



Entry Information for Publishers

The Highland Book Prize, established in 2017, celebrates the finest work that recognises the rich and diverse culture, heritage, and landscape of the Scottish Highlands. This annual prize is open to work in fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Presented by the Highland Society of London and facilitated by Moniack Mhor, Scotland's Creative Writing Centre, this prize aims to bring recognition to and develop a readership for books created in or about the Highlands.

The prize is open to books published between 1st October 2025 and 30th September 2026 (early proofs are accepted for submission). The winner of the 2026 Highland Book Prize will be announced summer 2027 and will be awarded £2000 prize money and a week's writing retreat at Moniack Mhor Creative Writing Centre. Other opportunities such as reader engagements and teaching may be available at Moniack Mhor and through partner organisations.

Key Dates (subject to change)

Wednesday 1 st July 2026	Entries open
Monday 31 st August 2026	Entries close at 5pm
March 2027	Longlist announced
May 2027	Shortlist announced
June 2027	Winner announced

To be eligible for submission to the Highland Book Prize, publishers must confirm that each title complies with at least one of the following criteria:

- Promotes or concerns itself with Highland culture, heritage, or landscape
- **or**
- Has a significant amount of activity set in the Highlands
- **or**
- The author(s) was born/brought up in the Highlands
- **or**
- The author(s) is a permanent resident in the Highlands.



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For the purpose of the Highland Book Prize the “Highlands” are defined as the Local Authority areas Argyll & Bute, Highland, Western Isles, Orkney Islands, Shetland Islands and Moray.

Eligible titles must also adhere to the following rules:

- a) Books must be published by an established UK-based publisher and imprint between 1st October 2025 and 30th September 2026 for the 2026 prize. We will accept draft copies of books that are due to be published by 30th September 2026. An established UK publisher is defined as a publisher which publishes a list of titles by a range of authors with ISBNs; and sells and distributes its books nationally through recognised booksellers and online retailers. If a book has been previously published in the UK, it will not be eligible.
- b) Works of fiction and non-fiction are eligible. Collections of short stories and poetry are eligible. Young Adult books are eligible. Books written in English, Scots, and Gaelic are eligible.
- c) Academic textbooks, reference books, and picture-led books are not eligible. Books published solely as eBooks will not be eligible. Self-published books are not eligible.
- d) Only books submitted by publishers or called in by the prize organisers will be considered.
- e) Submission of a book will be taken as acceptance of and adherence to the Highland Book Prize rules by the publisher, **who must have gained the consent of the author(s) to submit their work.**
- f) The decision of the judging panel as to whether a book is eligible shall be binding and no correspondence shall be entered into.
- g) The judging panel will determine the longlist, shortlist, and winner in accordance with the Highland Book Prize Judging Process (which may be amended from time to time); the judging panel are required to select a single winning book each year.
- h) Books must not be written by more than two authors. If a co-authored book wins, the prize money will be shared between the co-authors.



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- i) Publishers are encouraged to ensure that subsequent print runs of the shortlisted (and/or prize winning) works refer to the shortlisting (and/or prize) on the front or back cover, and that Highland Book Prize branding will be used; the submitting publisher must bring this to the attention of the literary agent, and all relevant parties.
- j) Publishers, agents, and authors are required to keep all information communicated to them in advance of the longlist, shortlist, and winner announcements strictly confidential until they are officially announced by prize organisers.
- k) Entries should be submitted as PDF **and** epub files where possible. We may also request hard copies at a later stage in the judging process.
- l) We will eventually request that up to 7 hard copies of the longlisted titles are delivered to the Highland Book Prize organisers at the time of announcement.
- m) The Highland Book Prize commits to promoting all of the longlisted titles of the book throughout the prize period.
- n) Judges and employees of organisations associated with the prize are not eligible to submit their work for consideration.

To submit please read the following guidelines and complete the entry form below.

For any further details or clarification please email

highlandbookprize@moniackmhor.org.uk



Submitting a book

Please find link to entry form [here](#), or access through our website:

<http://www.highlandbookprize.org.uk/apply/>

We request submission as early as possible in the submission period, dates below:

- Wednesday 1st July 2026 Entries open
- Monday 31st August 2026 Entries close at 5pm

For queries regarding late entries please contact us on

highlandbookprize@moniackmhor.org.uk.

To submit:

- **Fully complete the entry form here:** [Highland Book Prize 2026 SUBMISSIONS – Fill in form](#)
 - If you require word or PDF version, please contact us to request.
- **Please email PDF and epub file (if available)** of the title, clearly named 'Title_Author_Publisher' to highlandbookprize@moniackmhor.org.uk.
 - Please let us know if an audio version of the title can be made available.

Please complete [the entry form](#) and submit copies of books as early as possible in the submission period.

If you have any questions, please email the team: highlandbookprize@moniackmhor.org.uk