



Got a question about the London Short Story Prize 2019? Check out the FAQs below...

## **FAQs**

### **I don't live in London – can I still enter the Prize?**

No – the Prize is only open to writers resident in London, including Greater London boroughs. To confirm whether your residency is in London, please check Doogal: [https://www.doogal.co.uk/london\\_postcodes.php](https://www.doogal.co.uk/london_postcodes.php). If your postcode is listed on this graph, including the outer borough areas, you can enter the Prize.

### **Is there an age limit for entering the Prize?**

You need to be aged 18 or over to enter, but there is no upper age limit.

### **I'm a published writer. Can I still enter the competition?**

Absolutely. However, the story you're submitting into the competition can't have been published elsewhere – either online or in print.

### **I want to submit the same piece into other competitions at the same time – can I do this?**

Yes, you can but if after entering your story it wins another prize or you get confirmation that your story will be published through entering another competition, then you will need to withdraw your story from The London Short Story Prize.

### **My piece is over 5000 words – can I send in an extract?**

No. Stories submitted must be complete. Please note there is no minimum word count.

### **My story isn't about London – can I still submit it?**

Of course. Stories are welcome on any theme for this competition.

### **My story has some poetry / life writing / graphics within it – can I submit it into the competition?**

The London Short Story Prize is for prose fiction; however, we welcome cross-genre and experimental pieces into the competition.

### **Can I submit multiple stories?**

Yes, you can – as many as you want! It will cost £10 per entry for each story.

## **Why has the entry fee gone up for the competition?**

We have reviewed the London Short Story Prize and in order to keep it running in 2019, we are increasing entry fees to £10 per story. We will be offering 50 free entries for writers on a low-income.

## **I'm on a low income – how can I apply for a free entry?**

There are 50 free entries available for writers on low-incomes who are not Earning the London living wage, are in receipt of benefits and/or disability allowance have no income or are on zero hours contracts. If you feel you are on a low income but your situation is not described above, please still apply and tell us what your circumstances are. We won't ask for documentation to prove your eligibility, but we may conduct spot checks later in the Prize.

To apply for this offer please e-mail [aliya@spreadtheword.org.uk](mailto:aliya@spreadtheword.org.uk) with your name, postcode and a short paragraph on why you are eligible for a free entry. If accepted, you will be given a private Submittable link and will have until 5pm on 7 October (same as the general submissions guidelines) to submit your story into the competition. There is no deadline to apply for a free entry but we recommend applying earlier as they will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

## **Does my story have to be written in English?**

Yes.

## **I have a disability and would like to enter my story through a different format – an audio story / signed story / other formats. Can I do this?**

Absolutely. Please email [aliya@spreadtheword.org.uk](mailto:aliya@spreadtheword.org.uk), describing how you'd like to submit your story and we will set up the appropriate channels for you. Please note that all stories selected for publication in The London Short Story Prize 2019 Anthology will be translated into written English.

## **I've missed the deadline! Can I still enter?**

Unfortunately not. The deadline to submit is BST 5pm, Monday 7 October 2019.

## **I've submitted! What happens next?**

Thanks so much for submitting. Every story entered into the competition will get read at least twice by an expert team of twenty first readers. They select around 50 short stories to be considered for longlisting. These will be read internally by the Spread the Word team who will select 12 stories to go through to the judges.

## **I didn't get selected – can I ask for feedback?**

Unfortunately not. We're unable to give feedback on entries into this competition.

**If your question is not listed here, please get in touch with Aliya Gulamani at [aliya@spreadtheword.org.uk](mailto:aliya@spreadtheword.org.uk).**