are non-refundable.

	Feature Films	Short Films
<b>Early Deadline: April 24, 2020</b>	\$47.50 USD	\$35.00 USD
<b>Regular Deadline: May 29, 2020</b>	\$57.50 USD	\$40.00 USD
<b>Late Deadline: June 12, 2020</b>	\$70.00 USD	\$45.00 USD

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

**International Narrative Features:** Open to non-Canadian narrative films with runtimes over 25 minutes. Feature length films must not have been broadcast, distributed on VOD/home video, been made available for viewing on the internet or screened either at another festival or publicly (i.e. an advertised public screening at which an admission was charged, excluding film school graduation screenings) in the Vancouver area.

**International Documentaries:** Open to non-Canadian nonfiction films with runtimes over 25 minutes. Feature length films must not have been broadcast, distributed on VOD/home video, been made available for viewing on the internet or screened either at another festival or publicly (i.e. an advertised public screening at which an admission was charged, excluding film school graduation screenings) in the Vancouver area.

**International Shorts:** Open to non-Canadian narrative and nonfiction films with runtimes of 25 minutes or less. VIFF will consider short films that have been made available online.

## **Can I resubmit my film from last year?**

Yes, as long as 60% of your film has changed since it was last submitted.

## **Is my film too old to submit?**

Any film submitted for VIFF 2020 must have been completed after June 1, 2019.

## **May I submit my project as a rough cut?**

While we are accustomed to watching unfinished films, we strongly recommend that you submit your film in the most finished form possible. We ask that you address any important notes concerning the current state of your submitted film (example: temporary score, unfinished VFX) in an email to [international.submissions@viff.org](mailto:international.submissions@viff.org). You should also advise us of the date you expect the film to be fully completed.

## **If I've already submitted a rough cut, will you also watch the final version?**

Due to the high volume of submissions we receive every year, we are not able to preview multiple versions of a single film.

## **How do I contact you if I've changed my screener's password?**

It is the filmmaker's responsibility to ensure that the film link and password submitted are working. In the case that a password changes, we may attempt, but are under no obligation, to contact the applicant in order to obtain a replacement online screener. Updated screener information can be sent to [international.submissions@viff.org](mailto:international.submissions@viff.org)

## **How many films can I submit?**

You are free to submit as many films as you wish. However, each film must be submitted (and paid for) separately.

## **Is VIFF a competitive festival?**

Yes, the full list of awards from the 2020 festival can be found on [FilmFreeway](#).

## **Who watches my submission?**

Film submissions to VIFF are reviewed by year-round programming staff, seasonal programmers and screening committees made up of film critics, filmmakers and other individuals well-versed in world cinema.

## **If you watch all submissions, why doesn't my Vimeo link have any views in Vancouver?**

Many of VIFF's previewers live outside of the Vancouver area or view films while travelling to other festivals. Additionally, films that are viewed through third-party platforms like FilmFreeway do not count as views through Vimeo.

## **Does VIFF offer fee waivers?**

As a not-for-profit society, VIFF relies on submission fees to help cover administration and programming costs. In order to maintain the high quality of our programming, we are not able to offer fee waivers.

## **I have been accepted to another festival but haven't heard from VIFF. Can I email you about this?**

Yes, you can email [international.submissions@viff.org](mailto:international.submissions@viff.org) to inform us, but unfortunately we are not able to help you make a decision about participating in other festivals.

## **Will I receive feedback on my submission?**

Regrettably, with thousands of submissions every year, we don't have the ability to offer notes to each individual filmmaker.

## **Will VIFF confirm receipt of my submission?**

Once you've submitted through FilmFreeway, you can check the status of your film on their website. If your status seems incorrect, please write to [international.submissions@viff.org](mailto:international.submissions@viff.org)

## **When will I be notified about your decision?**

You will be advised of our decision by email no later than **September 2, 2020**.

## **Have a question that isn't on this list?**

Please contact: [international.submissions@viff.org](mailto:international.submissions@viff.org)