

High School 48 Hour Film Project Official Filmmaking Rules

These rules apply to each participating group/production team.

The High School 48 Hour Film Project Organizers may add to or amend these rules at any time prior to the beginning of the **Official Time Period**.

A. Times

The **High School 48 Hour Film Project** will occur between a **Friday 7pm** local time and the following **Sunday 7pm** local time. This is the **Official Time Period**.

The participating group/team must complete its film/video work in time to upload its entry electronically, on **Sunday by 7:30pm**.

Only works that meet the deadline will officially be part of the competition and be eligible for judging consideration and prizes.

B. Creative Process

All creativity must take place during the **Official Time Period**. Any creative work in advance of the competition weekend is prohibited. Creative work includes, but is not limited to:

- Writing the script
- Casting
- Rehearsing
- Costume/Set Design
- Shooting
- Editing
- Sound Design
- Rendering
- Exporting your film/entry

C. Preparation

The only work to begin prior to the **Official Time Period** is:

- Organizing Crew
- Organizing Cast
- Securing Equipment
- Scouting/Securing Locations

D. Footage

All footage must be shot within the **Official Time Period** of the project.

No stock footage or footage shot or created at another time may be used.

Animation and special effects are permitted, but must be created during the **Official Time Period**. (Note: Stock footage is permissible as part of a post-production effect or on a background monitor, i.e., a television, as long as the team has rights to the stock footage and the stock footage is placed over or under footage that is shot within the **Official Time Period**. Allowable stock footage includes bullets, fires, explosions, chromakeyed backgrounds, etc., but stock footage of people or other performers is not allowed.)

Still photographs are permitted, provided that the team has the rights to them. The photos do not need to be created during the **Official Time Period**; however, stills created outside of the **Official Time Period** may not be used in sequence to create the illusion of motion.

E. Kickoff Event

Each participating team leader must submit an email address when registering. The official assignment will be sent to the Team Leader's email address at 7 pm (Entrant's local time).

NOTE: The Registration Process requires that the Team Leader must submit a completed Team Leader's Agreement. A team may not participate without submitting this agreement.

F. Theme and Required Elements

There will be a theme assigned to all participating groups. All entries must adhere to the theme. In addition, all participating groups will be assigned required elements that must appear in its film, such as a genre, a character, a prop and/or a line of dialogue.

- The required Character must be seen on-screen and it must be clear--either directly shown or by context--who the required character is.
 - The required Prop must be seen on-screen.
 - The required Line of Dialogue must be used verbatim. It may be spoken, sung and/or written. It may be in any language, though if it is unclear that it is the required Line, there must be a translation.
 - To qualify as an **Official Entry**, each group's film must be in the genre it selects and must contain all required elements within the official time limit and prior to the credits.
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G. Volunteers

All cast and crew must be volunteers.

H. Cast and Crew Safety

The team leader and each member of the team must make safety a priority throughout the High School 48 Hour Film Project weekend. This includes ensuring that all production and shooting takes place in a safe environment.

Please note the following:

- No weapons of any kind are permitted in the film/video;
- No extreme violence or depiction of dangerous acts are permitted in the film/video. This means no murder, no suicide, no dangerous activity such as walking along a railroad track or hanging off of a balcony.

I. Animal Safety

Animal safety, like cast and crew safety, is an important part of 48 Hour Filmmaking. Films that result in the death or mutilation of an animal will be disqualified.

J. Cameras

Any type of video or film camera may be used. There is no limit to the number of cameras.

K. Music Rights

Participating groups are encouraged to work with a composer and/or musicians to write and record music for the films. It is permissible for a participating group to use pre-recorded music; however, the participating group must have the rights to any music used in its film and must provide releases for all music used. As with music, pre-recorded sound effects are allowed, but you must have rights to use them.

Note: Song parodies (i.e., use of identifiable pre-existing compositions with new or altered lyrics or music) may not be included in the film without a signed release from the

composition's rights holder. This rule applies without regard to whether the song parody arguably constitutes **fair use** under US or international copyright law.

L. Total Running Time

The finished film must be a minimum of 4 minutes in duration, and a maximum of 7 minutes in duration—not including end credits. In other words, the official running time begins after the required 48HFP slates and ends prior to the end credits. The required slates and the end credits do not count towards the minimum time of 4 minutes. The film story may not be longer than 7 minutes.

M. Credits

Pre-film Required Slates

Before the finished film begins, the media should have...

- 5 seconds of black
- A title card with: team name, title, genre, city, and date
- The official 48HFP animated opening -OR- a title card with:

This film was made for the High School 48 Hour Film Project 2024.

www.highschool48.com

- 2 seconds of black
- Your film follows this.

