

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE ACCREDITATION GUIDELINES FOR THE 2026 FIA FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

These Accreditation Guidelines are applicable to the 2026 FIA Formula One World Championship (the “Championship”). The Fédération Internationale de l’Automobile (“FIA”) owns the Championship and recognises the value of the media for reporting on the Championship, provided that such coverage respects both the intellectual property rights that have been licensed by FIA to the Formula 1 Commercial Rights Holder and third parties associated with the Championship.

Applicants for media accreditation must carefully read these Guidelines before submitting their application. All accredited parties and their journalists, photographers and editors are required to adhere to these Guidelines.

Media Accreditation is granted at the sole discretion of the FIA and may be revoked at any time without notice.

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1. ACCREDITATION PROCESS

All international requests from publications or agencies for race-by-race or permanent accreditation must be made via the FIA’s Accreditation Management System: F1.ams.fia.com

Applications from publications for their national event – meaning an event that takes place in the same country as that under which a publication is registered in the FIA Accreditation Management System – must be addressed to the National Press Office of each circuit.

First-time applicants (publications / agencies) must register before any application for accreditation can be submitted. Registrants will be **required** to upload a number of documents on the system. Successful registration does not mean that any applications made from the registered account will automatically be successful – the FIA will periodically remove unused accounts, as well as those that are not updated with recent examples of suitable coverage of the championship (see Point 2 below).

The validity of registration request is checked by the FIA and, if successful, the registrant will receive an email which will give access to the Accreditation Management System. Only then can an accreditation application be submitted.

The process is most simply defined as follows (see Point 4 below for further details):

Registration -> [Account must be Approved] -> Create Applicant Profile(s) -> Create Application(s)

Please note that the FIA reserves the right to refuse access to the Accreditation Management System.

The Accreditation Management System will allow users to apply for accreditation for any event of the 2026 FIA Formula One World Championship. Permanent pass applications for the 2026 FIA Formula One World Championship will open in December 2025. The Accreditation Management System allows users to create and monitor their applications for media credentials.

2. ACCREDITATION PRINCIPLES

2.1 Publications and Agencies

Editors of publications and agencies are asked to abide by the following principles to ensure that media accreditation is restricted to professional journalists and photographers only:

The FIA considers the media pass to be a working tool to be used only by genuine members of the media. Publishers, marketing personnel, copy sub-editors, staff of the publication's secretariat, social media managers, influencers etc. cannot be accredited as media.

The FIA only accredits publications and agencies:

- a) with a minimum circulation whose size and quality fulfil the criteria of the FIA;
- b) with a format and quality which fulfil the criteria of the FIA;
- c) which are available to the public in sales outlets (for publications only).

Internal magazines of companies, trade magazines and newsletters will not be accredited as media. However, at the sole discretion of the FIA, and where the quality and circulation criteria justify their consideration, such magazines may be eligible for accreditation on a case-by-case basis. TV and radio as well as commercial photographers (those photographers who supply only commercial entities and do not supply any form of media outlet) must send their accreditation application to the commercial rights holder:

Formula One Management Ltd, 2 ST JAMES'S MARKET, LONDON, SW1Y 4AH Great Britain Email
Suzanne Simmonds, Sheila Pattni and Louisa Wright-Watts: ssimmonds@f1.com / spattni@f1.com / lwright-watts@f1.com

Under no circumstances will advertising, public relations agencies or similar companies and organisations be accredited as media, nor will the FIA issue any accreditation to representatives (press officers or otherwise) of sponsors, suppliers, engine suppliers, teams, drivers, etc.

The FIA will only accredit media from outside the country in which the event is held. National media must apply to the National Press Officer (e.g. Spanish press applying for the Spanish Grand Prix must apply to the National Press Officer whilst press from countries other than Spain must apply to the FIA). Any race-by-race media applications for permanently-accredited publications must be made using the FIA Accreditation Management System in all cases (including national media).

Accreditation requests of the central and local offices of the major international press agencies (AFP, ANSA, AP, DPA, EFE, JIJI, KYODO, Press Association, Reuters, etc.) will always be handled by the FIA. Requests from the local offices must be accompanied by a letter from the agency's main headquarters.

