



ENGLISH CONTEST CATEGORIES

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

One award, more than one award or no award is given **only** to the primary recipient listed on each category. Others who may have contributed to the content and execution of the material presented in the entry may purchase plaques to commemorate their participation.

1. Overall Excellence/News Excellence

Awarded to the President/General Manager and/or News Director only for excellence in the overall operations of a television station, news/sports cable system or online media outlet, during the eligibility period. Entry should reflect the organization's overall local product including any news and sports coverage, other locally produced programs, promotional announcements, on-air examples of events hosted by the organization and involvement in the community, and any further evidence of excellence. Entrants are encouraged to include community outreach and video content distributed via social media and digital platforms. Entry should emphasize the quality, breadth and efficacy of the organization's operations, stressing substance rather than style, and exhibit performance in sustaining excellence throughout the eligibility year. The news submission should present as many different examples as possible, including, but not limited to: enterprise in general assignment reporting, breaking news coverage, specialty and beat reporting, series, documentaries, continuing coverage of community issues, editorials/commentaries, etc. Exempt from the excerpt and composite limits, but the entry must be comprised only of material as actually distributed. No introductions, post production, montages, music or special effects may be added. This is not intended to be a "buzz" or demo reel. Entry should include a one-page, written synopsis of the organization's operation and achievements. Synopsis may be uploaded as a PDF or typed into the available text box within the online entry form. Entry Time limit: 30 minutes.

NOTE: This category is exempt from double-dipping rules.

NEWS CONTENT

News content categories are intended for journalistic material produced by news departments within television stations, newspapers or online news reporting entities.

Producers should be the primary entrants for these categories. Qualified others may be eligible if their contributions are significant to the entry's award-worthiness. (See Glossary for updated, more specific definition) Submitters who created work as part of media pool coverage can only enter their material once and must clearly identify their contributions on the entry.

For single News entries, the original video and submission length must not exceed 10 minutes.

Multi-part news series entries are eligible and must include a minimum of two (2) but no more than five (5) separate reports from the series. Total submission time limit for News series entries may not exceed 15 minutes.

NOTE: One (1) second of black must be inserted between elements of a series entry or between excerpts if the original video has been edited to fit the entry time limit for the category.

NEWSCASTS & NEWS PROGRAMS

For excellence in a regularly scheduled newscast. Entry will be judged on overall content, presentation, enterprise, writing, format, teases, etc. Post edits are not permitted except for the removal of commercials. For newscasts that exceed the 30 minute category time limit entrant may submit up to 3 excerpts. Entry Time Limit: 30 minutes.

2. **Daytime Newscast** (12am-5pm)
 - A. **Larger Markets** (6,20)
 - B. **Medium Markets** (55,67)
3. **Evening Newscast** (5pm-12am)
 - A. **Larger Markets** (6,20)
 - B. **Medium Markets** (55,67)
4. **Newscast-Smaller Markets** (104,124,132,193, & Guam)
5. **News Special**

For excellence in coverage of a one-time-only, significant, newsworthy event, occasion or topic. Subject should be an in-depth treatment of a current topic.

Entry Time Limit: 60 minutes.

NEWS GATHERING

6. Daily News Report (single shift)

For excellence in coverage of a single news story or topic which is shot, edited and aired within one work shift. Entry may include live and/or recorded elements and online video content. Topic covered must not be considered a news investigative report or news specialty report. Entry Time Limit: 10 minutes.

NOTE: This is the basic news reporting done day-in and day-out by a news department. Entries in this category typically evolve out of the daily planning of a newscast or other news distribution product.

7. Hard News Report (no production time limit)

For excellence in coverage of a single hard news story or topic which has no time limit for its preparation. Entry may include live and/or recorded elements and online video content. Topic covered must not be considered a news investigative report or news specialty report. Entry Time Limit: 10 minutes.

NOTE: This is the basic news reporting done day-in and day-out by a news department. Entries in this category typically evolve out of the daily planning of a newscast or other news distribution product.

