

## **What are the benefits of transitioning to online voting?**

Given that our membership is comprised of working professionals in music careers, online voting provides increased flexibility. Here are a few of the key benefits:

- No invalid or incomplete ballots can be accepted online; therefore no ballots will be disqualified because of user error.
- The entire voting process is online, not just the ballot. Nominated recordings will be available for review within the online voting platform for the final round.
- This new process is a greener alternative to the paper balloting system.
- Voting can also be done via handheld devices, not just desktop/laptops, and allows touring musicians to access ballots more easily.
- The secure voting platform and auditing further decreases the likelihood of voter fraud.

## **Why did it take so long for the Recording Academy to transition to online voting?**

When making the decision to transition to online voting, security was of the utmost importance. Now that all of the necessary precautions have been taken in order to provide a safe and secure voting platform, we are able to fully integrate online voting as part of our member experience. Additionally, we wanted to provide a more immersive experience. As a result, voters will be able to listen to nominated recordings within the voting platform when considering selections in the final round.

## **How is the Academy ensuring that the online balloting system is secure?**

Our IT professionals and auditors have spent a significant amount of time and effort to ensure that all necessary measures have been taken to secure the application. The result is a safe, yet easy-to-navigate, system that includes two-factor authentication, providing an extra layer of security.

## **Who will be eligible to vote online?**

As the world's only peer-recognized music award, the GRAMMY Award is voted on by the Recording Academy's voting membership, comprised solely music creators, including artists, producers, songwriters, and engineers. All Voting Members in good standing will be eligible to vote online for the 60th Annual GRAMMY Awards.

To ensure you are in good standing, simply confirm that your membership is up to date. Questions about your membership status? Reach out to [membership@grammy.com](mailto:membership@grammy.com) for assistance.

## **I am a Voting Member of the Recording Academy in good standing. How will I register to vote online?**

As a Voting Member, you automatically qualify to vote online during each of the two balloting periods. Over the next few months, the Recording Academy will send you a series of helpful emails with information you need to vote prepare.

## **When do I have to become a member in order to vote online?**

Here are a few key dates and deadlines to keep in mind:

- Sept.15, 2017: Last day to become a Voting Member in order to vote in the first round
- Nov.15, 2017: Last day to become a Voting Member in order to vote in the final round

## **In how many categories may I vote?**

Eligible voting members may vote in the four General Field categories (Album Of The Year, Record Of The Year, Song Of The Year, and Best New Artist) and up to 15 additional award categories, based on their areas and genres of expertise. To preserve the integrity of the voting process, voters are instructed to only vote in those categories in which they are most knowledgeable and qualified. The online system will let you know how many of the 15 eligible categories you have used as you move through the application. The voting system will automatically block you from placing votes in too many categories.

**Will I be able to vote via a mobile device or tablet?**

Yes. The voting platform has been optimized for handheld devices such as smartphones and tablets.

**Will the Recording Academy have access to information about who I voted for?**

No. Just as was the case with paper ballots, our accounting firm, Deloitte, will receive and handle all voting data, independently and confidentially.

**What if my manager's email address is listed as my contact? Will I be able to log-in and vote?**

No. In order to vote, each member will be required to use a unique email address that reaches them directly. Please contact the Membership department in order to ensure we have the most up-to-date contact information on file: [membership@grammy.com](mailto:membership@grammy.com).

**How will you control potential voter fraud?**

Vote trading, block voting, and other types of organized voter fraud are prohibited. Our accounting firm, Deloitte, is in place to detect irregular voting patterns and disqualifies ballots determined to be fraudulent.

**When does online voting begin?**

First-round ballots will be available online starting Oct. 16 at 9 a.m. PST via GRAMMYPro.com, the Recording Academy's official membership portal. Prior to that date, the Academy will send Voting Members detailed information about how to register and prepare for online voting. The first-round ballot will close on Oct. 29 at 6:00 p.m. PST. Final-round voting begins Dec. 7 at 9:00 a.m. PST and ends Dec. 21 at 6:00 p.m. PST.

**Will there still be two rounds of voting?**

Yes. There are two rounds of voting. The first round determines GRAMMY nominees; the second round determines GRAMMY winners.

**Is it possible for an invalid ballot to be submitted online?**

No. One of the benefits of online voting is that incomplete/invalid ballots cannot be submitted, thus eliminating the possibility of having to disqualify a ballot due to human error. The only way a ballot would be classified as invalid is if the Voting Member does not final submit the ballot when all of their selections have been made. Instructions on how to final submit your ballot will be outlined in detail within the voting platform.

**May I vote if I have recordings entered this year?**

Yes. Recording Academy Voting Members are eligible to vote in any Awards cycle, including ones in which they have recordings entered.

### **How do I receive notifications about online voting?**

Keep your membership up to date and be sure to provide us with the best email address possible so we can keep you informed. Additionally, make sure you haven't opted out of receiving emails from the Recording Academy. We'll be reaching out during the lead-up to the voting period in order to help you adequately prepare.

### **How can I access the music that will be appearing on the ballot this year? Will I be able to listen to all eligible recordings while voting online?**

If accessing the voting platform within the United States, voters will be able to listen to the nominated recordings via the listening function during the final round of voting. Our clearances require us to geo-block streaming outside of these territories but all other voting functionality will exist when voting worldwide.

### **How do I request a paper ballot?**

We highly encourage all of our members to vote online, and will have support staff available to help walk you through the process. However, voting members are able to request a paper ballot by emailing [ballot@grammy.com](mailto:ballot@grammy.com).

### **Where can I find a full list of the entries and nominees?**

The full list of entries or nominees will be available within the online voting platform. However, the full list will also be available in PDF format via [www.grammypro.com](http://www.grammypro.com), our online membership portal.

### **What are the key dates for this year's awards cycle?**

**Eligibility Period:** Oct. 1, 2016–Sept. 30, 2017

**First-Round Ballot Period:** Oct. 16–29, 2017

**Nominations:** Nov. 28, 2017

**Final-Round Ballot Period:** Dec. 7–21, 2017

**60th Annual GRAMMY Awards:** Jan. 28, 2018