2.2 Websites

Website accreditation is intended for professional stand-alone internet editorial/news coverage only. It is not to be used for any other purposes, including but not limited to public relations, promotional, commercial or entertainment use.

While the FIA understands the increasing prevalence of social media as a form of media outlet, it implements a strict policy on any individual or organisation whose main output is via third party platforms or which relies predominantly on the content of others to gain reach. The FIA encourages such platforms to exist for the good of the sport, however it does not recognise the need for individuals to be accredited as media in order to fulfil this function.

The number of websites that can be accredited is limited. An application may be refused even where all the Accreditation Criteria are met.

A maximum of two representatives per website per event may be accredited. At the discretion of the FIA, more than two passes may be allocated to a website.

Websites associated with a print media organisation that has already applied for, and been granted, any form of media accreditation should continue to apply through the same accreditation process. Any print media outlet with a website associated should not apply separately for website accreditation.

Websites based in the host country of the Grand Prix in question must apply to the National Press Officer as per other national publications.

3. ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

3.1 Publications and Agencies

Permanent media accreditation is available to publications intending to publish reports for every Formula 1 race during the season (please see point 5 below).

For race-by-race accreditation, priority is given to publications intending to publish a report related to the event for which the accreditation is requested (as opposed to a general feature or any content not related to the event).

Media passes can also be allocated on a race-by-race basis to general news, specialist, business and lifestyle consumer publications that do not intend to publish conventional race reports but whose coverage is considered to be of benefit to the sport.

Usually, a maximum of two representatives (journalists and/or photographers) per publication may be accredited for any one round of the Championship.

All applicants must fulfil the following basic criteria:

Coverage

For a daily newspaper a substantial amount of coverage for each event is required. For example, an introductory article in the Thursday edition, follow-up articles in Friday, Saturday and, where applicable, Sunday editions, plus a race report in the Monday edition.

For a weekly or monthly publication a substantial amount of coverage for each event is required and a major portion of the overall content should be on the subject of Formula 1. Agencies or individuals applying for a race-by-race photographer accreditation must supply evidence of independent coverage where their pictures have been used for editorial purposes in at least **three** (3) publications that comply with the FIA Accreditation Criteria per pass issued at each event they have been accredited for in the previous year's Championship. The FIA will periodically request evidence of recent coverage for race-by-race applicants.

Factual accuracy

The highest standards of fairness and accuracy are expected as a minimum quality requirement for the media. Media accreditation provides privileged physical access to restricted operational areas of FIA-regulated events. It does not confer any right to attend events, nor does it limit the ability of any media organisation or journalist to report on the Championship, the FIA or any associated person or matter by other means.

Accredited media are required to take reasonable care to ensure that factual statements relating to the Championship and FIA-related matters are materially accurate and not objectively misleading. Where the FIA identifies a material factual inaccuracy, the FIA Media Delegate may notify the accredited party and invite clarification or correction within a reasonable timeframe. Where material factual inaccuracies remain uncorrected following such notice, or where there is a repeated pattern of objectively misleading factual reporting, the FIA may apply appropriate measures to such party's accreditation, which may include suspension or withdrawal of physical access on a race-by-race or permanent basis.

Circulation

Accreditation decisions are based on the relative media landscape in the country of the applicant. As such, the usual minimum circulation for a national weekly or monthly publication is 20,000 copies. For a national daily the minimum circulation is 50,000 copies. The FIA recognises the industry-wide decline in circulation for print publications and considers each application on the merits of the applicant and their overall media reach.

Freelance journalists must apply for credentials via their own agencies. The onus is on the freelance applicant to prove the supply of regular Formula 1 related stories to at least **three** publications meeting the FIA Accreditation Criteria.

Photo agencies and freelance photographers must be able to prove that the pictures have been regularly sold to publications matching the FIA Accreditation Criteria and have been paid for at the normal commercial rate (the FIA will, from time to time, request a selection of accredited photographers to supply general data about the market so as to accurately maintain appropriate accreditation criteria). A publication must be able to prove that the pictures published are the original work of the publication's accredited photographer (generic photo galleries are not considered).

