

UK Theatre rate card

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Agreement between the UK Theatre and the Writers' Guild of Great Britain and the Scottish Society of Playwrights

The Writers' Guild has agreed an increase in the minimum fees paid by subsidised theatres of **3.5% from 4th May 2026**.

Clause 2 (a) Commissioned Play

- (i) on signature of Contract (such sum not to be on account of royalties) the minima under this sub-clause are:

	MRS L 1	MRS L 2	MRS L 3
May 2026	£6,073.68	£4,967.57	£3,865.73

- (ii) on first delivery of Play (such sum to be a non-returnable advance against royalties) the minima under this sub-clause are:

	MRS L 1	MRS L 2	MRS L 3
May 2026	£2,762.46	£2,207.96	£2,207.96

- (iii) on acceptance of Play (such sum to be a non-returnable advance against royalties) the minima under this sub-clause are:

	MRS L 1	MRS L 2	MRS L 3
May 2026	£2,762.46	£2,207.96	£2,207.96

Clause 2 (b) Non-Commissioned Play

- (i) on signature of Contract, the minima under this sub-clause are:

	MRS L 1	MRS L 2	MRS L 3
May 2026	£8,836.14	£7,175.53	£6,073.69

The amount of such payment deemed to be a non-returnable advance against royalties to be:

	MRS L 1	2 MRS L	MRS L 3
May 2026	£2,762.46	£2,207.96	£2,207.96

- (ii) on acceptance of the Play (such sum to be a non-returnable advance against royalties) the minima under this sub-clause are:

MRS L	MRS L 1	MRS L 2	MRS L 3
May 2025	£2,762.46	£2,207.96	£2,207.96

The total fee for either a commissioned or non-commissioned play is therefore:

	MRSL 1	MRSL 2	MRSL 3
Total Fee:	£11,598.60	£9,383.49	£8,281.65

Clause 5 (b) Rehearsal Attendance Fee

The Writer shall be paid not less than the following sums for each day the Writer attends the theatre under Clause 5(a) or carries out re-writes or research away from the theatre or other work in connection with the Play, provided that such attendance, re-writing, research or other work shall be mutually agreed between the Writer and Manager. Otherwise, the Manager shall not be obliged to pay for the Writer's attendance for re- writing, research or other work for more than twelve days during the rehearsal period.

MRSL	1	2	3
Full day rate	£113.85	£103.50	£93.15
Half day rate	£62.10	£56.93	£51.75

Clause 14 Sums Payable on Exercising Options

		May 2026
1	UK excluding West End and rights already granted in Clause 1(b))	£3,445.24
2	West End of London (including a pre-London tour not exceeding 8 weeks for a straight play or 12 weeks for a musical)	£5,743.01
3	USA	£5,743.01
4	Rest of World for English speaking productions (excluding South Africa)	£4,592.69
5	English language productions in non-English speaking countries	£1,550.12

Clause 16 Management Participation

The Management Participation Threshold from May 2026 is £45,211.87

Note: MRSL stands for “Middle Range Salary Level” and refers to the system for putting the theatres into three categories. For further details please visit our website at www.writersguild.org.uk, email admin@writersguild.org.uk or telephone 020 7833 0777.

Please note that this increase is backdated for all contracts issued on or after 4th May 2026.

Ellie Peers
General Secretary