

CATEGORY ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Screening for eligibility and category placement occurs from the time entries are first received until the first ballot is finalized.

CATEGORY SCREENING

Entries in most categories are screened by committees of genre experts to determine appropriate category and field placement. If a genre screening committee determines that a recording should be moved to another genre, the recording is forwarded and screened by that genre committee.

The Screening Meeting process brings together experts in all the various fields, including individuals from Chapters in all parts of the country, to listen to recordings and make category determinations. In addition to a National Screening Committee, which decides Best New Artist eligibility and makes final decisions on screening issues that cannot be resolved by the genre screening committees, there are separate screening committees for:

- Jazz
- Alternative Music
- Global Music
- Children’s Music
- New Age
- Music for Visual Media
- Rock
- Pop
- Traditional Pop
- Contemporary Instrumental
- Rap/R&B
- Regional Roots
- Reggae
- Classical
- Latin
- Country
- Blues
- American Roots
- Dance/Electronic
- Gospel/CCM
- Musical Theater

Entries in other categories such as Comedy and Spoken Word are screened by staff and, if necessary, by consultation with experts in the genre.