

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

GENERAL FIELD

1. RECORD OF THE YEAR (S/T)
2. ALBUM OF THE YEAR (A)
3. SONG OF THE YEAR (S/T)
4. BEST NEW ARTIST (A/S/T)
5. PRODUCER OF THE YEAR, NON-CLASSICAL (A/S/T)
6. SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR, NON-CLASSICAL (S/T)

FIELD 1: POP & DANCE / ELECTRONIC

7. POP SOLO PERFORMANCE (S/T)
8. POP DUO/GROUP PERFORMANCE (S/T)
9. POP VOCAL ALBUM (A)
10. DANCE/ELECTRONIC RECORDING (S/T)
11. DANCE POP RECORDING (S/T)
12. DANCE/ELECTRONIC ALBUM (A)
13. REMIXED RECORDING (S/T)

FIELD 2: ROCK, METAL & ALTERNATIVE MUSIC

14. ROCK PERFORMANCE (S/T)
15. METAL PERFORMANCE (S/T)
16. ROCK SONG (S/T)
17. ROCK ALBUM (A)
18. ALTERNATIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCE (S/T)
19. ALTERNATIVE MUSIC ALBUM (A)

FIELD 3: R&B, RAP & SPOKEN WORD POETRY

20. R&B PERFORMANCE (S/T)
21. TRADITIONAL R&B PERFORMANCE (S/T)
22. R&B SONG (S/T)
23. PROGRESSIVE R&B ALBUM (A)
24. R&B ALBUM (A)
25. RAP PERFORMANCE (S/T)
26. MELODIC RAP PERFORMANCE (S/T)
27. RAP SONG (S/T)
28. RAP ALBUM (A)
29. SPOKEN WORD POETRY ALBUM (A)

FIELD 4: JAZZ, TRADITIONAL POP, CONTEMPORARY INSTRUMENTAL & MUSICAL THEATER

30. JAZZ PERFORMANCE (S/T)
31. JAZZ VOCAL ALBUM (A)
32. JAZZ INSTRUMENTAL ALBUM (A)
33. LARGE JAZZ ENSEMBLE ALBUM (A)
34. LATIN JAZZ ALBUM (A)
35. ALTERNATIVE JAZZ ALBUM (A)
36. TRADITIONAL POP VOCAL ALBUM (A)
37. CONTEMPORARY INSTRUMENTAL ALBUM (A)
38. MUSICAL THEATER ALBUM (A)

FIELD 5: COUNTRY & AMERICAN ROOTS MUSIC

39. COUNTRY SOLO PERFORMANCE (S/T)
40. COUNTRY DUO/GROUP PERFORMANCE (S/T)
41. COUNTRY SONG (S/T)
42. TRADITIONAL COUNTRY ALBUM (A)
43. CONTEMPORARY COUNTRY ALBUM (A)
44. AMERICAN ROOTS PERFORMANCE (S/T)
45. AMERICANA PERFORMANCE (S/T)
46. AMERICAN ROOTS SONG (S/T)
47. AMERICANA ALBUM (A)
48. BLUEGRASS ALBUM (A)
49. TRADITIONAL BLUES ALBUM (A)
50. CONTEMPORARY BLUES ALBUM (A)
51. FOLK ALBUM (A)
52. REGIONAL ROOTS MUSIC ALBUM (A)

FIELD 6: GOSPEL & CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC

53. GOSPEL PERFORMANCE/SONG (S/T)
54. CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC PERFORMANCE/SONG (S/T)
55. GOSPEL ALBUM (A)
56. CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC ALBUM (A)
57. ROOTS GOSPEL ALBUM (A)

FIELD 7: LATIN, GLOBAL, AFRICAN, REGGAE & NEW AGE, AMBIENT, OR CHANT

58. LATIN POP ALBUM (A)
59. MÚSICA URBANA ALBUM (A)
60. LATIN ROCK OR ALTERNATIVE ALBUM (A)
61. MÚSICA MEXICANA ALBUM (INCLUDING TEJANO) (A)
62. TROPICAL LATIN ALBUM (A)
63. GLOBAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE (S/T)
64. AFRICAN MUSIC PERFORMANCE (S/T)
65. GLOBAL MUSIC ALBUM (A)
66. REGGAE ALBUM (A)
67. NEW AGE, AMBIENT, OR CHANT ALBUM (A)

FIELD 8: CHILDREN'S, COMEDY, AUDIO BOOK NARRATION AND STORYTELLING, VISUAL MEDIA & MUSIC VIDEO/FILM

68. CHILDREN'S MUSIC ALBUM (A)
69. COMEDY ALBUM (A)
70. AUDIO BOOK, NARRATION AND STORYTELLING RECORDING (A)
71. COMPILATION SOUNDTRACK FOR VISUAL MEDIA (A)
72. SCORE SOUNDTRACK FOR VISUAL MEDIA (INCLUDES FILM AND TELEVISION) (A)
73. SCORE SOUNDTRACK FOR VIDEO GAMES AND OTHER INTERACTIVE MEDIA (A)
74. SONG WRITTEN FOR VISUAL MEDIA (S/T)
75. MUSIC VIDEO (V)
76. MUSIC FILM (V)

