



**13TH
ASIA PACIFIC
SCREEN AWARDS™**

**BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
21 NOVEMBER 2019**

HONOURING CINEMATIC EXCELLENCE

**2019 MPA APSA ACADEMY FILM FUND
RULES AND REGULATIONS**





PART A: INTRODUCTION

In 2019, ASIA PACIFIC SCREEN ACADEMY (through BRISBANE MARKETING PTY LTD ACN 094 633 262) of Level 20, 69 Ann Street, Brisbane Qld 4000, Australia, presenter of the Asia Pacific Screen Awards (**APSA**) will deliver, in association with the Motion Picture Association (**MPA**), the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund. These Rules and Regulations set out the eligibility and submission criteria and other rules applicable to the 2019 MPA APSA Academy Film Fund.

1. APSA Aims and Endorsements

1.1. APSA aims:

- to acclaim filmmaking in the Asia Pacific region that best reflects its culture, origins and cinematic excellence;
- to award the people behind this excellence;
- to promote this outstanding work in film to a global audience in order to broaden the market appeal of such works;
- to encourage the collaboration of filmmakers in the region;
- to develop, through film, greater understanding of the region's various cultures; and
- to recognise the creativity of our neighbouring cultures in the vast Asia Pacific region and, in doing so, take it to the world.

1.2. The Asia Pacific Screen Academy (**Academy**) is an influential body of filmmakers comprised of past APSA nominees and winners, International Juries, International Nominations Council, and Selection Panel members. Increasing by approximately 100 members each year, the Academy has grown to over 1,200 of the region's most influential names in film.

1.3. The 13TH Asia Pacific Screen Awards will be held in Brisbane, Australia, on Thursday 21 November 2019.

1.4. The MPA and Motion Picture Association International (**MPA-I**) represent the interests of major motion picture companies in the global marketplace.

2. The MPA APSA Academy Film Fund

2.1. The MPA APSA Academy Film Fund is a US \$100,000 film fund exclusive to members of the Asia Pacific Screen Academy supported wholly by the MPA.

2.2. The fund is intended to stimulate production in the region, particularly at the development phase, among the 70 countries and areas embraced by APSA.

2.3. Funds will be granted to four (4) members of the Academy.

2.4. Four (4) grants, each of US \$25,000, will be allocated to the development of projects from treatment to script or in the case of documentaries, from project proposal to principal photography, of four (4) new film projects.

2.5. A panel of a minimum of three (3) industry experts will assess all film fund submissions to determine the successful projects in the lead up to the 13TH Asia Pacific Screen Awards in November.

2.6. The assessment panel will be determined by the MPA and APSA in their sole discretion.



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- 2.7. Projects will be judged on the same criteria that apply to films in the APSA competition: films that best reflect their cultural origin, demonstrate cinematic excellence and are deemed Asia Pacific.
- 2.8. Nominees in the 13TH Asia Pacific Screen Awards (announced early to mid-October) are automatically inducted into the Academy at the time of the Nominees announcement and are therefore eligible to apply for the 2019 funding round.
- 2.9. A full list of Academy members can be viewed on the APSA website at the following link: <https://www.asiapacificscreenawards.com/about-academy/apsa-academy-members>.
- 2.10. The four (4) successful recipients of the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund will be announced during the 13th Asia Pacific Screen Awards Ceremony, which will be held in Brisbane, Australia, on Thursday, 21 November 2019.

3. Submission Categories

- 3.1. Applications can be submitted for the following categories:
 1. Feature Film (over 60 minutes in duration)
 2. Animated Feature Film (over 40 minutes in duration)
 3. Documentary Feature Film (over 40 minutes in duration)
 4. Youth Feature Film (over 60 minutes in duration)

4. Entry into the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund

- 4.1. Entries for the 2019 MPA APSA Academy Film Fund open on **Wednesday 17 April, 2019** and close at **5pm AEST** on **Friday 25 October, 2019**.
- 4.2. In order to make a valid entry into the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund, the member of the Academy submitting the project must comply with the eligibility criteria specified in Part B and other Rules and Regulations set out in this document and submit all required materials by the deadline specified in Section 8.