8. Breaking/Spot News

a. Single Report

For excellence in coverage of a single unanticipated news event. Entry should convey a sense of immediacy in the coverage of an unfolding event. Entry must be one continuous report as originally broadcast or streamed. Entry may include live or taped elements or a combination of both. Entry Time Limit: 15 minutes.

b. Multiple Reports

For excellence in coverage of a single unanticipated news event. Entry should convey a sense of immediacy in the coverage of an unfolding event. Entry should be a composite of at least two (2) reports on the same topic - as they were originally broadcast or streamed. Exempt from composite and excerpt limit rules. Entry may include live or taped elements and online video content. Entry Time Limit: 30 minutes.

NOTE: Regional recipients in this category are eligible, at their discretion, to compete for a crystal pillar in the National News and Documentary Awards in the following category: Outstanding Regional News Story – Breaking News.

9. Continuing Coverage

For excellence in coverage of a single, evolving news topic through an extended number of reports distributed over a time period exceeding 24 hours. Entries will be judged in part on story advancement. Entry should be a composite of at least two (2) reports as they were originally broadcast or streamed. Exempt from composite and excerpt limit rules. Entry Time Limit: 30 minutes

NOTE: Continuing coverage entries typically consist of an establishing report followed up by additional reports that show how the story has evolved and changed with new revelations or sidebar stories over a longer period of time, such as days, weeks or months.

10. Investigative

A. Single Report

For excellence in a single report focused on a community problem requiring research and investigative journalism. Entry will be judged on the quality and extent of research, the presentation and the impact of the reporting, which may include new legislation, policies, government or legal investigations, public outcry, etc. Entry must include written documentation in the synopsis section of the online entry form. Entry Time limit: 15 minutes.

B. Multiple Reports

For excellence in a series of reports covering one investigation focused on a specific community problem requiring research and investigative journalism. Entry will be judged on the quality and extent of research, the presentation and the impact of the reporting, which may include new legislation, policies, government or legal investigations, public outcry, etc. Entry must include written documentation in the synopsis section of the online entry form and a minimum of two (2) reports. Entry Time Limit: 30 minutes.

NOTE: Regional recipients in this category are eligible, at their discretion, to compete for a crystal pillar in the National News and Documentary Awards in the following category: Outstanding Regional News Story Investigative Report.

11. News Feature

For excellence in reporting of feature news stories or topics. Features are generally defined as stories that have a personal, emotional or creative slant and include elements that go beyond the scope of straight factual information found in a hard news story. Multiple Report entries may include either several reports on the same feature topic, or several reports from an ongoing branded feature news series and must include a minimum of two (2) and no more than five (5) reports.

Single Report Entry Time Limit: 10 minutes. Multiple Report Entry Time Limit: 15 minutes.

A. Light Feature (Single Report)

B. Light Feature (Multiple Reports)

C. Serious Feature (Single Report)

D. Serious Feature (Multiple Reports)

NEWS & PROGRAMMING CONTENT

Producers should be the primary entrants for Programming Content categories. Qualified others may be eligible if their contributions are significant to the entry's award-worthiness. **(See Glossary for updated, more specific definition)**

Submitters who created work as part of media pool coverage can only enter their material once and must clearly identify their contributions on the entry.

Unless otherwise noted, the time limit for any program or long form content category is 30 minutes. A maximum of three (3) segments/excerpts is permitted to bring longer programs to the required entry time limit. For program series or long form series entries, the entry must include excerpts from at least two (2) episodes from the series.

Short Form content must be submitted in its entirety as originally distributed. The original video and submission length must not exceed 10 minutes.

NOTE: One (1) second of black must be inserted between elements of a series entry or between excerpts if the original video has been edited to fit the entry time limit for the category.

12. Arts/Entertainment

For excellence in news or content about general entertainment, variety or visual and performing arts.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

13. Business/Consumer

For excellence in news or content about business, finance, consumer affairs or economic topics. News, Short Form (up to 10 minutes) or Long Form (longer than 10 minutes) Content.

14. Children/Youth/Teen (19 and under) **(NEW)**

For excellence in news or content coverage that is of interest and value to a target audience 19 years of age or younger.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

15. Diversity/Equity/Inclusion **(NEW)**

For excellence in news or content coverage focused on topics including racism, discrimination, inequity, marginalized communities and similar social injustices, notably focused on efforts to raise awareness or effect positive change.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

16. Documentary

For excellence in the creation of a formal, structured television presentation with dramatic impact of an event, condition or situation of current, cultural and/or historical significance. Time limit: 60 minutes.

