



RULES & REGULATIONS

Artists who are eligible to be included on the ballot must have product that was **released, sold and played nationally during the eligibility period of October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017**. Eligible entries **MUST** chart in the **top 25** for **at least four (4) weeks** on **at least two** of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan & BDS) during the eligibility period.

Eligibility Period: October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017

The record companies make initial selections. Online Eligibility packages are available to the record companies to submit their artists from September 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017. They are asked to list the artist(s) they feel should be considered for nomination in the 28 categories. Once these completed online packages are received, an independent nominating committee verifies their eligibility and confirms that the artist is placed in the appropriate categories on the initial ballot. Each category is limited based on the dictate and discretion of the Stellar Awards Nomination Committee therefore all entries **cannot** be included on the ballot. Technical quality, lyrics, voice quality, charting duration, project content and charting performance will be reviewed for inclusion on the ballot. All Stellar Awards Nomination Committee selections are final.

The Committee consists of impartial, knowledgeable individuals who objectively look at the eligibility packages and charts. All or a portion of the Committee is changed each year.

Once the content of the initial ballot is ready, it is available online to the voting body.

On the initial ballot, each voter is asked to make the selection for each category based upon the voter's preference. An independent accounting firm tabulates the votes. The recording Artist(s) receiving the largest number of votes in each category will be placed on the final online Stellar Award ballot for his/her category.

Periodically, an artist is erroneously omitted from a category in which they should be placed. In these circumstances, The SAGMA Executive Board and Nominating Committee reserve the right to correct the omission. The reverse is also true, if an artist is in an inappropriate category or does not meet the eligibility criteria, The SAGMA Executive Board and Nominating Committee reserves the right to correct the error.

Once the final ballot is tabulated, the Stellar Awards nominations in each category are made public during a press tour in January, 2018. The Stellar Awards winners, however, will not be disclosed to anyone prior to the announcement made by guest presenters during the actual television taping of the show and the pre-show. An independent accounting firm will provide the names of winners during the taping.