FIELD 9: PACKAGE, NOTES & HISTORICAL

77. RECORDING PACKAGE (A/S)
78. ALBUM COVER (A)
79. ALBUM NOTES (A)
80. HISTORICAL ALBUM (A)

FIELD 10: PRODUCTION, ENGINEERING, COMPOSITION & ARRANGEMENT

81. ENGINEERED ALBUM, NON-CLASSICAL (A)
82. ENGINEERED ALBUM, CLASSICAL (A)
83. PRODUCER OF THE YEAR, CLASSICAL (A)
84. IMMERSIVE AUDIO ALBUM (A)
85. INSTRUMENTAL COMPOSITION (S/T)
86. ARRANGEMENT, INSTRUMENTAL OR A CAPPELLA (S/T)
87. ARRANGEMENT, INSTRUMENTS AND VOCALS (S/T)

FIELD 11: CLASSICAL

88. ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE (A/S/T)
89. OPERA RECORDING (A)
90. CHORAL PERFORMANCE (A/S/T)
91. CHAMBER MUSIC/SMALL ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE (A/S/T)
92. CLASSICAL INSTRUMENTAL SOLO (A/S/T)
93. CLASSICAL SOLO VOCAL ALBUM (A)
94. CLASSICAL COMPENDIUM (A)
95. CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL COMPOSITION (A/S/T)



(A) = CATEGORY ALLOWS ALBUM ENTRIES
(S) = CATEGORY ALLOWS SINGLE ENTRIES
(T) = CATEGORY ALLOWS TRACK ENTRIES
(V) = CATEGORY ALLOWS VIDEO ENTRIES



THE 68TH GRAMMY AWARDS[®]

BASIC

GUIDELINES

FOR MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION, PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) OR REFER TO [RESOURCE](#) BUTTON ON THE ONLINE ENTRY SITE.

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD: AUGUST 31, 2024 - AUGUST 30, 2025

Recordings must be commercially released, nationally distributed and available from any date within the eligibility period through at least the date of the current year's voting deadline (final ballot). Tracks from an album released during the previous eligibility period may be entered in certain categories, provided the track was not entered in any category the previous year and provided the album did not win a GRAMMY.[®]

RELEASE DATE: Street Date/In-Store Date. Recordings (albums/singles) must be available to the public as stand-alone purchases or streams, audio-only (exceptions: Opera, Immersive Audio and Music Video/Film) by August 30, 2025. Product must be available for sale on a nationwide basis in the United States (general distribution, see below). Imports are not eligible.

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION: Is defined as the broad release of a recording, video, or film available nationwide via brick and mortar, third-party online retailers and/or streaming services. "Streaming services" is defined as paid subscription, full catalog, on-demand streaming/limited download services that have existed as such within the United States for at least one full year as of the submission deadline. All recordings entered must have an assigned ISRC. With the exception of certain Craft categories, a recording that is not on a streaming service is not eligible.

AUTHORIZED RECORDINGS: Recordings must be non-infringing, original works of authorship. To the extent a recording embodies in whole or in part the copyrighted work of a third party, appropriate authorization to use and incorporate such copyrighted work must have been obtained. If allegations are made that a recording is unauthorized and does not meet these criteria, the Academy will consider the allegations and determine, in its sole discretion, the eligibility of such recording.

NEW RECORDINGS: The Recording Academy defines "new recordings" as material that has been recorded within five (5) years of the release date and not previously released. See below definitions of singles, tracks, and albums for additional eligibility information.

- The only categories that allow entries not newly recorded are Best Historical Album, Best Compilation Soundtrack Album, Best Immersive Audio Album (if multichannel mix is new), Best Remixed Recording (if remix is new), Best Recording Package (if package is new), Best Album Cover (if the album cover is new), Best Album Notes (if notes are new), and certain multidisc sets in the Classical Field.

ALBUM DEFINITION: An ALBUM is a collection of audio recordings issued for sale, download or streaming as a unit. To qualify as an album, a release must contain at least five tracks (different songs, not different mixes) and have a total playing time of at least 15 minutes OR it may have any number of tracks if the total playing time is at least 30 minutes. Updated, revised or expanded versions of previously submitted albums are not eligible.