A. Cultural/Historical

B. Topical

17. Education/Schools

For excellence in news or content coverage of schools, teaching or education related topics.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

18. Environment/Science

For excellence in news or content coverage of environmental impact issues, science or related topics.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

19. Health/Medical

For excellence in news or content coverage of health or medical related topics.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

20. Historical/Cultural

For excellence in news or content coverage about historical or cultural related topics.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

21. Human Interest

For excellence in news or content coverage of stories that appeal to the human spirit.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

22. Informational/Instructional

For excellence in news or content whose purpose is to be instructional; to teach formally or informally about a subject.

A. Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

23. Interview/Discussion

For excellence in news or content that consists of interview/discussion material that is at least 75% unscripted. This category is primarily intended for formal interviews where both the interviewer(s) and the interviewee(s) are visible on camera and engaged in discussion.

NOTE: Some visual elements may supplement the interview, but entries for this category are typically live or recorded live and not heavily post-produced.

Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes) OR Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes).

24. Lifestyle

For excellence in news or content that deals with everyday life subjects such as: food preparation, recipes, techniques, home improvement, decoration, renovation, gardening, outdoors, crafts and/or automotive repairs.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

25. Politics/Government (Split from Societal Concerns)

For excellence in News or content about political, civil or government related topics.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

26. Public Affairs Program

For excellence in a news or content that focuses on current community, social or political issues that are of general public interest or concern. Time limit: 30 minutes.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

27. Societal Concerns (Split from Politics/Government)

For excellence in news or content about current issues of societal concern, community or immediate public interest. This category is intended for serious subject matter not already covered by other existing categories including Business/Consumerism, Education, Environment/Science, and Politics/Government.

A. News or Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes)

B. News or Long Form Content (longer than 10 minutes)

28. Technology

For excellence in News or content about technology industry stories and related topics. News/Short Form Content (up to 10 minutes) OR News/Long Form Content (longer than minutes).

SPORTS CONTENT

Producers should be the primary entrants for Sports Content categories. Qualified others may be eligible if their contributions are significant to the entry's award-worthiness. **(See Glossary for updated, more specific definition)**

For Short Form Content and Sportscast entries, the original video must not exceed 10 minutes.

For Long Form Content and Program entries, the original video must be longer than 10 minutes and submission length may not exceed 30 minutes (exception: Sports Documentary). No more than three (3) excerpts may be included to bring longer content to the 30-minute entry time limit

(exceptions: Sports - One-Time Special and Sporting Event/Game Live Broadcast.) Excerpts must be presented in original, chronological order.

Series entries are eligible and must include a minimum of two (2) but no more than five (5) separate segments from the series. Total submission time limit for News and Short Form Content series entries may not exceed 15 minutes. Long Form Content series entries may not exceed 30 minutes.

NOTE: One (1) second of black must be inserted between elements of a series entry or between excerpts if the original video has been edited to fit the entry time limit for the category.

29. Sports Story

For excellence in news or journalistic coverage of sports, athletes, coaches and other related topics.

A. News (single shift or no production time limit)

B. Short Form (Up to 10 minutes) or **Long Form** (longer than 10 minutes) **Content**

30. Sports Program – Live or Post Produced

For excellence in a sports program or series that is live, recorded live, or post produced. Entry must have, as its basis, special coverage not to be taken from a newscast, including but not limited to pregame and postgame shows surrounding live sporting events. Entry may include multi-camera and pre-produced segments that cover the full spectrum of the event. Entry may not have post edits except for the removal of commercials. Entry will be judged on overall content, presentation, enterprise, writing, format, teases, etc.

SPOT ANNOUNCEMENTS

For excellence in promotional, commercial or public service announcements. Entries must be regionally conceived, produced and distributed. Spots that contain more than 50% of network or syndicator-provided material do not qualify. Music, graphics and pre-edited video constitute such material. **Spots may be 5 seconds to 2 minutes in length.** If a campaign is entered, a maximum of five (5) spots may be included which are edited together for a single video upload. If a campaign is entered, no spots from that same campaign may be submitted in a single-spot category.

