



London Writers Awards 2019 – Eligibility Criteria:

1. This year we are accepting writing in the following categories for the Awards:
 - a. Literary fiction (including short stories);
 - b. Commercial fiction (includes: romance, crime, science fiction, thriller, fantasy, historical fiction);
 - c. Narrative non-fiction (includes: life writing; biography, memoir, nature writing and non-fiction with a strong literary intent);
 - d. YA/children's (includes: middle grade and YA fiction, excludes picture books).

2. Applications are open to writers aged 18+ who live full-time in London. Applicants who reach the interview stage of the process will be required to bring proof of their address. Check if your home postcode is in London here: https://www.doogal.co.uk/london_postcodes.php

3. The Awards are for writers from the following under-represented communities in publishing:
 - a. Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME);
 - b. Disabled;
 - c. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ);
 - d. Working class or working-class background.

4. If you are currently or are about to be enrolled in a graduate or postgraduate creative writing programme (BA, MA or PhD) or are part of a longer-term development programme for writers you are not eligible to apply.

5. Applicants must be un-agented and unpublished. We define this as meaning:
 - a. You do not currently have a literary agent representing you;
 - b. You do not have an existing book contract with a publisher;
 - c. You have not previously published a full-length work (i.e. a work of fiction or non-fiction over 30,000 words, or ten or more short stories published either in a collection or individually, or twenty or more poems either in a collection or published individually, or a full-length theatre script, screenplay, or radio play that has been professionally produced and/or broadcast);



- d. Previously self-published writers can apply with a currently unpublished work.
6. If you are offered a contract to sign up with an agent and/or publishing contract prior to the commencement of the programme (i.e. during the application and judging process), you are ineligible for an Award.
7. If you are a previous recipient of a London Writers Award you are not eligible to apply for the programme.
8. Judges, their close family members, employees or trustees of Spread the Word or our major supporters Arts Council England, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and ALCS are not eligible to apply.

Please also read the Awards' Terms and Conditions before applying (downloadable on the [Awards' webpage](#)).

Limited Bursaries and an Access Fund are available. Information about these is available on the [Award's webpage](#).

If you have a question, first download and read the [Awards' FAQs](#).

If your question is not answered through the FAQs, please contact Bobby: bobby@spreadtheword.org.uk

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