



Film Submission FAQs

Q1. When and where will the festival happen?

The AniMela Festival will take place from 19th - 22nd February, 2026 in Mumbai, India

Q2. What are the key dates for submission and the festival?

Submissions Open: **October 3, 2025**

Submission Deadline: **December 1, 2025** (11:59 PM IST)

Notification Date: **January 15, 2025**

Festival Dates: **February 19th - 22nd, 2026**

Q3. What are the submission categories, fees, and eligibility requirements?

Student Shorts: South Asia* (Competitive)

- Submission Fee: \$6/-
- Duration: Under 40 min
- This category is open only to students enrolled in institutes based in South Asia*: a majority of the directorial team must be of South Asian origin.

Note: For example, a South Asian student studying at a French animation school is not eligible under this category.

Student Shorts: International (Non-Competitive)

- Submission Fee#: \$6/-
- Duration: Under 40 min
- This category is for short films made by student filmmakers from outside South Asia. Students whose films do not meet the South Asia focus criteria can also submit.

Shorts: South Asia* (Competitive)

- Submission Fee#: \$9/-
- Duration: Under 40 min
- This category is open to filmmakers of South Asian* origin. A majority of the directorial team should be South Asian nationals or of South Asian heritage.

Shorts: International (Non-Competitive)

- Submission Fee#: \$9/-
- Duration: Under 40 min
- This category is for short films made by non-South Asian filmmakers or those that do not meet the South Asia focus criteria. They will be screened as part of a non-competitive showcase.

Feature Film

- Submission Fee#: \$25/-
- This non-competitive category is for films with a runtime of over 40 minutes. Submissions from around the world are welcome!

* Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. #All payments are inclusive of all taxes.

Q4. What languages are accepted for submission?

Films can be in any language but must have English subtitles embedded.

Q5. What are the eligibility requirements for submission?

- Fully animated films completed after January 1, 2024.
- Films must not be available online or on streaming platforms before the festival dates (exceptions apply for ticketed film festival screenings).
- Films can be in any language but must include English subtitles or closed captions.
- Submissions can include short films, feature films, and experimental animations.

Q6. How do I submit?

All film submissions to AniMela Festival must be made via FilmFreeway – submissions sent via any other means, including by post or email, will not be considered. To create a FilmFreeway account and submit your film to the Festival, please click [here](#).

For your submission to be placed under consideration, you must:

- Complete the online submission form via FilmFreeway
- Select the appropriate submission category
- Upload a working screener or screener link directly to the platform ([FilmFreeway](#))

- Provide a password-protected Vimeo link or an unlisted YouTube link and keep it available for viewing until the end of January 2026
- Pay the submission fee

Note: Failure to do any one of the above will result in your film not being considered for the festival. As we consider a vast number of films each festival, it is your responsibility to ensure that all submission requirements have been met.

Q7. Can I submit multiple films?

Yes, filmmakers can submit multiple entries, but each submission requires a separate entry form and fee.

Q8. If a film is submitted under the non-competitive section, will it be automatically selected for screening?

Even our non-competitive sections are carefully curated. We value every submission, but not all films can be included in the programme.

Q9. What happens if my film is selected?

If selected, you will be notified and must provide:

- A festival exhibition copy (QuickTime Pro-Res, 4K or 1920x1080 at 48Hz).
- Press stills and a press kit by the specified deadline.

Note: Selected films cannot be withdrawn, and you must ensure timely delivery of all required materials.

Questions? We're more than happy to help out in case you have any outstanding queries.

Please contact us at programme@animela.in