Producers should be the primary entrants for Spot Announcement categories. Qualified others may be eligible if their contributions are significant to the entry's award-worthiness. (See Glossary for updated, more specific definition)

31. Public Service Announcement

For excellence in announcements that effectively create awareness, focus interest on or marshal support for worthy community causes or non-profit organizations. Single Spot (*Limit: 2 minutes*) OR Campaign (*Limit: 10 minutes (up to five spots, each spot up to 2 minutes in length)*)

32. Commercial

For excellence in commercial production advertising a product, business or service that is conceived, written, created and produced in and for the regional market. Program length commercials (infomercials) are not eligible. Single Spot (*Limit: 2 minutes*) OR Campaign (*Limit: 10 minutes (up to five spots, each spot up to 2 minutes in length)*)

33. Promotion

Single Spot (*Limit: 2 minutes*) OR Campaign (*Limit: 10 minutes (up to five spots, each spot up to 2 minutes in length)*)

A. News

For excellence in announcements that promote news departments within television stations, newspapers or online news reporting entities and/or content produced by those entities. This includes promotion of or teasers for specific news stories, breaking news or weather, sports content within newscasts, news specials, news image and on-air news/weather/sports anchors and reporters.

B. Program

For excellence in announcements that promote content produced outside the news department. This includes spots that promote a broader station/company image as well as regionally produced spots for network, local and/or syndicated programming.

C. Sports (NEW)

For excellence in announcements that promote sports content produced outside the news department. This includes spots that promote a broader station/company image as well as regionally produced spots for network, local and/or syndicated programming.

NOTE: Intended for promos produced for content that would be entered in the Sports Content section with the exception of Sports Story - News.

CRAFT ACHIEVEMENT

For excellence in a specific craft discipline demonstrating the skills of one or more individuals. Each entry may contain a single example of the craft or a composite of material as originally distributed. While craft entrants may submit more than one entry per craft discipline, only one of those entries may be a composite. Elements of the composite may not be separately entered as individual craft entries in the same craft category. Craft awards are intended for hands-on craft persons, not those who supervise craft persons. Entry Time Limit: 15 minutes (unless otherwise indicated.)

NOTE: One (1) second of black must be inserted between elements of a composite.

In situations where craft persons, like writers, photographers, editors, etc., served in multiple roles that significantly impacted the final product, they may be listed on content categories and/or craft achievement categories provided they don't violate double-dipping guidelines. **However, no entrant may be recognized more than once for performing the same job function for the same content in either a craft or content category.**

34. Talent

For Anchor, Sports Analyst and Sports Play-by-Play categories only: A segment is an excerpt from a news program (newscast, news special, breaking news, live sporting event/game, etc.) with the material that doesn't include the entrant edited out. An entry may include up to five segments. Each segment may include material from only ONE program: think of this as "five segments equals five changes of clothing" rule. It's allowed, but not required, for the co-anchor's and reporters' video to be edited out of a segment. Anchor entries may include examples of studio anchoring, field anchoring, specials, breaking, etc., but NOT reporter packages (if an anchor also does reporter packages, they must enter those in one of the reporter categories.)

- A. Anchor – News**
- B. Anchor – Weather**
- C. Anchor/Reporter – Sports**
- D. Reporter – Daily News**
- E. Reporter – Specialty Assignment**
- F. Program Host/Moderator/Correspondent**

35. Live News Producer

Enter a composite not to exceed 30 minutes. Material entered in this category cannot be entered by the same entrant in any News Content categories.

36. Writer

NOTE: Script preferred for all writer categories.

- A. News**
- B. Content**

37. Director

- A. Live or Recorded Live (PL Track is Preferred)**
- B. Content**

38. Editor

- A. News**
- B. Content**

39. Photographer

- A. News**
- B. Content**

40. Video Journalist

For excellence by a cross-discipline individual, serving as photojournalist, editor, talent, and writer; covering a single or multi-part story or topic. Entry may not be entered in any other craft category.

- A. Single Shift**
- B. No Production Time Limit**

41. Graphic Arts (NEW)

Entries must contain graphical elements originally created for regional markets. Re-purposed content from national sources is not eligible. Graphics Composites may include more than 5 examples of work, for up to five minutes of entry video, as long as each example is separated by one second of black and there is no other post-production to the entry.