



RISE Film Festival Submission Rules & Deadlines

NADCP's RISE is the world's largest conference on addiction, mental health, veterans, and justice reform, with more than 6,000 attendees annually. Now in its seventh year, the RISE Film Festival (RFF) is one of the most anticipated events of the conference. The RFF screens new films, both documentary and narrative, before or as they are widely released. Following each screening, a panel is held with filmmakers, actors, and other experts to discuss the big issues these films raise, the impact they have on viewers, and the lessons we can take away from the stories being told.

Our audience spans the justice and clinical professions—judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation and parole, law enforcement, veterans, substance use and mental health treatment providers, child welfare services, social workers, peer recovery specialists, policy experts, child/adolescent/family services, and more. Past films screened at the RFF have focused on the justice system, addiction recovery, mental health, and military veterans.

The RFF seeks films that take an unflinching look at humanity at its best, worst, and everything in between. Films that tell stories and amplify voices that need a platform. Films that inspire action and drive change.

Basic requirements for film submissions:

1. All films must focus on one or more of the following topics: the justice system, substance use/mental health disorders, treatment/recovery, trauma, military veterans, and/or equity and inclusion.
2. All films must be the original work of the filmmakers, and filmmakers must have the necessary rights. The RFF is not liable for any rights issues.
3. All entries must be in English or subtitled in English.
4. While not required, entries that will premiere at the RFF will be given priority in the selection process.
5. If selected, filmmakers grant the RFF all necessary rights and permissions to screen their film.

Here's what we expect from you if your film is selected:

1. Filmmakers will provide both a digital and hard-copy version of the film when possible.
2. Filmmakers will provide promotional materials, including but not limited to posters, photos, website links, and trailers or clips of the film to be used for marketing and promotional purposes as agreed upon between the filmmakers and NADCP.
3. Filmmakers will work with NADCP to assemble a relevant post-screening panel that includes film representatives (e.g., directors, producers, actors, subject matter experts).



Here's what you can expect from us:

1. NADCP will return all hard copies of the film if requested and will not distribute digital versions, links, trailers, promotional imagery, or other sensitive information beyond the RFF without permission.
2. NADCP will promote the film through various channels, including the RISE website, RISE program, social media, and emails to our more than 20,000 subscribers.
3. NADCP will work with filmmakers to provide subject matter experts and other relevant speakers as needed for post-screening panels. NADCP also will pay for travel, accommodations, per diem, and conference registration for up to four film representatives and/or up to a dollar amount to be determined by NADCP.
4. With input as needed from filmmakers and film representatives, NADCP will determine appropriate screening schedules.

Important deadlines:

1. All full-film entries must be received by **March 3, 2023** to be considered. NADCP will make selections and notify filmmakers of selection or rejection by **April 7, 2023**.
2. Filmmakers of selected films will provide the following information and promotional materials by **April 24, 2023**:
 - o Film description of no more than 200 words
 - o Digital poster or high-resolution (minimum 300ppi) still film image
 - o Digital trailer or film clip no longer than 2 minutes; acceptable file formats include Pro Res422, H.264 and mp4
 - o Full names and credits for the director, producers, and/or starring actors in the order in which they should appear on promotional materials
 - o Names, short bios of no more than 100 words, and 2-sentence introductions for each film representative on the post-screening panel
 - o Film website link (optional)
3. Filmmakers/panelists will provide the required travel and logistical information and preferences (e.g., departing airport, arrival and departure times, transportation and accommodation information) by **May 12, 2023**.
4. Filmmakers will provide a final Blu-ray version of the film and a final digital video file (when possible) by **May 31, 2023**.
 - o Acceptable digital file formats include Pro Res422, H.264, and mp4. Submitted video files will be transcoded and tested for playback compatibility and performance; aspect ratio will be preserved (screened at 1920 x 1080 pixels); audio will be 2.1.; 4K capability is not available.
5. Filmmakers/panelists will submit preapproved expenses requiring reimbursement and all relevant documentation (i.e., receipts) by **July 14, 2023**.