

QUALIFYING FESTIVALS & AWARDS FOR SHORT FILMS

All films submitted into the British Short Film category must have been accepted into:

- At least one festival from Section A or
- At least two festivals from Section B

If your film has been accepted to two or more Section B festivals only, at least one of those qualifying festivals must have been within this year's eligibility period of 1 November 2022 – 30 November 2023

To be eligible for BIFA 2023, short films must have been completed after 1 May 2022

SECTION A

Primarily international festivals

AFI Docs Film Festival	IDFA International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam
AFI Fest	Iris Prize LGBTQ+ Film Festival
BAFTA – Film Nominated	Kurzfilm Festival Hamburg
BAFTA Cymru – Film Nominated	Open City Docs
BAFTA Scotland – Film Nominated	Oska Bright
Berlin International Film Festival	Palm Springs International ShortFest
BFI Flare	Raindance Film Festival
BFI London Film Festival	Rumi Foundation Grierson Trust Best Documentary Short Award
Cannes International Film Festival	International Film Festival Rotterdam
Clermont-Ferrant International Short Film Festival	S.O.U.L Film Festival
CPH: DOX	Sheffield DocFest
Deaffest	Sundance Film Festival
Edinburgh International Film Festival	SXSW Film Festival Short Film Programme
Encounters Film Festival	Toronto International Film Festival
Foyle Film Festival	Tribeca Film Festival
Hot Docs Festival	UK Jewish Film Festival

SECTION B

Primarily British festivals

Aesthetica Short Film Festival	London International Animation Film Festival
Barnes Film Festival	London Short Film Festival
Beeston Film Festival	Manchester Film Festival
BFI Future Film Festival	North East International Film Festival
Bolton Film Festival	Norwich Film Festival
Brighton Rocks International Film Festival	Oxford International Film Festival

British Urban Film Festival	Short Com
Bute Street Film Festival	Short Short Story Film Festival
Cambridge Film Festival	Spirit of Independence Film Festival
Cardiff Mini Film Festival	Sunderland Shorts Film Festival
Cork International Film Festival	The Shortest Nights
Crystal Palace Film Festival	The Smalls
EFN Short Film Festival	TweetFest Film Festival
Exit 6 Film Festival	Unrestricted View Film Festival
Glasgow Short Film Festival	Watersprite Student Film Festival
Irish Film Festival London	Wigan & Leigh Short Film Festival
Kino London Short Film Festival	Wimbledon International Short Film Festival
Leeds International Film Festival	Women Over 50 Film Festival
Little Wing Film Festival	Women X Film Festival

QUALIFYING ONLINE CHANNELS FOR SHORT FILMS

Channel name	Website
VICE	vice.com
The Guardian Docs	theguardian.com
New York Times Op-Docs	nytimes.com
Field of Vision	fieldofvision.org
NOWNESS	nowness.com
BBC Three*	bbc.co.uk/bbcthree
Channel 4*	channel4.com
Directors Notes	https://directorsnotes.com/

*Films that were commissioned by and produced for either of these channels will not normally be eligible unless they have screened or be scheduled to screen at another qualifying channel or festival.

For more information about how we select our qualifying festivals, how to apply to be a qualifying festival or to feedback on our list, please visit <https://www.bifa.film/about/bifa-qualifying-festivals/>

Festival not listed

If you wish to enter a film that has not screened or is not scheduled to screen at one of the above listed BIFA qualifying festivals but has screened at another UK festival within the eligibility period, please contact us to discuss whether that festival can be considered qualifying: entry@bifa.film

Online festivals

Films must have screened at an in-person event to a paying public audience. Online screenings only at BIFA recognised festivals do not normally qualify as eligible. Please email entry@bifa.film if you would like to check your eligibility status.