



Who are Bectu ?

Broadcasting, Entertainment, Communications and Theatre Union

Bectu represents over 40,000 staff, contract and freelance workers in the media and entertainment industries.

Bectu helps bring workers together and supports us to build a better industry, community and workplace for ourselves and our colleagues. Using our experience of the workplace and voice as a community, being members gives us a platform to initiate change and support our craft and our fellow hair and make-up artists.

In the television and film sector, unless the production is long-running like a soap opera, productions generally don't run with a dedicated human resources department to look after employees' welfare and because of this employees can sometimes run into problems with their contracts or working terms and conditions. As a union this is where Bectu is able to support their members with advice on their rights and represent them should a dispute be raised with their employer and, of course, provides a wealth of other benefits to its members.

Within the union there are several branches specific to different areas of the industry like camera department, sound, costume and yes, you guessed it, there is a hair and make-up branch too!

Why does Bectu's work matter to students?

What we do as a union directly affects the workplace that you as students will soon be entering. When you take your first steps into the industry we want you to join us and help us to make the industry better for everyone. We have a wealth of resources and benefits that are FREE to students when you sign up to our Student Register; all aimed at getting you off to a good start in your career.

When you leave education to enter the workplace, we in the Bectu Hair and Make-up Branch want to make sure you are equipped and supported to succeed in taking your first steps in the television and film industry and we have so many resources to help you as a newly self-employed freelancer.

The Student Register was created by Bectu, to help you get prepped for your future career. The register is a contact scheme which puts you in touch with industry developments and opportunities.

If you do sign up to the Student Register you will get:

- E-newsletters with essential information on industry changes
- Information on subsidised training courses
- Invitations to career fairs, networking opportunities and other useful events
- Information on your rights as a worker
- Access to Creative Toolkit help notes with advice on tax, finding work, CV building and cover-letter writing
- A 50% discount on your first year's Bectu membership once you graduate



Do you want to sign up to the Student Register?

Click here to [sign the register now](#) or visit <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/d/2E198E24FCACFD14> Simply input your name and email address then click subscribe.

Moving into the workplace after education

If you are leaving education and coming to join us in the television and film industry, as a Bectu member we hope you will make good use of all the free resources available on the Student Register, so you are ready and equipped to take your first steps towards a successful career.

The freelance world can be daunting to new entrants with its lack of job security, dealing with your own tax return and tax affairs, finding work and managing your finances. Hopefully the Student Register will have helped address some if not all of these, leaving you confident to take your first steps.

If, after graduating, you choose to join Bectu you will gain a whole host of benefits as well as being able to join the make-up branch committee if you really want to be a driving force in important areas of our industry such as training and education, equality and diversity, health and safety, social media, mental health and sustainability.

Who are the hair, make-up & prosthetics branch and what do they do?

The Hair, Make-up & prosthetics Branch is a group of hairstylists and make-up artists who are union members actively working in film and television. They work unpaid, in their spare time, to try and set important workplace standards, fair rates of pay and negotiate agreements that determine how you as a make-up artist are compensated for the work you do. The branch also shares and distributes industry relevant information specific to hair and make-up artists through our designated website and organises training events for union members.

You can visit our main website at www.hairmakeupbranch.org.uk

Any hairstylist or make-up artist working in theatre, film, television or fashion, who is a Bectu member, can actively get involved in branch meetings and discussions and can positively influence the areas of the workplace they are most passionate about.



What benefits do members receive?

As hair and make-up artists, in addition to the support and ability to be force for positive change in our industry, becoming a member also gives you access to:

- Good value public liability insurance
- Insurance to protect your hair and make-up kit at work
- “Early Bird” a list of upcoming television and film productions with important contact details
- 2 years MAC Pro discount (“make-up artist” 35%), eligible after three months as a member
- Financial support with legal fees if you are unfairly dismissed, made redundant or discriminated against at work (terms and conditions apply)
- Access to union events and meetings for networking
- Valuable free training events designed to teach you how to cope and succeed in the freelance world covering areas such as finance management, negotiating a better deal, resilience training, blocking bullying behaviour and health and safety risk assessment
- Discount on Apple products, travel insurance, tax return services, gym membership, foreign exchange services and much more

How much does membership cost?

If you are coming to join us in the union and have been previously registered on our Student Register you will receive a 50% discount on your first year’s membership as a full union member, making your monthly payments just £5 per month. New members to the union who haven’t been registered on the Student Register pay £10 a month for the first year. After the first year most members pay the equivalent of 1% of their annual salary.