

Eligibility and Conditions of Entry

Thank you for your interest in participating in this project. Before you begin your entry, here is some useful information about eligibility, the project timeline, key dates, assessment, and conditions of entry.

Eligibility Criteria

1. You must be over the age of 18 on 8th January 2024.
2. The programme is open to submissions of work written in English by writers of any nationality or descent who are permanently resident in the UK.
3. There are three strands to the programme: a book strand with Faber & Faber, a journalism strand with The Daily Mirror, and a non-fiction strand with Substack. Each strand requires that you submit a specific piece of work.
 - For Faber & Faber, we ask that you submit the first ten pages or the first chapter (any length) of your work in progress. This can be fiction of any genre, non-fiction, or narrative non-fiction such as memoir or short stories. We do not accept poetry, writing in translation, or children's writing.
 - For The Daily Mirror, we ask that you submit a 500-word journalistic article on the theme of 'hope'. This can take the form of a feature piece or interview exploring an inspiring or hopeful story or person, or it could be a piece of journalistic writing covering something from your own life which speaks to the theme.
 - For Substack, we ask that you submit 500 words detailing your concept for your Substack newsletter. Your submission should explain why you are interested in your topic, why you are suited to writing it, and why you believe Substack is a fitting platform for you as a writer.
4. As this programme is designed to specifically support writers from working-class, lower income and underrepresented backgrounds to gain access to the writing industries, we have taken a commonly agreed set of socio-economic background measures to help us to identify as objectively as possible candidates' class status. You will be asked to answer a set of questions which will enable us to check that you are eligible for the programme.
5. We appreciate that those from working-class and lower income backgrounds often face intersecting challenges, including but not limited to ethnicity, disability, sexuality, gender identity, age and religious beliefs; therefore, we also ask each applicant to explain in no more than 150 words how your working-class, lower income or underrepresented background impacts on your ability to pursue a career in writing, noting any intersecting challenges you may face.
6. We define new and aspiring writers as writers who are not yet earning their main income from their writing. You may be presenting your first piece of writing for this opportunity, or your work may be beginning to appear online, or you may be building up a writing portfolio alongside other work or commitments.
7. You are not eligible if you have published a full-length work with a publisher (such as a novel, memoir, or short story collection), or if you have already achieved paid published work regularly in regional or national news media in print or online.
8. Bloggers and those writing for community, trade, or work-related organisations or online magazines and sites in an unpaid capacity may apply if they meet the eligibility criteria.

9. If you have self-published a novel/s through an e-book platform or print on demand service and are self-managing your publication, you are eligible to apply but must outline the details of this as part of your application.
10. If you are applying for the Substack opportunity and already have an account on the platform you must share details of this, and how many paid or unpaid subscribers that you have as part of your application.
11. New Writing North withholds the right to make final decisions on eligibility. Our decision will be final, and no communication will be entered into on the subject.

Conditions of Entry

1. Employees and trustees, and the family members of staff at New Writing North may not enter for this programme.
2. All entries must be made through the programme's Submittable online portal. We do not accept submissions by email or post. Once received the system will send you an automated acknowledgement to confirm that your entry has been received.
3. To be eligible, submissions to the awards must have been made by **10am on Monday 8th January 2024**. The portal will close to applications at this time and submissions received after this point in time will not be considered.
4. Incomplete submissions will be rejected.
5. The work that you enter must be your own original work.
6. The name that you enter under must be your legal name and not a pen name. If required, you will be able to use a pen name for publication at a later stage. An identity check will take place for those shortlisted for the programme and everyone will be asked to provide evidence of their identities and home address.
7. All submissions must be written by a single author. We do not accept collaborative writing.
8. Copyright for the work that you submit must be and will remain yours.
9. The final 16 writers chosen to participate in the project must commit fully to the plan of activities and sign a participation agreement with New Writing North.
10. The 16 selected participants will be expected to participate in the associated academic research and all media and publicity attached to the programme. Support will be given with undertaking any media and publicity.
11. By entering your work, you are confirming to us that the work that you are submitting is to your knowledge eligible and that you have read and agreed to the Conditions of Entry.
12. We will write to everyone who entered and inform them of the outcome of their application once the selection process has concluded. We apologise in advance that we are unable to enter into individual correspondence with writers about unsuccessful submissions and that we cannot give feedback to everyone due to the number of entries that we are likely to receive.
13. We reserve the right to vary the rules and conditions of entry and to make any amendments to the published schedule as are deemed necessary.

Key dates for the programme

The programme will take place for participations from April 2024 until the end of March 2025. During this time, you will be regularly engaged with New Writing North and your mentor. During May and June 2024 several activities will take place in London and Shropshire.

1. Deadline for entry is 10am on 8th January 2024.
2. The final 16 chosen participants will be announced in April.
3. We will let everyone know the outcome of their application prior to this date.
4. The winning writers will start the programme in April 2024, and the programme will run for 12 months.
5. Mentors will be assigned to writers and meetings will take place monthly from May 2024.
6. The residential writing retreat with Arvon will take place the week of 27th May 2024 at The Hirst in Shropshire. This venue is fully accessible.
7. Industry insight days with project partners will take place during June 2024 in London and online.
8. A celebratory event will be held towards the end of the programme, in the spring of 2025.

Assessment and shortlisting:

Our team of assessors are experienced and professional writers and journalists and are drawn from a wide demographic of backgrounds and lived experience.

All entries to the programme will be assessed and judged as follows:

1. An internal sift at New Writing North to discount incomplete or ineligible applications.
2. A first round of external assessment where all work is read by at least two reviewers and a longlist of entries is arrived at.
3. A second round of external assessment which will focus on the longlisted work.
4. A longlist of work is considered by New Writing North and a shortlist of work that considers the balance of the final list will create a shortlist.
5. Partner organisations consider a shortlist of work and choose the final participants.

All personal and demographic information is hidden from assessors during stages 1-3 of the process. At longlist stage this information will be considered, and eligibility checks undertaken by New Writing North ahead of work going forward as part of the final shortlist. Partner organisations will not have access to this information when making their final decisions.

Good luck with making your application. We look forward to reading it!