**London Writers Awards 2026: Application Form – Drafting Document**

This document is designed to help you draft your application to the London Writers Awards 2026. It contains all the questions in the application form to help you prepare your application.

Please also take a look at the Application Pack (available in audio and text formats) which can be found at: <https://www.spreadtheword.org.uk/projects/london-writers-awards/>

There are three ways to apply for the programme:

1. The **online application form for text, which can be found at:**

[**spreadtheword.submittable.com/submit**](https://spreadtheword.submittable.com/submit)

1. The **online application form for audio or video, which can be found at:**

[**spreadtheword.submittable.com/submit**](https://spreadtheword.submittable.com/submit)

1. The **postal entry** form which can be downloaded from the website to complete and post along with your writing extract to: London Writers Awards 2026, Spread the Word, The Albany, Douglas Way, London, SE8 4AG.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please email Bobby Nayyar: [bobby@spreadtheword.org.uk](mailto:bobby@spreadtheword.org.uk) with ‘London Writer Awards’ in the subject line.

**Deadline for entries is 5pm Thursday 30 October 2025** (entries will not be accepted after this time).

**Application Form Content – for drafting / making notes**

**Your name:**

**Your email address:**

**Your postal address:**

**Postcode:**  
**Your contact phone number:**

**Please confirm that you are eligible for the London Writers Awards by ticking all the relevant boxes. Please note that if any of these do not apply to you, you are not eligible to enter.**

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I can confirm that:**I live in London

I am aged over 18

I am:

Black, Asian, or Global Majority

Deaf and/or Disabled

LGBTQIA+

Working Class Upbringing

On a Low Income

(tick as many as appropriate)

**I am an unpublished and unagented writer:**

Yes

No

**I do not work in publishing or for a literary agency:**

Yes

No

**Eligibility Supporting Statement**  
**Please tell us about your writing life and what you hope to achieve through the London Writers Awards programme.**

*Some things to think about when responding to this question:*

* *How long have you been writing?*
* *What is your current writing practice?*
* *How do you approach developing your writing?*
* *What are you aims for your development and project?*
* *What you hope to achieve as a writer by being on the programme?*

Option A: **Text**- 250 words max

Option B: **video or audio file** - no longer than 2 minutes 30 seconds *(online form only)*

**Bursaries**

A limited number of bursaries are available for writers most in need.

To be eligible for a bursary you need to be: either on a low income (either on benefits or earning on or below the London Living Wage); a carer; a single parent; a care leaver; have experience of being homeless or an ex-offender. You can find out more about the bursaries here: <https://www.spreadtheword.org.uk/projects/london-writers-awards/>

**Do you consider yourself eligible for a bursary?**

Yes

No

**Access Fund**

An access fund is available for disabled writers to fully access the programme the Awards offer.

This fund will be a contribution to the additional costs that may be incurred for you to participate in the Awards (e.g. for: BSL interpreters, additional personal assistant support, scribe). You can find out more about the access fund here: <https://www.spreadtheword.org.uk/projects/london-writers-awards/>

**Will you require additional support to fully access the programme?**

Yes

No

**Bursary and Access Fund Supporting Statement**

If you are applying for a bursary and/or the access fund tell us why you will need these. Please enter N/A if you do not require a bursary or access fund support. (150 word limit)**.**

*Some things to think about when responding to this question:*

* *How do you meet the eligibility criteria for a bursary and/or access fund?*
* *What do you need the funds for?*
* *Are there any reasonable adjustments to make to help you participate?*

Option A: **Text** - 150 word max

Option B: **Video and audio file** - no longer than 2 minutes *(online form only)*

**About your project:**

**Which category are you applying for?**

Literary Fiction

Commercial Fiction

YA/Children’s Fiction

**Title of project you are sending with your application:**

**Short Summary of Project:**

**Please can you summarise your project in one sentence e.g. A literary fiction novel that follows three siblings who leave Vietnam on a boat and eventually come to England. (30 words maximum)**

**Please enter a synopsis of the writing project you'd like to develop as part of the programme. (300 word limit)**

*Some things to think about when responding to this question:*

* *What is the project about?*
* *Who are the characters?*
* *What happens in the story?*
* *Can you compare it to any other titles that have been published?*
* *What themes are you exploring through the project?*

Option A: **Text** - 300 words max

Option B: **Video or audio file** - no longer than 2 mins *(online form only)*

**Your Extract**

**The extract you are sending with your application must be from your proposed project.**

**Extract:**

Online form: **Text file** only

Postal form: **Printed text file** only

Your writing sample extract should be:

* No longer than 3,000 words
* Typed in black
* Double spaced
* In 12-point font
* Paginated
* Not have your name in the file name or on the document. If your name appears on the extract, your entry will be rejected.

*Spread the Word will be in touch with all entrants by Friday 9 January 2026 with the outcome of their application.*

August 2025