

Rates of pay for artists

Not sure what to charge? A quick guide to help you negotiate a fair rate of pay for short-term work such as commissions, residencies, workshops and community projects.

What to charge

Experience level	Annual income excluding overheads	Day rates with overheads £5k per annum	Day rates with overheads £10k per annum	Day rates with overheads £15k per annum
New graduate	£30,523	£204	£236	£269
1 year	£32,288	£215	£246	£278
2 years	£34,926	£229	£261	£294
3 years	£37,269	£243	£275	£307
4 years	£39,203	£253	£286	£318
5 years	£40,804	£262	£295	£327
6 years	£42,570	£272	£304	£337
7 years	£44,339	£283	£314	£346
8 years	£46,107	£293	£325	£356
9 years	£47,870	£302	£335	£367
10 years*	£49,639	£312	£345	£377

* For artists with more than 10 years' experience, their rate will depend on other external factors such as their art world track record and/or unique attributes and market forces.

Our rates of pay:

- reflect artists' career stage, experience level and overheads
- take account of the responsibilities and costs of self-employment
- align artists' practices with comparable professions
- exclude project-specific expenses and VAT (where applicable)
- are based on 177 paid days' work for an artist per year, which takes into account time which would normally be paid in a salaried/PAYE position:
 - pitching and tendering for work
 - studio and research time
 - training and professional development time

- administration and accounting
- illness
- family commitments
- holidays

Notes on our rates of pay

These Rates of pay are provided for guidance purposes. Artists are always free to negotiate rates of pay different to those set out above.

People paying artists for any activity should always ensure that they are paying at least the National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage.

Related content

For specific advice on payments for exhibitions, see our Exhibition Payment Guide [\[LINK\]](#)