

# Opera and Ballet Rates

April 2024-2025

Related MU Standard Contract: L5

## Minimum Rates per Musician

### Weekly Rates

For a week of up to eight 3-hour sessions, rehearsal or performance, on the six weekdays

<b>Tutti</b>	£958.00
<b>Sub-principals</b>	£983.00
<b>Principals</b>	£1,013.00
<b>Section Principals</b>	£1,045.00

### Single Playing Session Rates

(For players engaged for up to 5 sessions per week) per session: £167.00

Ancillary payments applicable to both weekly and casual rates

### Doubling

15% of the appropriate rate per additional instrument

### Sundays or Statutory Holidays

Double time

### Extra sessions

Pro rata

### Stage Bands, Additional Payment

<b>Stage band only (unseen)</b>	None
<b>In pit and on stage (unseen)</b>	£16.65 per call
<b>On stage in costume (seen)</b>	£31.40 per call
<b>In pit and on stage (seen)</b>	£62.20 per call

### Overtime

Overtime rate is time and half, i.e. 1/8 of concert fee for each thirty minutes or part thereof with a limit on overtime of one hour whether at rehearsal or concert. Where a proportion of a concert fee is being paid, e.g. for schools or educational concerts, the overtime rate for each thirty minutes or part thereof is 1/4 of this fee.

### Conditions

1. There shall be an interval of no less than 15 minutes in each session.
2. No musician shall (except in the case of illness supported by a Medical Certificate) absent themselves from any rehearsal or performance without the prior consent of the engager.

## Guidance Notes

The rates are always the minimum and take into account that holiday pay, sickness pay and maternity and paternity pay need to be factored into self-employed rates. Individual negotiations can be made based on these minimum rates.

### Distance fees - in respect of time travelled

£12.60 per hour pro rata

[For travel time and mileage refer to google maps](#)

### Fuel fees and travel expenses

56p per mile // [HMRC Travel rates](#)

[Standard class rail fare on Trainline](#)

### Congestion / Toll Charges / Parking

All charges to be paid by the engager

### Porterage

as per the MU Orchestral Concert Rates (Non ABO) 2023-24

Group A	£38.50	Electric Guitar; Double Bass; Bass Guitar
Group B	£33.30	Bass Saxophone, Tuba
Group C	£26.50	Contra Bassoon; Baritone Saxophone; French Horn + 1 other brass instrument; Trombone + 1 other brass instrument or bag or mutes: Two Saxophones; Cello; Bass Clarinet
Group D	Individual negotiation	Kit Drums; Percussion instruments; Electronic Keyboards; Harp

**Doubling / Trebling / Quadrupling**      15% of fee for each additional instrument

**Breaks**      Minimum of 15 mins per 2 hours playing

**Late fees**      Payable when time of return is midnight-2:00am      £34.60

**Overnight stay**      Payable when return would be after 2:00am      £139.00

**Subsistence**      Payable per day to cover meals and expenses      £63.60