

BBC Writers Open Call



What is Open Call?

An annual script submission window for all emerging and established writers to share their work with us.

Used to select up to 100 writers for our writer development schemes: Writers' Access Group; Scripted and Voices.

Run by BBC Writers.



When is the application window?

Submissions open: Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 12 noon.

Deadline: Tuesday 1st December 2026 at 12 noon.



Who can apply?

You must be at least 18 years of age or over at the date of your submission.

You must be a permanent/full-time resident of the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man or Republic of Ireland. You do not need to have been born here, but you do need to have an existing right to work in the UK.

You must **not** be employed as part of BBC Writers or as BBC staff in a Scripted team in BBC Public Service (including Drama and Comedy Commissioning and BBC Film) or a person connected to this scheme.

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How do I prove my
eligibility?

Proof of age, identity, residency and eligibility may be requested at a later date. The BBC's decision as to the eligibility of individual applicants will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

If you wish to be considered for our Writers' Access Group then you must self-identify as deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent.



What do I need to
submit?

Applicants must submit:

- a) A Drama or Comedy/Drama script written for Film, TV, Radio or Stage for adults or young adults at a minimum of 30 full pages of script (excluding title pages or supporting material such as character or context pages) and a maximum of 130 pages.
- b) A paragraph about your writing history (you do not need to have any credits or professionally produced work. We just want to understand your passion for writing).
- c) A short paragraph about what you would like to gain from one of our development programmes if you are successful.
- d) A Diversity Monitoring Form (asking you questions including about Ethnicity, Disability, Gender and sexuality). You can skip this step or answer 'prefer not to say' to any of the questions.

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What do I need to know about
the script I should submit?

You must submit a complete script, not an extract of a longer project. Scripts will be read anonymously so please remove any personal details (name, address, contacts etc) from the front page of the script or within the document itself.

If the submitted script has been through a development process with a production company, agent, training scheme etc. then this must be declared on the submission.

Your spec script must be submitted as a PDF file with a maximum file size of 10MB via the E-Submissions System only.

Your application must be legibly typed and formatted. Submissions must be written in English. If you submit any part of a script in another language you must also include your own translation of this into English. Please [refer to our style guide for further guidance](#).

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What do we NOT accept?

- Resubmissions of work which have previously been submitted to Script Room, Open Call or Writers' Access Group in any iteration. Even after extensive rewrites.
- Multiple submissions from an entrant.
- Video/audio material.
- Scripts written for existing shows and/or characters.
- Scripts written for children.
- Prose or poetry.
- Comedy (sitcoms, series or sketch shows).



Where and how do I apply?

You can apply through our E-Submissions system using the link provided on the opportunity webpage on the BBC Writers website.

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Any additional guidance

If you have specific access requirements then please [Contact BBC Writers](#) by 5pm, Friday 27th November 2026 to discuss your application.

[Read the full Terms and Conditions here](#)

[Want more guidance on Esubs? Click here for guidance and walkthrough video guides.](#)