- Albums must contain greater than 75% playing time of newly recorded (recorded within five years of release date), previously unreleased recordings. To be eligible in a specific Genre Category, an album must contain greater than 50% playing time of the genre specified by the category.
 - Singles released during the current eligibility period will be considered "previously unreleased" (for the purpose of defining an album) as long as the singles were not released on an album in any previous eligibility period.
 - Singles released during the previous eligibility period will be considered "previously unreleased" (for the purpose of defining an album) as long as the singles were not entered in a previous awards cycle and were not released on an album in any previous eligibility period.
- The same album may be entered in various categories. For example, Album Of The Year, Best New Artist, Best Pop Vocal Album (a specialized genre category), Album Notes, Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical, and Producer Of The Year. Note, however, that an album is eligible in only ONE category in the specialized genre fields. However, an album may be in one genre category while one or more tracks from the album may be in a different genre category. The screening committee will determine appropriate category placement.
- Sampler albums or albums that are a compilation of tracks from other currently released albums are not eligible.
- Various Artists albums (tribute albums, field recordings, etc.) are eligible in appropriate album categories.

TRACK DEFINITION: A TRACK is a recording on an album. It is not a separate entity. Therefore, if you are entering a track, it will have the same release date as the album and the same UPC or ISRC number.

- The same track may be entered in various categories. For example, Record Of The Year, Song Of The Year, Best New Artist, Best Country Solo Performance (a specialized genre category), Best Country Song, and Best Arrangement Instruments And Vocals. Note, however, that a track is eligible in only ONE performance category in the specialized genre fields (song categories are not considered "performance" categories). The Screening Committee will determine if it's in the appropriate category.
- Tracks from an album released during last year's eligibility period are eligible in the current eligibility period, provided the same tracks were not entered the previous year and the album did not win a GRAMMY. [This excludes Composition, Arrangement, Song Written For Visual Media, Remixed Recording, Songwriter Of The Year (Non-Classical), Producer Of The Year (Classical and Non-Classical), and all Classical categories.]

SINGLE DEFINITION: A SINGLE is defined by the Recording Academy as a commercially released recording that is a separate entity and has been released for sale separately from the album (promotional or radio singles do not qualify as singles). The single should have a different release date and a different UPC or ISRC number from the album.

- A SINGLE should be entered (instead of a TRACK) only if it is a different version/mix from the album track (featuring additional vocalists, etc.) or if it is being released for sale in advance of the album. Please note, however, that only one version/mix of a recording is eligible. The Academy will use the original album version for screening and verification unless specifically instructed otherwise when entered.
- If a different version/mix of a recording by a solo artist features a guest artist, final determination of which mix is used will be made by the record label releasing the original artist version.

SONG DEFINITION: A song must comprise music and lyrics to be eligible in a songwriting category (For purposes of these guidelines, wherever there is a reference to "music and lyrics," melody qualifies as music.) and must have been released on an eligible recording during the eligibility period.

REMIXED RECORDINGS: Remixes of recordings released in a previous eligibility year are not eligible in any category except Best Remixed Recording.

GENERAL TIPS

NUMBER OF ENTRIES: Please use the highest discretion when determining the number of entries submitted. Remember that entering more than one recording for the same artist in the same category may split the vote for that artist during the balloting process.

COMPANY VS. MEMBER ENTRIES: If you are a Member of the Recording Academy who also submits entries as a label representative, please do not duplicate the label entries when you receive your personal Member entry information. The Academy makes no distinction between Company and Member entries. Duplicate entries will be voided.

ENTRIES VS. NOMINATIONS:

Entries are NOT nominations.

- The Online Entry Process (OEP) is not a voting process. Entries are submissions to be considered for nomination by the Recording Academy Voting membership.
- Entries are not votes. Only one entry of the same recording in the same category is necessary (more than one entry of the same recording in the same category is considered a duplicate and will be voided).

TIMELINES: Please pay attention to the OEP timetable. If you have not submitted and/or submitted payment for all entries by the OEP deadline (August 29, 2025), your entries will not be processed.

STREAMING LINKS/PRODUCT: Without streaming links or commercially released product (if applicable), your entries cannot be screened or verified, which can result in disqualification. In addition to receiving an email confirmation and payment receipt for submitted entries, a secondary email containing a packing list will be provided if physical product is required. This email will indicate how many pieces of product is required to be sent to the Academy.

HELP: The Awards Department is here to help. If you have any questions regarding eligibility or categories, please call us before you make your entries at 877.637.6816 or email us at Awards@grammy.com

COMMON REASONS FOR DISQUALIFICATION:

- The same Album/Track/Single was entered in a previous year.
- The entry is not a new recording (see above guidelines).
- Required commercially released entry (when applicable) or streaming link not received by the Recording Academy by the deadline.
- Entry was released outside of the current eligibility year (see above guidelines).
- Entry was not released in the United States (imports are not eligible).

PLEASE REVIEW ALL GUIDELINES BEFORE ENTERING AND REVIEW YOUR ENTRIES BEFORE SUBMITTING

