

The AOI logo consists of the letters 'AOI' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a light blue oval. This oval is set against a background of stylized, overlapping hands in shades of pink and purple, all contained within a larger blue rectangular field.

AOI

Graduate Support Scheme

About the Scheme

At the AOI, we champion illustrators at every stage of their career including those important first steps post-graduation.

The AOI Graduate Support Scheme enables universities to gift AOI memberships to their graduates, equipping them with a year's worth of valuable industry guidance.


We're here to help your course provide ongoing professional support to graduating cohorts, improving your graduate outcomes and overall student satisfaction.

Benefits for Universities

In today's academic landscape, the HESA graduate outcomes survey plays a critical role in assessing the efficacy and viability of courses. With students having to fill in the survey only 15 months after graduation, this does not leave much time for the B3 indicators measured to give an accurate representation of where the graduates are at in their careers.

An AOI membership boosts graduate employability with 1-1 advice, extensive business resources and industry insights. We provide young illustrators with the tools they need to build their freelance careers and secure paid work.

The AOI seeks to instil confidence in your graduates, reinforcing that illustration is a viable career path. We support graduates empowering them to see themselves as professional illustrators, regardless of initial part-time work in other sectors.

A colorful illustration of a person in a blue shirt and brown pants climbing a tall stack of gold coins. The person is reaching up, holding onto the top of the stack. There are several gold coins scattered around the base of the stack, and a few yellow stars are floating in the air. The background is a light blue cloud-like shape.

Further benefits for your university include:

- *Demonstrates a visible connection between your university and industry.*
- *Increase graduates' understanding of contracts and licensing, contributing towards a confident and well-informed generation of new illustrators.*
- *Improve student satisfaction with teaching and learning.*
- *Increase graduate employment and your university's contribution to the sector.*

Benefits for Students

As the world's leading professional body for illustrators, we are a trustworthy support network: someone to equip graduates with the necessary knowledge and understanding, to encourage them to feel empowered to get their work out there, and to open up opportunities to meet a wider community. This can make all the difference, ensuring an exciting and sustainable career in illustration lies ahead.

"I don't think I would have a career without the AOI. The confidence I have developed through learning how much to quote clients, the legal stuff of the business of being an illustrator and just general support I have received from them has been fundamental to my career. I joined when I was fresh out of university and I've now been full time freelance for over ten years - I would recommend for any illustrator new or more experienced to get involved with them!"



Testimonial from AOI Member

Overview of Membership Benefits



Unlimited advice via the Members' Helpdesk Monday to Friday, 10AM to 4PM.

Access to a wealth of members only online resources, all you need to know on pricing, finance, self-promotion, business practice, copyright, contracts and more.

Contract Support, members can download a handy contract template, the Illustrator Commissioner Agreement, or access our comprehensive Contract Review Service.

Access to Inside Illustration's Exclusive Suite of Content, including a podcast, a creative course, interviews, a 'How To' guide and mock creative briefs.

A free one-hour session with a chartered accountant.

Subsidised 1-1 Portfolio and Business Consultations exclusively for Members.

Promotion of members' news, events, and projects on the AOI social channels.



Exclusive discounts on AOI events including free access to our AOI Discusses series.

Exclusive discounts on AOI publications including the AOI Client Directories.

Exclusive discounts with a range of partner organisations to support your career.

Access to Local Meets Ups to build a community and find networking opportunities.

Pricing Details

Kickstart graduate careers with confidence at a price of £69 / year

The Graduate Support Scheme offers a special rate of £69 per year for each graduate, a substantial saving of £114 off the standard AOI membership fee of £183.

For educational institutions interested in enrolling over 100 students per year, we offer additional bulk discount opportunities.

Please reach out to us at members@theaoi.com to discuss your specific needs.

Getting Started

Interested? We'd be happy to prepare a quote.

If you're unsure of how many students would be interested in the offer, we can provide a simple online form to help you collect numbers.

In order to set memberships up, we will need the student's personal email address along with their postal address, so that students can access their membership beyond university and receive their welcome pack in the post.