

## GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

The Competition is open to pianists holding U.S. citizenship (native born or naturalized), born between 1990 and 2004, demonstrating a professional level of performance.

*Previous First Prize Winners of this Competition are not eligible.*

**PLEASE READ ALL RULES AND REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY BEFORE STARTING THE APPLICATION**

**Contact the Chopin Foundation with any questions: [info@chopin.org](mailto:info@chopin.org) • 305-868-0624**

Online application can be found [HERE](#)

**Application deadline is November 1, 2019.**

Please note: a separate application needs to be submitted to the International Chopin Competition in **Warsaw** **by December 1, 2019**. More information at <http://en.chopin.nifc.pl/institute/chopincompetition/rules>

**The following MUST be uploaded along with the completed application form:**

1. Proof of age and of U.S. citizenship (i.e., birth certificate, passport)
2. Two letters of recommendation in support of the Competition applicant provided by pedagogues or outstanding music personalities. **All letters must include the mailing address, email and phone number of the recommending individual.** Letters may be uploaded with the online application - **OR** - the letters may be EMAILED directly by the recommending individual **from their professional email address** to [info@chopin.org](mailto:info@chopin.org). Emailed recommendation letters must be received on or before November 1, 2019.
3. Copies of diplomas and/or certificates from schools of music, if applicable.
4. Three current photographs, including at least one head-shot photo, to be used in the Competition publications (300–1200 dpi; accepted formats – jpg, gif, bmp, jpeg),
5. A short biography of the applicant (up to 1,000 characters)
6. Documents showing artistic activities and achievements for the last three years (reviews, concert programs, awards, etc.)
7. Recent video recordings containing **(a)** the complete program required for **Stage I of the Tenth National Chopin Piano Competition** ([see Repertoire Stage I listing](#)), **AND (b) two Mazurkas chosen from the following opuses: 17, 24, 30, 33, 41, 50, 56, 59.** The works may be performed in any order, with the exception of the set of Etudes which have to be performed one after another. The video image must show the pianist's hands while playing and the right side of his/her **whole figure**, filmed with one camera without cuts during the performance of a piece. Volume control in the recording is not allowed. **All pieces must be recorded in one place and at the same time, played from memory.** Videos will be uploaded as three separate files - 1) the Etudes, 2) the Selections from # 2 and #3 and 3) the Mazurkas.

**NOTE:** Applicants should utilize the best possible video and audio equipment to record the application files. These files represent the first and only opportunity for applicants to display their pianistic abilities to the section Jury and should be of the highest possible quality to create a positive impression. Be sure your setting and attire are professional and appropriate, your piano is in good tune, and the sound quality accurately reflects your musicality. For best sound quality, use external microphones (mounted independently of camera). Listen to and watch the video files before uploading to guarantee the quality of the recording.

## GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS (continued)

8. List of the uploaded pieces in order, including the edition of Chopin's works used.
9. List of pieces to be performed in ALL FOUR stages of the competition. List must include the edition used and exact timing of each work.

**A non-refundable application fee of \$125.00 will be charged at the time of application.**

***The Chopin Foundation strongly recommends that applications be submitted well in advance of the deadline. Applications that are incomplete or received after the deadline will not be accepted.***

A candidate who has supplied misinformation on his/her application or on the uploaded material will be automatically disqualified.

The Selection Jury, consisting of acclaimed American pianists, will select not more than 26 contestants and up to four alternates. All applicants will be notified by email of acceptance or rejection by **January 1, 2020**.

The candidate's submission of his/her Competition application is considered as the candidate's acceptance of the Competition Rules and means that an agreement has been concluded between the Chopin Foundation and the candidate concerning all matters provided for in these Rules.

**All information contained in this document is correct at the time of publication.  
However, the Chopin Foundation reserves the right to make changes if circumstances dictate.**

## COMPETITION RULES FOR ACCEPTED CONTESTANTS continues on page 3

**[Click Here for Competition Repertoire](#)**

## COMPETITION RULES FOR ACCEPTED CONTESTANTS

1. Travel expenses to and from Miami are the responsibility of the contestants. They will be housed in private homes. Practice facilities and local transportation will be provided.
2. Contestants not advanced to the next round are not obliged to stay for the remainder of the Competition, but are invited to do so.
3. Contestants must arrive in Miami no later than **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2020**.
4. Upon arrival, contestants will immediately register with the Competition Office by phone or email.
5. All contestants will be **required to attend a briefing session on Friday (February 21)** morning and at the same meeting will draw numbers for the order of performance for all stages of the Competition through the Semi-Finals.
6. The Chopin Foundation reserves the right to produce and distribute, without restriction or fee, all recordings of the entire Competition or parts thereof, including the application recordings and Finals.
7. Sessions may, by permission of the Chopin Foundation, be broadcast live, filmed and/or recorded for subsequent broadcast, telecast or film documentary, and photographed by and for the press or for other publicity purposes, all without fee to the participants.
8. Within the scope of the rights obtained under these Rules, the Chopin Foundation will be fully authorized to transfer these rights to others, to grant licenses and further authorizations. The contestant will not be entitled to any additional remuneration arising out of this.
9. The [Competition Repertoire](#) must be played from memory.
10. The texts of all available editions of Chopin's works are admissible; however, the Chopin Foundation recommends the Urtext of the National Edition of the Works of Fryderyk Chopin (ed. Professor Jan Ekier).
11. Contestants are obliged to specify in their applications the edition of Chopin's works they will be using and the exact timing of each work.
12. A contestant may alter his/her program for any stage of the Competition by informing the Chopin Foundation of the change by **January 10, 2020**.
13. The same piece cannot be played in different stages of the Competition.
14. The First-Prize Winner will be responsible to appear in all concert engagements arranged by the Chopin Foundation.

### JURY

1. The Competition Jury will consist of nationally and internationally acclaimed musicians.
2. Jurors will disqualify themselves in the case of contestants who are related to them or have had a direct personal or professional relationship at any time during the five years preceding the Competition.
3. The Jury makes final decisions as to awarding prizes and distinctions.
4. The Jury's decisions are final and not subject to appeal.
5. The Competition Director's decisions are final on all matters outside the jurisdiction of the Competition Jury.

### ADDITIONAL RULES:

All Competition performances, held in three stages and the finals, will be open to the public.

The Jury will advance to the second stage not more than 18 contestants, not more than 12 to the semifinals, and up to six to the finals.

Each winner is solely responsible for reporting and paying any and all applicable taxes related to the prize(s) and paying any expenses associated with any prize which are not specifically provided for in the official rules. Each winner must provide the Chopin Foundation with valid identification and a valid taxpayer identification number or social security number before any prize will be awarded. Any person winning over \$600 in prizes will receive an IRS form 1099 at the end of the calendar year and a copy of such form will be filed with the IRS.

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