

The Galton & Simpson Bursary for Comedy Writing - Terms and Conditions of Entry

What you need to submit:

A sample comedy/sitcom script of 30 pages/30 minutes maximum
A series development plan
A short one page biography/statement

How to Submit:

Sample scripts, series plans and biog/statements can be submitted to: Galton&Simpson.Bursary@bbc.co.uk.

Deadline: Friday 5th June 2020

Individual / group submissions

Writers can submit individually or as part of a writing duo (maximum of 2 people). Only one entry per person is permitted including any group entries.

Bursary reading process

The BBC will employ professional script readers to assess all the submitted scripts. They sift the scripts by reading at least the first ten pages. If a submission doesn't sufficiently hook our attention at the sift stage, it will not be considered further. The BBC reserves the right not to read additional pages if it is clear that the quality of the writing or subject matter is unsuitable or is in breach of any of the terms and conditions.

If a submission hooks our reader's attention it progresses to the second sift, to be re-read by another reader. Writers who progress beyond the second sift are then recommended to BBC Comedy Commissioning. BBC Comedy Commissioning staff finalise a shortlist and then invite those writers or writing partnerships to attend an interview.

The names of all selected entrants may be made public. Entrants must agree to take part in any post-training scheme publicity if required.

We do not accept:

- Writing samples written for existing or previously produced shows/characters – we only want to see your original work.
- Samples or extracts from scripts – we need full scripts as well as the series plan and biog/statement.
- We do not read further writing samples or samples we have already rejected, or given feedback on.
- Novels, unpublished prose manuscripts, or another writer's work you wish to see adapted.
- Scripts over 30 pages.
- Short film scripts over 30 pages.

- Adaptations for broadcast of another writer's idea
- Poetry
- Scripts from writers under the age of 18
- Resubmissions of work previously considered, even after rewrites – make sure you make your sample is as good as you possibly can before sending it to us.
- Ideas, pitches, outlines, synopses, or treatments on their own
- Multiple submissions at one time. We can only accept one application from each writer/writing team.
- Links, DVD's, audio tapes or any video/audio material accompanying, or instead of, a writing sample
- The BBC reserves the right to disqualify entries that are inconsistent with the BBC Editorial Policy Guidelines or which may bring the BBC into disrepute, including any entries which profit from criminal activity.
- In order to be eligible to apply you should be either resident in the UK; or be an EU or UK national resident in an EU member state.
- Scripts have to be written in English

The BBC reserves the right to amend these terms and conditions at any stage, including changing or substituting the selection process and the development opportunities. In this event, a notice will be posted on the following website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/commissioning/news/comedy-galton-and-simpson-bursary-april-2020>

Copyright and Protection

All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The BBC accepts no liability if entrants ignore these rules and entrants agree to fully indemnify the BBC against any claims by any third party arising from any breach of these rules.

By applying for the Galton & Simpson Bursary for Comedy Writing, entrants warrant that they have legal capacity to enter and agree to be bound by these terms and conditions.

The copyright of all writing samples and scripts sent to the BBC rests with the writer – you do not need to formally copyright work before you send it in to us. Writers are often anxious that their work may be stolen or plagiarised. However, similarities in writers' ideas, material, and scripts occur surprisingly often.

In the event that a producer wishes to option an unsolicited script, the BBC would necessarily agree appropriate contractual terms with the writer in line with standard BBC agreements. For further information on legal and contractual issues for writers, you may wish to contact the [Writers' Guild of Great Britain](#).

The BBC receives a great many submissions, and similarities of subject matter often occur. We cannot undertake to compensate you if material similar to yours, received coincidentally from another source, is subsequently commissioned or produced.

The BBC, as data controller, is responsible for handling personal data provided to the BBC, including in any contributions, in accordance with data protection law. The BBC has a legitimate interest in using the personal data for journalistic, artistic and literary purposes and in the public interest and in using the personal data for the performance of the contract with the BBC. For more information visit www.bbc.co.uk/contributors/privacy-notice. This clause replaces any Data Protection clause in the terms and conditions.