PART B: ELIGIBILITY

5. Definition of the Asia Pacific Region

In these Rules and Regulations, the "**Asia Pacific region**" is defined as those countries and areas of Asia and the Pacific that lie substantially between the longitudes of 30 degrees east and 170 degrees west, being the countries and areas listed in **Appendix I**. On a map, this region stretches from Egypt in the west, to the Cook Islands in the east, and from Russia in the north, to New Zealand in the south.

6. Definition of a Film from the Asia Pacific Region

The Academy and the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund considers films to be from the Asia Pacific region if they have been predominantly created in the Asia Pacific region (listed in Appendix I), have been predominantly created by filmmakers from the Asia Pacific region and reflect the cultural origins of a country of the Asia Pacific. Please refer to **Appendix II** for a detailed example of The Test which is applied to film entries in to APSA which determines if a film is Asia Pacific.

- 6.1. The Chair of APSA will, on behalf of APSA and the MPA, make the final decision on the qualifying submissions applying The Test in its absolute discretion.

7. Eligibility

Only projects that meet the following conditions may be entered in to the 2019 MPA APSA Academy Film Fund:

- 7.1. Submitted projects must be intended for feature length, defined as over 60 minutes for fiction feature films and youth feature films and over 40 minutes for animated feature films and documentary feature films.
- 7.2. Eligible projects may be original or adapted from existing literary works. Proof of option for adaptation will need to be provided.
- 7.3. Projects in production at time of submission will be deemed ineligible.
- 7.4. If a project goes into production before the final fund recipients are determined, the Academy member must advise APSA via written notice immediately.
- 7.5. Projects must be creatively and culturally set within one (1) or more of the 70 countries and areas of the APSA defined Asia Pacific region. See Appendix I.
- 7.6. Only a member of the Asia Pacific Screen Academy can submit an entry in to the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund. A full list of Academy members can be viewed on the APSA website at the following link: <https://www.asiapacificscreenawards.com/about-academy/apsa-academy-members>.
- 7.7. Academy membership is valid for the lifetime of the member.
- 7.8. The submitting Academy member **MUST** be attached to the submitted project in one or more of the following roles:
 - Director
 - Producer
 - Co-Producer
 - Executive Producer
 - Screenwriter
 - Actor



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- Actress
- Cinematographer
- Script Consultant
- Cultural Advisor

- 7.9. Whilst collaboration between Academy members is encouraged, only one (1) Academy member is required to be attached to the submission provided they hold one of the roles listed in 7.8.
- 7.10. In addition, **a Screenwriter must be attached to the project** at time of submission. It is not required that the Screenwriter be an Academy member.
- 7.11. If a Screenwriter is not attached to the project, the submission form must include proposed Screenwriter/s for the intended project as the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund is a fund designed for script development. Proof that the screenwriter is in agreement to be attached to the project must be supplied before Friday 25 October, 2019.
- 7.12. In the instance an individual Academy member submits their own project as Screenwriter and holds one of the following additional roles: Director, Producer, Co-Producer, Executive Producer, Actor, Actress, Cinematographer, or Composer, they need not attach a further creative for the project to be eligible.
- 7.13. If the Screenwriter(s) listed in the submission form change at any point:
- a) prior to the announcement of fund recipients at the awards ceremony; OR
 - b) in the case of winning projects, prior to the delivery of first draft script
- the Applicant must inform APSA in writing of the change in screenwriter(s) at their soonest, providing a brief explanation for the change and a biography or Curriculum Vitae for the newly appointed screenwriter(s).
- 7.14. Where the Academy member is NOT:
- the author of the project's synopsis, treatment or outline; OR
 - the Screenwriter; OR
 - the rights holder for the project (if applicable)
- then the signature of the application author, Screenwriter and rights holder (if applicable) must be provided in the Authority to Compete form which is available online with the Submission Form.
- 7.15. All projects based on adapted screenplays will need to disclose Chain of Title and Proof of Underlying Rights at time of submission as set out in the Submission Form.
- 7.16. Projects will be judged on the same criteria which applies to films in the APSA competition: films that best reflect their cultural origins, demonstrate cinematic excellence and are deemed Asia Pacific as defined in Sections 5 and 6 and also set out in The Test in Appendix II.
- 7.17. An Academy member may submit a maximum of two (2) projects for consideration but will only be eligible for one (1) film fund of US \$25,000.
- 7.18. An Academy member who has successfully received script funding in a previous round of this fund and the project has not been fully acquitted cannot receive additional funding in subsequent rounds.