The FIA retains the right to check all the information provided by publications and agencies to justify the allocation of a pass and to reject an application in case it does not match our accreditation criteria.

3.2 Websites

To be eligible for consideration for website accreditation an applicant must register online and fulfil the following Accreditation Criteria:

The applicant must be a professionally run website dedicated to reporting on the Championship and its events or a professionally run general news or sports website with a dedicated Championship section. Websites built on free platforms or run as a hobby with no commercial profitability are not considered to be professionally run.

In each case a substantial proportion of the coverage of the Championship must be free of charge to the public.

The applicant must submit **audited traffic figures in English** for the last year (expressed as unique IP addresses per year) together with a geographical breakdown of users (i) for the website or (ii) in case the website is not a website dedicated to the Championship, for the Championship section of the website.

Traffic figures must be confirmed by an internet auditor of industry repute acceptable to the FIA. In order to be considered, **websites are expected to receive as a minimum 250,000 unique users per month on their Formula 1 coverage**, however reaching this traffic level does not automatically grant accreditation.

The applicant must submit satisfactory evidence of publication on the website of news coverage of each Championship event in the previous three Championship seasons, together with the dates of publication, correctly by-lined. Personal blogs will not qualify for accreditation as a standalone output format, however websites may contain a blog section related to Formula 1.

For an application for Permanent Accreditation, the representative journalist of the website must have attended and reported on at least **14** events during the previous Championship season.

Please note that only coverage of Championship events will qualify for consideration. General feature articles that are non-event specific will not qualify.

The applicant must undertake to publish for each round of the Championship in the season in which Accreditation is sought as follows:

- i. at least one news story (of 250 words or more) on each of the Friday, Saturday, race day and Monday;
- ii. at least one feature article (500 words or more) for each event.

The representative journalist must be (i) a full-time professional journalist and (ii) must be employed or engaged by the website as a journalist, wholly or primarily for the coverage of the Championship.

The website must maintain a clear “contacts” section with a link from the website homepage and which must contain full contact details for the website including a full postal address (PO Boxes not accepted), telephone numbers, email address; and (ii) all contributing journalists must be named either on their articles or elsewhere on the website, photographs must be accompanied by a photographer’s credit and all sources must be credited in accordance with editorial best practice.



The website must have a suitable written Privacy Policy, a Right to Reply/Complaints Policy and otherwise comply with all laws, regulations, guidelines and good practice relating to the operation of a website.

The applicant must respect others' intellectual property rights of the FIA, the Formula 1 Commercial Rights Holder and third parties. This shall include the strict prohibition on the taking of any moving picture images, sound recordings, use of trademarks, title or logos or the transmission of certain kinds of results as further set out in the Accreditation Agreement.

Accreditation for websites may be approved by the FIA, but is subject to audit by the Formula 1 Commercial Rights Holder who may request the removal of infringing content from the website. Failure to remove any such content will result in the accreditation request being cancelled.

If any pass holder is found producing moving images of any kind of the event (or any part thereof), their accreditation will be withdrawn and the pass holder will not be admitted to any major FIA championships for as long as the FIA deems necessary.

There are separate guidelines for permanently accredited media who may produce certain moving images from events subject to strict guidelines issued by the Commercial Rights Holder. Permanent media should contact the FIA Media Delegate for more information.

The FIA will allocate website accreditation taking into account the above criteria in order to ensure that Championship coverage online is generated responsibly and that said coverage is reliable and of a quality befitting the world's top motor sport championship.

Please note that due to the increasing number of websites reporting on Formula 1, compliance with the above does not guarantee website accreditation. As with all media accreditation, the final decision is made by the FIA, which owns the FIA Formula One World Championship.

The FIA reserves the right to check all the information provided by websites to justify the allocation of a pass and to reject any application at its own discretion.

4. RACE-BY-RACE ACCREDITATION PROCEDURE

National Media

Applications from publications for their national event must be addressed to the National Press Office of each circuit. The list of National Press Officers and their contact details can be found under the following [link](#).

International Media

The procedure for international race-by-race accreditation is divided in an online registration phase (please refer to point 1 above) followed by the Accreditation Procedure.

