

Broadcast Contest Rules

Please read carefully.

- Entries must have been aired from Feb. 15, 2024 to Feb. 15, 2025. We do prefer entries from this school year.
- The work must be produced by the student(s) named.
- All entries become the property of ILPC and may be published in UIL or ILPC materials.
- All entries must be submitted through the online uploading link. **No mail-in** submissions will be accepted. If you have a problem uploading files, please contact our office ASAP.
- Entries must be identified properly when uploaded. Please follow directions to ensure that all files are labeled correctly. Incorrectly identified files may be **disqualified**.
- Entries will be divided into categories based on the size of the school.

Decisions of the judges are final.

Broadcast Individual Achievement Awards

Schools may submit two (2) entries in each of the following categories. The length of each entry is designated for each contest.

PLEASE NOTE: Any entry going over the maximum time limit may be disqualified.

- 1. General news story (less than 4 minutes)** - An entry that combines news-gathering skills and presents the latest or most complete information in a logical sequence.
Criteria may include: • Story is well written; • Use of video that matches the audio and use of natural sound.
- 2. General news writing** - The story written for the broadcast. The video story should be submitted.
- 3. General feature writing** - The story written for the broadcast. The video story should be submitted.
- 4. General sports writing** - The story written for the broadcast. The video story should be submitted.
- 5. Feature story (less than 4 minutes)** - Personality profiles or human-interest general features. Emphasis should be rich in detail, with liberal use of sound and sound bites through the use of interviews and other natural sounds, and proper camera techniques, as well as employing creative writing techniques.
Criteria may include: • Video matches audio (reporter track); • Sound bites are appropriate; • Reporter track, or anchor intro/tag tells who, what, when, where, why and how; • Stand up- is there action in the shot, and is the stand up applicable?; • Supers (lower thirds) identify reporter, locations and sound bites; • Use of emotion, humor or stories that tug at the heartstrings.
- 6. Documentary (less than 10 minutes)** - Longer form feature that explores a trend, issue or individuals in greater detail. Note: This contest is separate from the UIL Young Filmmakers Festival, but films may be entered in each contest.
Criteria may include: • Video matches audio; • Sound bites are appropriate; • Lower thirds identify individuals on-camera; • Use of emotion, humor, or stories that tug at the heartstrings.
- 7. General sports story (1-3 minutes)** - Either coverage of past or present game(s) or a season summary.
Criteria may include: • Video matches audio (reporter track); • Sound bites are appropriate; • Reporter track, or anchor intro/tag tells who, what, when, where, why and how; • Stand up- is there action in the shot, and is the stand up applicable?; • Supers (lower thirds) identify reporter, locations and sound bites; • Use of emotion- sports should be exciting, compelling; • Use of graphics when appropriate to show scores.
- 8. Sports feature story (less than 4 minutes)** - Personality profiles or human-interest sports features. Emphasis should be rich in detail, liberal use of quotes, and proper camera techniques.
Criteria may include: • Video matches audio (reporter track); • Sound bites are appropriate; • Reporter track, or anchor intro/tag tells who, what, when, where, why and how; • Stand up- is there action in the shot, and is the stand up applicable?; • Supers (lower thirds) identify reporter, locations and sound bites; • Use of emotion, humor, or stories that tug at the heartstrings
- 9. Anchor team presentation (2-3 minutes)** - The best two minutes of your on-air talent.
Criteria may include: • Appearance is professional; • Reading pace and fluctuation is appropriate and compelling; • Interaction between anchors is comfortable; • Use of ad lib is appropriate; • Good balance between use of the prompter and reflection of scripts; • Good demonstration of camera turns
- 10. Graphics (1 minute)** - the best graphics you have.
Criteria may include: • Within safe title; • Matches text; • Good font selection (clean/easy to read); • Good use of art when appropriate; • Spelling and content accuracy

11. Promotion/commercial/PSA (less than 60 seconds) - a promotion or a PSA or some other type of commercial.

12. Technical directing (5 minutes or less) - Provide any five minutes of a broadcast to show you have the best production quality around.

Criteria may include: • Good punching- director/camera is leading the anchors; • Interesting, clear shots; • Good transitions that dissolve and other effects are appropriate and not overused; • Supers are inserted properly and in a timely manner

13. Intro sequence (less than one minute) - A student-produced sequence (no professionals) used to begin your production. May include cold open, preview or tease.

14. Daily announcements (5 minutes or less) - Presentation includes only school announcements with appropriate creative talent and graphics. No packages are included.

15. Individual on-air talent (2-3 minutes) - The best presentation of a single anchor.

16. Special coverage (4 minutes or less) - Any production for a school audience on a specific person, group or event.

17. Hype Video (5 minutes or less) - Any video promoting a sports team, athlete, organization or event.