



## THE RICHELL PRIZE – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Am I eligible to enter if I have previously published a book?

That depends! The Richell Prize is for unpublished writers, but there are a few exceptions. To determine whether you are eligible, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Is the book self-published?
  - a. Yes – then you are still eligible to enter, however your entry must be a new, unpublished work.
  - b. No – see next question
2. Is the book published with a commercial publishing house? N.B. For the purposes of the prize, this includes small press and independent publishers.
  - a. Yes – unfortunately you are not eligible to enter, unless your answer is yes to questions 3 or 4.
  - b. No – see next question
3. Is the book a children's picture book? (*Not* a chapter book or YA)
  - a. Yes – then you can still enter the Richell Prize
  - b. No – see next question
4. Is the book a scholarly reference book or textbook e.g. a practical non-fiction book published with a medical publisher?
  - a. Yes – you are still eligible to enter
  - b. No – if you're still not sure, you can email [info@emergingwritersfestival.org.au](mailto:info@emergingwritersfestival.org.au) and ask.

Am I eligible to enter if I am an Australian citizen or resident currently residing overseas?

Yes. Any Australian Citizen or resident aged 18 or older who has not had their work published by a commercial publishing house is eligible. Because of COVID-19, this year you do not have to be residing in Australia to enter.

Can I enter my Young Adult (YA) Fiction manuscript into the prize?

YA and works for children are not eligible for the prize.

Can I enter my collection of essays or short stories into the prize?

Yes! In fact, one of the shortlisted entries in 2015 was later published with Hachette – Brodie Lancaster's collection of essays *No Way! Ok, Fine*.

How do I format my submission?

As outlined in the Terms and Conditions, entries must be submitted as PDFs, set up as an A4 double-spaced document in 12pt Roman font (e.g. Garamond or Times New Roman) with 3 cm margins and page numbers on each page. Please ensure you submit your sample chapters and synopsis as one



single file, with the manuscript title as the file name. Don't put your name anywhere on the manuscript or in the file name – otherwise it will immediately be deemed ineligible.

If you're worried about space, the synopsis and chapter breakdown pages can be single spaced, as long as your sample chapters are double spaced.

My book has an introduction or prologue. Should I treat that as a chapter when submitting the first three chapters?

You may include your introduction or prologue in addition to the first three chapters, as long as the total word count does not exceed 20,000 words in length.

What if my first three chapters are really short?

The aim of the sample chapters is to give the judges a sense of your writing style and voice, so if you feel you need to submit more than the first three chapters to do this that is completely fine, as long as the whole submission is under 20,000 words. Don't feel you have to submit that much though - sometimes less can be more!