Accreditation Procedure

The Accreditation Procedure is as follows:

1. All international requests for race-by-race accreditation must be made online through the Accreditation Management System on the FIA website.
2. Applications must be received at least four weeks before the event concerned, unless a longer term applies as set out below. No application can be made via the system after the deadline. Applications which are late or incomplete may not be considered.
3. Must meet all relevant criteria, including the Accreditation Principles and the Accreditation Criteria set out above. All supporting material, including sample proofs of coverage, as listed in the online application, must be supplied online. In case additional material is required in its original form by post the applicant will be informed accordingly by email.
4. Requests must include a formal application letter written on the applicant's letterhead. This letter must be signed by the editor or a senior member of the editorial staff. Requests signed by clerical staff will not be accepted. This letter must include:
 - a. The name(s) of the representative(s) who will be covering the event(s);
 - b. The photocopy of the official national press card(s) (where applicable) of the representative(s) who will be covering the event(s);
 - c. The job title(s) of the representative(s) (journalist(s) and/or photographer(s));
 - d. Information on the publication (including circulation, readership, frequency, etc., or traffic figures in the case of websites);
 - e. An original copy of the publication (only to be supplied on request or for first-time applicants);
 - f. a formal undertaking from the editor to publish a report related to the event concerned and an indication as to when this report will be published;
 - g. a written confirmation that the accredited party and / or the journalist/photographer to whom the credential has been allocated has not applied or will not apply for additional FIA passes for any other purposes, including journalism for Television and Radio networks (unless previously agreed with the FIA).

Note: 'd' and 'e' do not apply to the major international press agencies Note:
'e' does not apply to websites (save for eMagazines).

5. PDF files of material published following previous Championship events, particularly those the applicant was accredited for (original copies by post may be requested from time to time or from first-time applicants) must be uploaded to the FIA system for each application. If no coverage that matches the Accreditation Criteria is attached to an application, it may not be considered.

In addition, publications from countries that are not using Roman letters (e.g. China, Japan, Russia, etc.) must supply a translation into English of the publications' credits' page and the proofs' bylines.

Once an application is submitted, the FIA will verify whether the application meets all relevant criteria, and will send an email to the publication informing it of the decision that has been made with regards to its application.

If successful, an Accreditation Agreement will be included for signature.

If the representative(s) is (are) unable to attend the event, the FIA Communications Department must be notified as soon as possible before the opening of the accreditation centre. Failure to inform FIA Communications of non-attendance may result in further accreditation requests being refused. If a change of representative(s) is to be made, the FIA Communications Department must be notified as soon as possible.

The representative(s) must produce the signed Accreditation Agreement which is emailed with the confirmation when collecting the credential at the event.

NO ACCREDITATION CAN BE COLLECTED WITHOUT THIS DOCUMENT.

If a decision is disputed an individual application will be referred to the FIA Formula 1 Media Delegate for a final decision. The FIA liaises closely with National Press Offices and National Sporting Authorities to confirm the validity of a given application.

Deadlines

The deadlines for applications are indicated below and are usually four weeks prior to the first day of the relevant event. Due to the visa procedures in place in some countries, longer deadlines may be applied. Late requests may not be examined.

Name of the Grand Prix	Date of the Grand Prix	International deadline
Bahrain Pre-Season Test 1	11-13 February 2026	9 January 2026
Bahrain Pre-Season Test 2	18-20 February 2026	9 January 2026
Australian Grand Prix	8 March 2026	8 February 2026
Chinese Grand Prix	15 March 2026	15 February 2026
Japanese Grand Prix	29 March 2026	1 March 2026
Bahrain Grand Prix	12 April 2026	15 March 2026
Saudi Arabian Grand Prix	19 April 2026	22 March 2026
Miami Grand Prix	3 May 2026	5 April 2026
Canadian Grand Prix	24 May 2026	26 April 2026
Monaco Grand Prix	7 June 2026	10 May 2026

