

ENTRY REGULATIONS FOR THE 75th EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL MANNHEIM-HEIDELBERG

§ 1 General requirements and runtime

The International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg (hereafter called the festival) focuses on discovering newcomers, celebrating innovation and setting new trends in the film industry. The 74th edition of the festival takes place from November 5 - 15, 2026. The festival accepts submissions for the competition ON THE RISE. All submitted films must be the first or second theatrical feature films by their respective directors. The minimum length of the submitted films is 61 minutes. There is no maximum length. Entry for participation in the section ON THE RISE of the International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg is only valid on the acceptance of all of these regulations. Any issues that are not resolved within these regulations are at the discretion of the festival management.

§ 2 Eligibility

The films are not allowed to have been previously screened publicly in German cinemas and must not have participated in the official programme of another German film festival. They must also not have been broadcast on German television before the end of the festival and must not be available on video-on-demand platforms within Germany. The festival gives priority to European and/or international premieres. The world premieres of the submitted films must have taken place no earlier than September 15, 2025.

§ 3 Awards

In 2026, the following prizes may be awarded to the selected films:

1. International Newcomer Award
2. Rainer-Werner-Fassbinder-Award
3. FIPRESCI Award
4. Ecumenical Award
5. Award of the Student Jury
6. Audience Award

The festival direction reserves the right to amend the number as well as the conditions of these awards according to agreements with partners, sponsors and patrons.

§ 4 Submissions

Films can only be submitted through the festival's homepage via the database Fiona. To finalize the film's submission, the submitter must ensure that the festival has received both a filled-out online entry form as well as a valid screener and the submission fee. The film

selection is at the discretion of the festival management. There is no recourse to legal action.

§ 5 Submission Fees & Deadlines

Due to rising numbers in submissions, the festival demands a submission fee to cover administrative costs. The festival grants no refunds under any circumstances (e.g. festival cancellation due to force majeure). The submission fee is dependent on the submission period as listed in the table below. Decisive is the date of the submission's finalization.

<i>Submission period</i>	<i>Submission fee per film</i>
March 2, 2026, 10:00 am (CET) until April 30, 2026, 11:59 pm (CET)	25 € (reduced fee)
May 1, 2026, 0:00 am (CET) until June 30, 2026, 11:59 pm (CET)	40 € (regular fee)

§ 6 Screener

Submissions for the selection process must be online screeners (e.g. Vimeo links). DVDs, DCPs or physical screening copies will not be accepted for the submission. If this happens nevertheless, the sender has to cover all transportation costs. The festival may hand the screeners to a third party for organizational or programming reasons (e.g. preparing moderations or texts). By submitting the film, the submitter permits the festival to do so. The online screener has to be available until the end of the selection process. The lifetime of passwords has to be guaranteed until October 3, 2026. In case the festival selects the film for its programme, access to the screener has to be guaranteed until the end of the festival.

§ 7 Rights and additional material

The submitter of the submitted film declares that they are the rights holder of the submitted film insofar as they are authorized to submit the film to the festival as well as to legally grant permission that up to five (5) minutes of the film in question may be used, free of charge, for media coverage as well as for advertising purposes of the festival. This also includes the usage of the materials on the festival's website and other social media. The festival is authorized to use excerpts provided by the signatory and/or to select excerpts of up to five (5) minutes in length. The submitter will provide the festival with sufficient PR material (pictures, posters, press kits,

etc.). The transport cost for advertising and press material is assumed by the contributor.

§ 8 Validity

The regulations are valid exclusively for the 75th edition of the International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg. The festival may decide solely upon any case not included within the stated rules and regulations. Films participating in any competition have no legal claim to win nor to be screened during the festival. Legal recourse is precluded.

§ 9 Data protection and privacy

The festival attaches great importance to the protection of personal data and commits itself to compliance with the legal requirements related to data protection. In order to submit a film, it is necessary to collect, store and use personal information, of which you are hereby informed.

Customer data comprises all personal and contact information which you supply voluntarily. Your contact information is: your name, address, activities/work, telephone and fax numbers, and email address. You can at any time inform the IFFMH - Filmfestival Mannheim gGmbH, Kleiststraße 3-5, 68167 Mannheim of your decision to revoke the consent to store and use your personal data with effect for the future.

Contact

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