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- 7.19. Once a project has been submitted it cannot be altered or withdrawn from the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund without prior written notice to APSA.
- 7.20. The decision of the Chair of APSA regarding eligibility of projects, on behalf of APSA and the MPA, is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

8. Deadline

- 8.1. Deadline for receipt of completed Submission Forms and accompanying submission materials listed in Part D is **5PM AEST, Friday 25 October, 2019.**

PART C: CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

9. Definition of Fiction Feature Film

- 9.1. An eligible fiction feature film is defined as a motion picture over 60 minutes in length.
- 9.2. All rules set out in Part B apply.

10. Definition of Animated Feature Film

- 10.1. An eligible animated feature film is defined as a motion picture over 40 minutes in length with a significant number of the major characters animated, and in which animation comprises no less than 70% of the film's running time.
- 10.2. All rules set out in Part B apply.

11. Definition of Documentary Feature Film

- 11.1. An eligible documentary feature film is defined as a non-fiction film over 40 minutes in length.
- 11.2. A documentary may be photographed in actual occurrence, or may utilise part re-enactment, stills, animation, stock/archival footage, stop-motion and other techniques, as long as the primary focus is fact rather than fiction.
- 11.3. A film that is primarily a promotional film, an industrial or instructional film, or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.
- 11.4. Only individual documentary films will be considered eligible. This excludes from consideration: episodes extracted from a larger theme series; segments taken from a single "composite" program, short subject documentaries created from materials substantially taken from, or cut down from publicly exhibited (in commercial theatres, festivals and/or television), completed feature length documentaries.
- 11.5. All rules set out in Part B apply.

12. Definition of Youth Feature Film

- 12.1. An eligible youth feature film is defined as a motion picture over 60 minutes in length.
- 12.2. As a guide, using the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, a child is considered to be any human being below the age of 18. The definition therefore includes babies, small children, older children and young people.



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12.3. Projects that will be considered suitable as a youth feature film include projects that are for and/or about young people, and/or told partly or entirely from a child's point of view and/or a film that at its heart is made for children.

12.4. All rules set out in Part B apply.

PART D: SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS

13. Submission Materials – All Projects

13.1. All submission materials must be in the English language.

13.2. The same project cannot be submitted by multiple attached academy members.

13.3. Once submitted a submission cannot be altered and resubmitted without prior approval from the APSA Secretariat.

14. Submission Materials – Fiction Feature, Animated Feature and Youth Feature Films

14.1. The following material must be received by the APSA Secretariat by the deadline outlined in Section 8:

- a) double line spaced, 12-point font, 1-page synopsis;
- b) double line spaced, 12-point font, maximum 8-page treatment; and
- c) filmography and biography of attached key creatives and cast members, maximum 1-page per person. Please attach each person's biography on separate pages.

15. Submission Materials – Documentary Feature Films

15.1. The following materials must be received by the APSA Secretariat by the deadline outlined in Section 8:

- a) double line spaced, 12-point font, 1-page synopsis;
- b) double line spaced, 12-point font, maximum 8-page proposal/statement addressing the following points and questions:
 - a. **What:** The film's agenda
 - b. **How:** How the idea will be translated to screen
 - c. **Who:** Background summary of the film's key Subjects
 - d. **Access:** Applicant's accessibility to the Subjects; and
- c) filmography and biography of attached key creatives and Subjects, maximum 1-page per person. Please attach each person's biography on separate pages.

PART E: SELECTION OF FUND RECIPIENTS

16. Fund Recipients

16.1. Successful applicants for the 2019 MPA APSA Academy Film Fund will be selected by an independent panel of film professionals comprised of film industry experts. The assessment panel will be selected by APSA and the MPA in its absolute discretion.

16.2. Any person on the Assessment Panel determined by APSA or the MPA to have taken part in, or to have or perceived to have an interest in relation to, a submitted project will declare that interest.