Barcelona-Catalunya Grand Prix	14 June 2026	17 May 2026
Austrian Grand Prix	28 June 2026	31 May 2026
British Grand Prix	5 July 2026	7 June 2026
Belgium Grand Prix	19 July 2026	21 June 2026
Hungarian Grand Prix	26 July 2026	28 June 2026
Dutch Grand Prix	23 August 2026	26 July 2026
Italian Grand Prix	6 September 2026	9 August 2026
Spanish Grand Prix	13 September 2026	16 August 2026
Azerbaijan Grand Prix	26 September 2026	29 August 2026
Singapore Grand Prix	11 October 2026	13 September 2026
United States Grand Prix	25 October 2026	27 September 2026
Mexico City Grand Prix	1 November 2026	4 October 2026
São Paulo Grand Prix	8 November 2026	11 October 2026
Las Vegas Grand Prix	21 November 2026	24 October 2026
Qatar Grand Prix	29 November 2026	1 November 2026
Abu Dhabi Grand Prix	6 December 2026	8 November 2026

5. PERMANENT ACCREDITATION PROCEDURE

A permanent media pass will provide access to every event of the Championship of that year.

The procedure for permanent accreditation is divided into an online registration phase (please refer to point 1 above) followed by the Accreditation Procedure.

Accreditation Procedure

The Accreditation Procedure is as follows.

1. All requests for permanent accreditation must be made online through the Accreditation Management System on the FIA website.
2. Applications for a permanent media pass must be received in a timely manner. Applications which are late may not be considered. Permanent pass applications for the **2026** FIA Formula One World Championship will open in December **2025** and will close on December 9 **2025**.
3. Applications must meet all relevant criteria, including the Accreditation Principles and the Accreditation Criteria set out above. In addition, the following criteria apply:
 - a. To qualify for a permanent journalist's credential the applicant must have attended at least **14** Championship events during the previous year's Championship. Only in cases FIA accepts as force majeure the number of events may be lower than 14.
 - b. To qualify for a permanent photographer's credential the applicant must have attended at least **14** Championship events during the previous year's Championship. Only in cases FIA accepts as force majeure the number of events may be lower than 14.
 - c. Additionally, to qualify for a permanent photographer's pass, a significant number of photographs must have been published editorially in the media during the previous year's Championship in the name of the applicant (generic photo galleries are not considered).

- d. To qualify for a permanent website credential the representative of the website must have attended and reported on at least **14** events during the previous Championship season. All supporting material, including proof of coverage, as listed in the online application, must be uploaded to the application under the 'supporting documents' section.
4. Requests must include a formal application letter written on the applicant's letterhead. This letter must be signed by the editor or a senior member of the editorial staff. Requests signed by clerical staff will not be accepted. This letter must include:
 - a. the name(s) of the representative(s) who will be covering the event(s);
 - b. the photocopy of the official national press card(s) (where applicable) of the representative(s) who will be covering the event(s);
 - c. the job title(s) of the representative(s) (journalist(s) and/or photographer(s));
 - d. information on the publication (such as circulation, readership, frequency, etc);
 - e. an original copy of the publication (only to be supplied on request or for first-time applicants);
 - f. written confirmation that the accredited party and / or the journalist/photographer to whom the credential has been allocated has not applied or will not apply for additional FIA passes for any other purposes, including journalism for Television and Radio networks (unless previously agreed with the FIA).

Note: 'd'and 'e' do not apply to the major international press agencies. Note:
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In addition, publications from countries that are not using Roman letters (e.g. China, Japan, Russia, etc.) must supply a translation into English of the publications' credits' page and the proofs' bylines.

5. PDF files of material published following previous Championship events, particularly those the applicant was accredited for (original copies by post may be requested from time to time or from first-time applicants) must be uploaded to the FIA Accreditation Management System for each application. If no coverage that matches the Accreditation Criteria is attached to an application may not be considered.
6. The FIA will verify whether the application meets all relevant criteria. The FIA will update the Accreditation Management System to inform of the decision that has been made with regards to its application. If successful, an Accreditation Agreement will be included for signature.

If a change of representative(s) is to be made, the FIA Communications Department must be notified as soon as possible.

The representative(s) must produce the signed Accreditation Agreement which is emailed with the confirmation when collecting the credential.