



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.

Note: Eligible to Enter: Producer, Anchor. Others who may be eligible to be included on a Newscast submission are Directors, Assignment Desk Editors, Reporters, Meteorologists, Photographers, Editors, and Writers. However, to be listed the person must have actively participated and substantially contributed to the content being submitted. Those whose roles are perfunctory or routine are not eligible. Anchors, Reporters or other defined crafts persons listed on the entry, may not submit the same content in the corresponding Craft Achievement category.

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 GATHEREING

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.

Chapter Note: This should be one separate package or live shot report by one reporter and crew. News blocks with multiple reporters should submit in Category B.

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 period of time 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 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.

Submission of your investigative series in this category prohibits submission of any other part of the same series in any other news or program category.

Regional recipients in both Investigative categories 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 News or 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.

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

Composites may be submitted in short or long form content, depending on length.

NOTE: One (1) second of black must be inserted between elements of a series or composite 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)
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**
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 minute)
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 (Changed, science moved to Technology)**
For excellence in news or content coverage of environmental impact issues, 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. **News or Short Form Content** (up to 10 minutes)
- B. **News or 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 should be typically live or recorded live and not heavily post-produced.

News, 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**

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 content that focuses on current community, social or political issues that are of general public interest or concern.

Program or segment time limit: 30 minutes.

CHAPTER NOTE: News submissions should go to Category 27, Societal Concerns

27. **Societal Concerns**

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. **Science/Technology (Changed, Science moved from Environment)**

For excellence in News or content about science or the 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 Announcements**

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. **Commercials**

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 or Content (Changed, News & Content combined)**

For excellence in announcements that promote news or content within television stations, newspapers, or online news reporting entities and/or content produced by those entities. This includes promotion of or teases 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. Includes regionally produced spots for network or local syndicated programming.

B. **Sports**

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.

Specifically, no entrant may be recognized more than once for performing the same job function or role 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**
Entries may include Anchoring, Reporting, or both
- 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-Live or Post Produced (Changed)**
For direction of a live or recorded event. For live entries, we recommend a PL track. For post-production, directing role should demonstrate expertise beyond the process of editing.
38. **Editor**
A. **News**
B. **Content**
39. **Photographer**
A. **News**
B. **Content**
40. **Video Essayist (New)**
For excellence by a single individual telling a single or multi-part story, without a reporter, narrator, or host. The video essay creator is the photographer and editor, weaving together elements captured in the field to tell the story. **Entry may not be submitted in any other craft category.** Composites are permitted.
41. **Multi-Media Journalist (Changed from Video Journalist)**
For excellence by a cross-discipline individual serving as photojournalist, editor, talent, and writer (also known as an MMJ or VJ), covering a single or multi-part story or topic. **Material in entry may not be submitted in any other craft category.**
Composites permitted.
A. Single Shift.
Submission element may have taken more than one working shift to complete.
B. No Production Time Limit
42. **Graphic Arts**
Entries must contain graphical elements originally created for regional markets. Repurposed content from national sources is not eligible. Graphics Composites may include more than 5 examples of work for as many as 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.
43. **Audio (New)**
For excellence in live or post-production recording and/or editing of audio in programming content or news. Submissions may include recordings of live music or performances, live or pre-recorded action, or post-produced audio effects.



REMINDER NOTES

1. **Read the rules & instructions** – You are responsible to follow ALL rules and instructions.
2. **Separate categories for English & Spanish** – 1-43 English; 51-75 Spanish
3. **Entry Form:** Please use Upper and Lower Case when filling out your entry form and membership application. The name you use on your membership application will show on your entry forms.
4. **Producer** – See Glossary of Terms
5. **In the event** that the number of entries in a category falls below a range of four (4) to nine (9), Chapters have the option of eliminating or merging the category with another. If a category is merged, entrants would have the option of dropping out of the competition and receiving a refund of their entry fees.
6. **Entry Quota:** There is a maximum quota of 12 eligible names allowed per entry without further written permission. Any additional names will require a written request from the primary entrant detailing how the additional entrants specifically contributed to the Emmy®-worthiness of the entry. If approved, ALL entrants in the entry will be charged a \$25 processing fee.
7. **Judging Requirement:** By entering, all entrants agree to be peer judges for categories submitted from other NATAS chapters. Members who do not judge within a 24-month period will forfeit their member discount and will be required to pay the full non-member Emmy® entry fee for each entry they submit until they serve as a judge.
8. **Video Upload:** The person filling out the entry form is responsible for the video upload.

9. **Deadline:** A \$25 processing fee will be added to all fees not paid by the end of the grace period.
10. **Montages:** No Montages are allowed. Segments must be separated by one to two seconds of black.
11. **Composites:** Entry form now requires (Title, Air Date, & TRT) for all composites. Must be edited into one entry with two seconds of black between segments. (MAXIMUM SEGMENTS FIVE)
12. **Double-Dipping:** No single entry may be submitted in its entirety in more than one programming category. An entrant cannot enter the same content in more than one category.
13. **Appropriate Categories For Content:** Content must be entered in appropriate categories. For instance, an investigative report cannot be entered in the Lifestyle category, nor can a sports report be entered in Arts and Entertainment. The Awards Committee has the authority to disqualify or move an entry submitted in an inappropriate category.
14. **Category Changes:** You may change the category of an entry until Friday, January 28, 2022. There is a \$25 processing fee.
15. **Refunds:** All Refunds are subject to a \$25 processing fee.
16. **Video Uploads:** If your video does not upload on the first try you must logout and click the "Clear Session" button on the login screen.
17. **Paying Fees:** Address may default to your station address, you need to change it to your Credit Card billing address.

Need help / Questions: darryl@emmysf.tv 650-341-7786

Updated: 11/30/22