

SOUND DEPARTMENT
FREELANCE GOING RATES

To take effect from April 2009

The tables below show recommended GOING RATES by grade and type of production. The Rates refer to labour only. They do not include any element of kit hire.

BECTU recommends that you accept no less.

There is still confusion about holiday pay, and about the distinction between "basic" rates which exclude holiday pay, and "rolled up" rates which include holiday pay.

Employers usually quote "rolled up" rates. This is bad practice, and in principle is unlawful, but it usually happens.

In the tables the "rolled up" rate including holiday pay is therefore shown first in bold, followed by the underlying "basic" rate excluding holiday pay in brackets. This assumes that NO paid holiday is taken during the course of the contract. On this basis, holiday pay from April 2009 is equivalent to 12.1% of basic pay.

Sound Department members are advised wherever possible to uphold the traditional parity between the Sound Dept. and the Camera Dept. on Film and TV Drama productions so that:-

Production Sound Mixer equates to Camera Operator;

Boom Operator or 1st Assistant Sound equates to Focus Puller or 1st Assistant Camera;

2nd Assistant Sound equates to Clapper Loader or 2nd Assistant Camera.

TV Drama

2nd Boom Operator, Sound Maintenance	Boom Operator, 1st Assistant Sound	Prod Sound Mixer (HoD)
Rate for a 10 hour day (Dailies): £191 (£170)	Rate for a 10 hour day (Dailies): £267 (£238)	Rate for a 10 hour day (Dailies): £309 (£276)
Rate for 5 day 50 hour week: £869 (£775)	Rate for 5 day 50 hour week: £1279 (£1141)	Rate for 5 day 50 hour week: £1492 (£1331)
Rate for 55 hour week, (11 day fortnight): £955 (£852)	Rate for 55 hour week, (11 day fortnight): £1393 (£1243)	Rate for 55 hour week, (11 day fortnight): £1624 (£1449)

Lower budget Feature Film

Budget <£10M

2nd Boom Operator, Sound Maintenance	Boom Operator, 1st Assistant Sound	Prod Sound Mixer (HoD)
Rate at one fifth of week: £212 (£189) per day	Rate at one fifth of week: £321 (£286) per day	Rate at one fifth of week: £373 (£333) per day
Rate for 5 day 60 hour week: £1045 (£932)	Rate for 5 day 60 hour week: £1583 (£1412)	Rate for 5 day 60 hour week: £1847 (£1648)

Major Feature Film

Budget >£10M

2nd Boom Operator, Sound Maintenance	Boom Operator, 1st Assistant Sound	Prod Sound Mixer (HoD)
Rate at one fifth of week: £240 (£214) per day	Rate at one fifth of week: £385 (£343) per day	Rate at one fifth of week: £489 (£436) per day
Rate for 5 day 60 hour week: £1187 (£1059)	Rate for 5 day 60 hour week: £1899 (£1694)	Rate for 5 day 60 hour week: £2417 (£2156)

Commercial

2nd Assistant Sound	Sound Maintenance	Boom Operator, 1st Assistant Sound	Prod Sound Mixer (HoD)
Rate for a 10 hour day: £261 (£233)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £285 (£254)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £356 (£318)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £449 (£401)

TV Factual / Documentary

Sound Recordist
Rate for a 10 hour day: £319 (£285)

TV Studio & OB

Boom Operator	Sound Supervisor (HoD)
Rate for a 10 hour day: £295 (£263)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £397 (£354)
Rate for a 12 hour day: £354 (£316)	Rate for a 12 hour day: £476 (£425)

Live Events

Audio Technician
Rate for a 10 hour day: £182 (£162)
Rate for a 12 hour day: £220 (£196)

Corporate

Audio Technician	Sound Engineer	Boom Operator	Sound Recordist / Mixer
Rate for a 10 hour day: £193 (£172)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £254 (£227)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £265 (£236)	Rate for a 10 hour day: £295 (£263)
Rate for 12 hour day: £232 (£207)	Rate for 12 hour day: £305 (£272)	Rate for 12 hour day: £317 (£283)	Rate for 12 hour day: £354 (£316)