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- 16.3. The Assessment Panel will meet in late November 2019, in Brisbane, Australia to assess the submitted projects and deliberate to determine successful applicants.
- 16.4. The final results will be known only by the Assessment Panel, APSA and the MPA until the 13th Asia Pacific Screen Awards Ceremony on Thursday, 21 November, 2019, when APSA and the MPA will announce the four (4) successful fund recipients.
- 16.5. The results detailing the four (4) successful fund recipients will be published on the APSA website.
- 16.6. APSA will attend Panel Assessments when required but will take no part in the assessment and final decisions.
- 16.7. All decisions made by the Assessment Panel are final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 16.8. APSA, the MPA and the Assessment Panel shall provide, for the project deliberation meetings, a full and fair consideration of the merits of all submitted projects.

PART F: MPA APSA ACADEMY FILM FUND

17. Transfer of Funds

- 17.1. The MPA APSA Academy Film Fund monies will go to the Academy member who has submitted the project for disbursement to the screenwriter attached to the project.
- 17.2. Successful fund recipients will receive a contract detailing the disbursement of funds and the script acquittal process by mid-January 2020.
- 17.3. Fund recipients will receive an electronic bank transfer to the value of US\$12,500 as first stage payment and will need to reapply with first draft full-length script or in the case of documentary, examples of footage shot and advanced project outline/treatment, to APSA for second stage funding.
- 17.4. Second stage funding will be allocated once Assessment Panel Chair has reviewed the development of the script and/or viewed the documentary footage and developed project outline.
- 17.5. If a draft script or in the case of documentary, examples of footage shot and advanced project outline/treatment, has not been received by APSA two (2) years from the signed date of the winner's contract, APSA has the right to suspend the second stage funding unless the Academy member has negotiated an extension providing in writing reasons for the delay.

PART G: GENERAL

18. Authority/Dispute

- 18.1. APSA and the MPA reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion:
 - a) to determine whether an entry is validly made in accordance with these Rules and Regulations;
 - b) to reject any entry that is not validly made in accordance with these Rules and Regulations;
 - c) to determine what process, if any, it may adopt to resolve the validity of any entry;



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- d) to determine the composition of the Assessment Panel;
- e) to settle all disputes in relation to these Rules and Regulations and the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund;
- f) to settle all cases in relation to the MPA APSA Academy Film Fund that are not covered by these Rules and Regulations;
- g) to delegate any power, right or discretion under these Rules and Regulations conferred on it to the APSA Secretariat.

18.2. The decision of APSA will be final and binding.

18.3. Should any dispute arise regarding the interpretation of a point in these conditions, the original English version is binding.

18.4. In the event of any dispute concerning credits APSA reserves the right to declare any project ineligible or, alternatively, to reject all claims to credit, list credits as being in controversy and withhold any project until the dispute is resolved.

19. General

19.1. These Rules and Regulations are governed by and must be construed according to the law applying in Queensland, Australia and each entrant irrevocably submits to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Queensland, Australia, and the courts competent to determine appeals from those courts, with respect to any proceedings that may be brought at any time in relation to these Rules and Regulations and the Online Submissions Form.

19.2. These Rules and Regulations may be varied by APSA in its absolute discretion and any variations will be binding on each entrant once such variations have been published on the APSA website.

19.3. Each entrant must promptly do all further acts and execute and deliver all further documents (in form and content reasonably satisfactory to APSA) required by law or reasonably requested by APSA to give effect to this document and the agreement between APSA and the entrant constituted by the Submissions Form.

19.4. APSA may assign, novate or otherwise transfer any of its rights or obligations under this document without the prior consent of any person. Each entrant cannot assign, novate or otherwise transfer any of its rights or obligations under this document without the prior consent of APSA.

20. Interpretation

In this document:

20.1. headings are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation; and

20.2. unless the context indicates a contrary intention;

- a) an obligation or liability assumed by, or a right conferred on, two or more parties binds or benefits all of them jointly and each of them severally;
- b) "person" includes an individual, the estate of an individual, a corporation, an authority, an association or a joint venture (whether incorporated or unincorporated), a partnership and a trust;
- c) a reference to a party includes that party's executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns, including persons taking by way of novation;
- d) a reference to a document (including this document) is to that document as varied, novated, ratified or replaced from time to time;



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- e) a word importing the singular includes the plural (and vice versa), and a word indicating a gender includes every other gender; if a word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or grammatical form of that word or phrase has a corresponding meaning; and
- f) "includes" in any form is not a word of limitation.

