



2018 Panda Awards FAQs

ELIGIBILITY

After what date must my film have been completed?

In order to be eligible for the 2018 competition, your film should have been completed on or after 1 March 2016.

Can I enter the 2018 Panda Awards even though I've entered in previous years?

Yes, but only with new material. A film that has been submitted for a previous festival may not be entered again.

If I've submitted my production to another festival, can I also enter the Panda Awards?

Yes. We do not request exclusivity.

If my production has been broadcast on television, or screened in theatres, may I still submit it?

Yes. Whether or not your production has been broadcast or screened in the past, it is eligible for entry.

My film has non-English narration/dialogue. Can I enter?

Yes, although you must provide a copy with English subtitles or an English voiceover.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

What are the benefits of entering the Panda Awards?

There are many benefits to entering the Panda Awards. Some of these include:

- The opportunity to be internationally recognised by winning the highest accolade in the wildlife filmmaking industry;
- Drawing your work to the attention of our senior industry executive attendees such as the BBC and National Geographic;
- Panda Award nominated films are screened to industry professionals and the public, giving you the opportunity to showcase your work to industry professionals and wildlife film enthusiasts.

Do you offer any prizes?

The winner of each Panda Award will be presented with a Wildscreen Panda Award trophy. Winners can order additional trophies on request (at cost).

What is the film submission deadline?

The final deadline for film submissions is 23:59 (GMT) on Wednesday 21 March 2018.

How do I enter my film?

Create an account at www.wildscreen.org before completing the online submission form by providing details of your production, credits, contact details and your choice of award categories. Once the form has been successfully submitted and you have provided payment details, you will be asked to upload a preview copy of your film.

I'm having problems with the online submission process. Who should I contact for help?

Please contact the Wildscreen team on hello@wildscreen.org.

How many films can I submit?

There is no limit to the number of films an individual can enter. You can also enter your films into as many award categories as you wish.

What is your preferred submission format?

Wildscreen aims to provide the best possible viewing experience for the judging of your film. To achieve this, we ask you provide a high quality version of your film. Please use our preferred specification where possible.

Due to the long upload times for large files, we recommend a maximum file size of 10GB. Reduce the Video bit rate to achieve a smaller file size.

	Preferred specification
File format	.mp4 or .mov
Video codec	h.264
Video bit rate	8 mbps (constant)
Audio	AAC / 320 kbps, sample rate 48 kHz
Frame rate	24, 25 or 30 fps (deinterlaced)
Aspect ratio	Minimum 1280 x 720px up to 1920 x 1080px

If you would like advice on file formats, please contact the Wildscreen team on hello@wildscreen.org and link to a 30 second excerpt of the video file you'd like us to check.

What information do you need with my film?

In addition to the video itself, entrants must complete the submission form and provide production and credit details, choice of award categories and contact details for the submitter/distributor. We kindly ask that you do not send any extra materials such as promotional materials, photos or press kits, unless requested.

Can I change my information after submitting it?

If you need to amend entry information after submitting it, please contact the Wildscreen team at hello@wildscreen.org.

Will my submission materials be returned?

No, unless specially requested.

What are the award categories and how do I choose the right ones for my production?

Please review the list of Panda Award categories and check the criteria for each. Read carefully to make sure you select categories that best suit your production's strengths and give them the best chance in the competition.

PAYMENT

Do you charge entry fees?

Entrants will be charged per category entered, per submission.

Earlybird - 1 November - 31 December

The first category entered will be charged at £65+VAT per film submission with the following exceptions which are priced at £25+VAT each:

Emerging Talent Award

Short Award

Subsequent submissions will be charged an additional £25+VAT per film per category. Films submitted for entry into more than one category will be charged per category entered.

Worked examples: A film entered into the Short Award (£25+VAT) and People & Nature (£25+VAT) Awards will cost £50+VAT.

 A film entered into the Animal Behaviour (£65+VAT), Editing (£25+VAT) and Sound (£25+VAT) Awards will cost £115+VAT.

