

Where to Go For Further Information:

Please call the following officers for further information on the range of services for film classification provided by the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority:

Principal Entertainment Standards Tel.: 2594 5787
Control Officer (Film)



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Approval for
Film, Packaging
or Advertising
Material

how to
apply



The Film Censorship Ordinance stipulates that a film intended for exhibition in Hong Kong is required to be submitted to the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) for classification or exemption. It also requires advertising materials of Category III films and packagings of Category III videotapes or laserdiscs to be submitted for approval before public display.

Where to Apply

Application for a Certificate of Approval/Exemption, a Certificate for Packaging or a Certificate for Advertising Material may be made to the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA), 39/F, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong. Application forms may be obtained from the Authority or downloaded from the website: www.tela.gov.hk.

Application for a Certificate of Approval/Exemption

To obtain a Certificate of Approval or a Certificate of Exemption, a person will have to submit the film along with a duly completed Film Submission Form to TELA.

Before the submission of a film, it is advisable to write to the Authority or phone 2594 5766 to book a date on which the film will be examined. With the exception during some peak periods, a film viewing session will normally be assigned to an applicant within seven working days from the date of notice of submission. To be fair to all applicants, this arrangement may not apply to an applicant who submits three or more films on one occasion or makes three or more submissions within a week.

After viewing the submitted film, the censor will decide on the suitability of the exhibition of the film and issue either a Certificate of Approval or a Certificate of Exemption.

When the censor approves the submitted film for exhibition, he will classify it as either:

- (a) Category I (Suitable for All Ages);
- (b) Category IIA (Not Suitable for Children);
- (c) Category IIB (Not Suitable for Young Persons and Children); or
- (d) Category III (Persons Aged 18 and Above Only).

A Certificate of Exemption will be issued if the censor considers that the submitted film falls within one of the following classes or descriptions which is suitable for exemption from classification:—

- (a) Cultural films
- (b) Educational films
- (c) Instructional films
- (d) Promotional films
- (e) Sports films
- (f) Travelogues

- (g) Musical films
- (h) Religious films

Under the performance pledge on film classification, a person submitting the film will be notified of the decision within three working days from the date of receipt of a submission if the film is exempted from classification, or within eight working days if the film is to be classified.

Application for a Certificate for Packaging

All packaging in respect of videotapes or laserdiscs containing Category III films shall be submitted to TELA together with a duly completed Packaging Submission Form. An applicant will be notified on the decision on whether or not an opaque cover is required, within two working days from the date of receipt of a submission.

Application for a Certificate for Advertising Material

Advertising materials of Category III films should be submitted to TELA for approval before public display. Advertising materials of films which have not been given a classification, or have a classification other than Category III, may also be submitted for approval.

Advertising material should be submitted to the Authority together with a duly completed Advertising Material Submission Form. The Authority may, within two working days of such submission, approve the advertising material and shall issue a certificate.

Fees Payable

The fee for examination of a film:

<i>Film Type</i>	<i>Fee</i>
For a still film	\$22
For any film other than a still film	\$65 per minute of running time or part thereof

The fee for exemption of a film:

<i>Film Type</i>	<i>Fee</i>
For a still film	\$33
For any film other than a still film	\$26 per minute of running time or part thereof

The fee for examination of packaging: \$425

The fee for examination of advertising material: \$140/item

(per item means a poster; a billboard; a newspaper advertisement or a set of no more than 10 film stills.)