Opening Credits

After the 2 seconds of black, some films start with opening credits. These are not encouraged, but if you use them, opening credits are considered to be part of the film, and therefore count against the seven minute maximum. Additionally, if your film has opening credits other than simply the film's title (for example, the names of directors, actors, etc.), you must include one of the following:

- the text **YOUR TEAM NAME presents** immediately followed by a **High School 48 Hour Film Project** or
- the text a **High School 48 Hour Film Project** immediately following the title of your film

Note: a **High School 48 Hour Film Project** may be entirely lowercase (i.e., a **high school 48 hour film project**).

End Credits

Credits at the end of each film are limited to a maximum of 60 seconds. The 60 seconds is considered additional to the length of the film, as stated above. (That is, a film may be 7 minutes long, with an additional 60 seconds of credits, for a total running time of 8 minutes.)

The end credits must include the words: **This film was made for the High School 48 Hour Film Project. www.highschool48.com**

Slates And Credits After The Competition

For any future screenings, online or otherwise, films should retain the pre-film title card that says: **This film was made for the High School 48 Hour Film Project 2019. www.highschool48.com.**

N. Required Media Formats

Entries must adhere to the following specifications:

- Video Codec: H.264
 - Media: Online Submission
 - File Type: MPEG 4 (.mp4), MPEG 4 (.m4v), Quicktime (.mov)
 - Resolution: HD 1080 (1920x1080)
 - Aspect Ratio: Widescreen (16:9)
 - Pixel Ratio: Square (1:1)
 - Frame Rate: 24 FPS, 24 FPS (23.976), 25 FPS, 30 FPS (29.97)
 - Interlacing: Progressive / NON-Interlaced
 - Audio Codec: AAC (.aac), WAV (.wav), MPEG4 (.mp4)
 - Maximum File Size: 2.0GB
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O. Submission Notes

The team must submit its entry by electronic upload. We will provide uploading procedures no later than one week in advance of competition.

- To be considered an on-time and eligible film, the entry must be received by the 7:30 pm (entrant's local time) deadline.
- We recommend that each team tests the upload process to understand how long the upload will take.

- We recommend that you make sound levels relatively even throughout your film. (If your film has uneven sound or sound that peaks, it may be modified to protect the playback equipment.)
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P. Production Documents

Each team must secure releases for talent, crew, music and locations (and any other applicable releases), which must be turned in to the project organizers with the finished film/video. The film/video will not be eligible for judging before the 48 Hour Film Project Organizers receive the signed releases.

- Release forms are available on the High School 48 website.
 - Any participant under the age of 18 must have the release form signed by a parent or guardian.
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Q. Certification Statement

The Entrant must submit a Certification Statement with his/her completed Entry, certifying adherence to all Official Rules.

R. Eligibility

To be eligible for the Project, Entries must:

Be the original work of the Entrant;

Not infringe third-party's rights;

Must be suitable for publication (i.e., may not be obscene or indecent);

Must not contain any nudity;

Must not contain obscene or pornographic material;

May not contain defamatory statements about any person, company, organization or entity;

May not invade privacy or other rights of any person, company or entity;

May not in any other way violate applicable laws and regulations; and may not contain any copyrighted elements (other than as owned by the Entrant and/or 48HFP).

S. Content Requirements

The entry must have content consistent with a movie rating of G, PG or PG-13.

Entries containing prohibited or inappropriate content as determined by the 48HFP, in its sole discretion, to be inappropriate will be disqualified. 48HFP reserves the right to make the final determination as to which Entries are eligible. 48HFP also reserves the right to refuse to screen a film or to issue a content warning before any film it deems objectionable.

T. No Pre-Screening Distribution

The Entrant may not distribute their entry/video in any way prior to the official announcement of awards. Entrant may upload the video to his/her website for viewing by friends and family and/or screening the film for the team, friends and family.

The Entrant is encouraged to make a trailer of their film and distribute that instead. This trailer should be no longer than 48 seconds.

U. Official Film Entry

To be certified as an **Official Film Entry**, each participating group's film/video production must follow all rules herein. The High School 48 Organizers reserve the right to screen only certified **Official Film Entries**.

V. Entries Not Returned

No Entries (media or documents) will be returned.

W. Disqualification

48HFP and Project Parties may, in their sole discretion, disqualify Entries deemed to be inappropriate or otherwise non-compliant.

X. Official City Winner

All certified Official Film Entries are eligible to compete for title of Best High School 48 Hour Film.