Official - 1 January – 21 March

The first category entered will be charged at £80+VAT per film submission with the following exceptions which are priced at £35+VAT each:

Emerging Talent Award

Short Award

Subsequent submissions will be charged an additional £35+VAT per film per category. Films submitted for entry into more than one category will be charged per category entered.

Worked examples: A film entered into the Short Award (£35+VAT) and People & Nature (£35+VAT) Awards will cost £70+VAT.
 A film entered into the Animal Behaviour (£80+VAT), Editing (£35+VAT) and Sound (£35+VAT) Awards will cost £150+VAT.

Late – entries submitted after 21 March 2018 (accepted at Wildscreen’s discretion)

£100+VAT for 1st category entered with the following exceptions which are priced at £50+VAT each: Emerging Talent Award and Short Award.

Subsequent award category choices will be charged at £50+VAT each.

Fees must be paid in pounds sterling by credit/debit card or PayPal at the time of submission.

Do you offer any discounts?

Discounted rates are available on certain categories: Emerging Talent Award and Short Award. Fees will not be waived.

Do I have to pay online?

You will be asked to pay via debit/credit card or PayPal. If you need to make other arrangements please contact the Wildscreen team at hello@wildscreen.org.

What currencies do you accept?

We accept Sterling Pounds (£) only.

Can I withdraw my film? Do you offer a refund?

Fees are non-refundable. If you have made an error in your submission please contact the team at hello@wildscreen.org and your submission will be amended.

JUDGING

What is the judging process?

There will be two rounds of judging:

Round One

All submissions received by the entry deadline will be reviewed by members of the Nomination Jury. The best productions (up to 4 films) in each category will be nominated for the category award and put forward for consideration by the Final Jury.

Round Two

All Panda Award nominated films will be reviewed by the Final Jury which selects the winner of each award category.

Both the Nomination Jury and the Final Jury will comprise of industry practitioners from a range of disciplines and countries, with a history of achievement in their field.

When will I find out if my production has been nominated for a Panda Award?

All entrants will be notified by Wildscreen by email of the outcome of the first round of judging in early July. The award winners won't be announced until the Panda Awards ceremony during Festival week, so nominees, make sure you're there if you want to be among the first to hear the news!

Can I get feedback on my film?

Due to the large number of submissions we are not able to offer individual feedback on films.

AT THE FESTIVAL

Will my film be screened at the Festival?

If your production is nominated for a Panda Award, it will be screened to a delegate and public audience around the time of the Festival.

What formats can you screen at the Festival?

If your production is nominated for a Panda Award or screened during the Festival, you will be asked to provide a high quality screening copy (to be retained in Wildscreen's archive) for viewing by the Final Jury and one for screening at the Festival. While, Wildscreen can support a variety of screening formats, our preference is a DCP and each nominee or selected entrant will be contacted to discuss specific formats for such purposes. The cost of supplying a screening copy in the required format must be borne by the submitter.

How else can delegates view my film?

All films submitted available to watch on demand in online viewing library service for all delegates (including buyers, broadcasters, programmers, distributors and press). This service is password protected and available for a 3 month period, immediately before, during and post-festival.

What is the Wildscreen Festival?

Wildscreen Festival is internationally acknowledged as the most prestigious and influential event in the wildlife and environmental filmmaking and photography industry. Every two years, Bristol plays

host to hundreds of international delegates from the wildlife media industry plus thousands from the general public.

When will the 2018 Wildscreen Festival take place?

This year's Festival will take place in central Bristol, United Kingdom, from Monday 15 October – Friday 19 October. We hope to see you there!

Why do you charge submission fees?

Wildscreen is a not-for-profit organisation and the survival of the Wildscreen Festival and the Panda Awards rests solely on sponsorship, ticket sales and submission fees. The modest entry fee covers the costs of bringing together two, international, expert panels of judges to assess each film, as well as submission administration costs and screening venue hire.

Will Wildscreen pay for me and/or a representative of the production team to attend the festival?

As Wildscreen is a non-profit organisation, we are unable to afford to pay for entrants to attend the Festival.

Each Panda Award nominated production will be entitled to one complimentary ticket to the Panda Awards ceremony. Nominees will also get priority booking for the purchase of additional tickets.