21. Contact Details

The APSA Chairperson and APSA Secretariat can be contacted via:

Courier Address

Attn: MPA APSA Academy Film Fund,
C/o Brisbane Marketing,
Level 20, 69 Ann Street,
Brisbane Queensland 4000,
Australia.

Postal Address

Attn: MPA APSA Academy Film Fund,
C/o Brisbane Marketing,
PO Box 12260, George Street,
Brisbane Queensland 4003,
Australia.

P: +61 7 3006 6200

F: +61 7 3006 6252

E: apsa@brisbanemarketing.com.au

www.asiapacificscreenawards.com



APPENDIX I

Asia Pacific Screen Awards definition of the Asia Pacific Region.

In these Rules and Regulations, the "**Asia Pacific region**" is defined as those countries and areas of Asia and the Pacific that lie substantially between the longitudes of 30 degrees east and 170 degrees west, being the countries and areas listed in **Appendix I**. On a map, this region stretches from Egypt in the west, to the Cook Islands in the east, and from Russia in the north, to New Zealand in the south. The Asia Pacific Screen Awards definition of the Asia Pacific Region has been based on culture and heritage rather than politics, borders or boundaries.

Eligible countries and areas:

ASIA

South Central Asia

1. Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Bhutan
4. India including:
 5. Jammu and Kashmir (India)
6. Islamic Republic of Iran
7. Kazakhstan
8. Kyrgyzstan
9. Maldives
10. Nepal
11. Pakistan
12. Sri Lanka
13. Tajikistan
14. Turkmenistan
15. Uzbekistan

South Eastern Asia

16. Brunei Darussalam
17. Cambodia
18. Indonesia
19. Lao People's Democratic Republic
20. Malaysia
21. Myanmar
22. Philippines
23. Singapore
24. Thailand
25. Timor-Leste
26. Vietnam

Eastern Asia

27. People's Republic of China including:
 28. Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong
 29. Special Administrative Region of Macau
30. Taiwan
31. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
32. Japan
33. Mongolia
34. Republic of Korea
35. Russian Federation

Western Asia

36. Armenia
37. Azerbaijan
38. Bahrain
39. Egypt
40. Georgia
41. Iraq
42. Israel
43. Jordan
44. Kuwait
45. Lebanon
46. Oman
47. Qatar
48. Saudi Arabia
49. Syrian Arab Republic
50. Turkey
51. United Arab Emirates
52. Yemen
53. Palestine

Pacific

54. Australia
55. New Zealand

Micronesia

56. Federated States of Micronesia
57. Kiribati
58. Marshall Islands
59. Nauru
60. Palau

Melanesia

61. Fiji
62. Papua New Guinea
63. Solomon Islands
64. Vanuatu

Polynesia

65. Cook Islands (NZ)
66. Niue (NZ)
67. Samoa
68. Tokelau (NZ)
69. Tonga
70. Tuvalu



APPENDIX II

The Test of the Asia Pacific Screen Awards

A film will qualify as a film from the Asia Pacific region if it satisfies the criteria set out below. A film will be eligible if it achieves at least nine (9) out of a possible twelve (12) maximum points in Item 1 and at least ten (10) out of a maximum nineteen (19) in Item 2 of the criteria set out in The Test below.

THE TEST

1. Content	Weighting
A. Film is based on subject matter or underlying material from or about the Asia Pacific region;	Maximum of 3 points
B. Film is predominantly (over 50%) set in the Asia Pacific region; (Films set outside the Asia Pacific region, that deal with Asia Pacific diaspora may be awarded a maximum of 2 points)	Maximum of 3 points
C. Lead Characters are from the Asia Pacific region;	Maximum of 3 points
D. Original dialogue recorded in a language from the Asia Pacific region. Silent Films will receive the maximum of 3 points.	Maximum of 3 points

Total Maximum of 12 points

2. Creative

E. The majority of creative talent must be predominantly from the Asia Pacific region, meaning they must be born in the Asia Pacific region or hold a current passport from a country in the region or normally reside in the region.	
i. Director	3
ii. Script writer	3
iii. Producer/Co-Producer	3
iv. Cinematographer	2
v. Editor	1
vi. Composer	1
vii. Lead Actors:	
Lead (1) (Male or Female)	2
Lead (2) (Male or Female)	2
viii. Additional points for APSA Academy member involvement in any of the above key roles	2

Total Maximum of 19 points