

How do I know if my submission was received?

After you press submit, the screen will show the message: We have received your submission and look forward to reading your entry.

When does the competition close?

Submissions will be accepted until 11.59pm AEST Tuesday 14 December 2021.

When will the winner be announced?

The winner will be announced on Wednesday 15 June 2022.

Can I enter more than one manuscript?

Entrants may only enter this competition once.

Can I enter a manuscript that I entered last year?

Manuscripts that have been substantially re-written are eligible.

Is there a word limit?

Manuscripts submitted must be no longer than 100,000 words.

Do I need to submit a complete manuscript?

Only complete manuscripts will be accepted.

Are YA manuscripts eligible?

The judges will be looking for a manuscript to sit on the Adult publishing literary list.

Can I submit non-fiction?

The Penguin Literary Prize is for a work of fiction.

Is commercial fiction eligible?

The judges will be looking for a manuscript to sit on the Adult publishing literary list.

Can I enter as an Australian citizen living overseas?

To be eligible for the prize, entrants need to be currently living in Australia.

Can I disclose my manuscript to other publishers?

To be eligible for the prize, manuscripts cannot be published or be currently submitted to an agent or other publisher for consideration.

Can I enter my manuscript that I have self-published?

Self-published manuscripts are ineligible.

What are my IP rights to my manuscript?

You retain copyright in your manuscript. You would grant us a licence to share your manuscript within Penguin Random House Australia and to judges so that we can run our competition. If you are the winner, you would also grant us a licence to reproduce an extract of your work on our website in connection with our competition.

Do I have to publish my manuscript with Penguin Random House Australia?

If you are the winner, you would grant us the first option of publishing your work. You would agree to negotiate with us in good faith a publishing agreement on fair and reasonable market terms. One of those terms is that the \$20,000 prize would be treated as an advance against any royalties.

As a condition to being shortlisted, you would grant us first option of publishing your work and agree to negotiate with us in good faith on fair and reasonable market terms for a period of 12 weeks from the end of the prize being announced. Please refer to the conditions of entry for more details.

Can I keep the \$20,000 if I ultimately do not agree to a publishing agreement?

Yes. The \$20,000 would be treated as an advance only if the winner agrees to a publishing agreement with Penguin Random House Australia.

For any more questions, email prhliteraryprize@penguinrandomhouse.com.au