



# THE BEST UNION FOR JOURNALISTS

## British Association of Journalists FREE Student Membership

**THE British Association of Journalists was formed in 1992 to serve the interests of working journalists in an exciting and fast changing technological era.**

What doesn't change, of course, is the journalist's important role of keeping the public informed and watching over justice, freedom, democracy and fair play in our society. These are the ideals which brought you into journalism.

BAJ is dedicated to upholding these ideals and to providing a range of professional services for its members as well as industrial representation. Our aims are set out on the right.

BAJ realises that students on journalism courses and working on university newspapers and radios not only are tomorrow's professional journalists, but also are doing journalistic work today.

So to help you with your activities, the category of BAJ student member has been created. Student membership is free and with it comes a free high-quality Student Press Card.

Once you've finished training or left university and have found a job in journalism (or taken up freelancing) you can apply for full BAJ membership..

The fees range from £7.50 a month (£90 a year) for journalists under 24 to £17.50 a month (£210 a year) for national media people.

Full membership gives working journalists the best practical benefits of any journalists' union – legal and tax helplines, Legal Expenses insurance of up to £50,000, and access to BAJ's own legal advisers.



All BAJ members have first-class trade union support plus the individual power to stand up for their legal rights against any bad employer or any bad feepayer.

BAJ has already helped hundreds of journalists to obtain better terms over a wide variety of work problems including pay rises, redundancy money, and freelance fees.

BAJ is also campaigning for fairer employment laws, fairer industrial tribunal awards and better freelance rates and syndication terms.

If you support BAJ's vision of the future for journalists, please complete the membership form to join us. We will be glad to welcome you as a student member.

### Basic aims of the BAJ

- To be a non-political, industrial union for journalists.
- To be an independent union which may, if mutually agreed, engage in joint claims and activities with other unions.
- To protect and improve pay, conditions, pensions and fees.
- To promote harmonious relations with employers.
- To seek legally-binding agreements with employers which could, where mutually acceptable, include no strike clauses.
- To defend and promote freedom of the Press, freedom of Broadcasting and freedom of information.
- To urge Parliament to give all trade unionists the legal right to recognition and collective bargaining and the legal right to strike, provided all procedures have been followed.
- To make available first-class legal, pension and research services for Chapels.
- To have a democratic union organisation based on Chapel branches in big offices and area branches for small Chapels, freelancers and retired members.
- To prevent extremism ever taking over the union a postal ballot of all members shall be held on any resolution passed by the union's National Executive or National Conference if 100 members sign a petition asking for a ballot.
- To establish links with independent journalists' unions in other countries.
- To support the Code of Practice of the Press Complaints Commission.
- To run an efficient, cost-effective HQ administration which gives members good value for their subs.

### BAJ STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Surname ..... Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other.....

First name(s) .....

Address .....

Preferred name on Press Card .....

Daytime/mobile telephone number .....

Name of college/university .....

Name of course: .....

Lecturer's name .....

Lecturer's email address .....

Lecturer's signature ..... Your signature .....

Date .....

**For press cards, applicants must include a passport-sized photograph with this form. The photograph should have the applicant's name written lightly on its back, and must not be stapled or clipped.**

**Return to: BAJ, 89 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1DH. Phone: 020 7353 3003 Fax: 020 7353 2310**