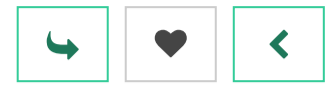
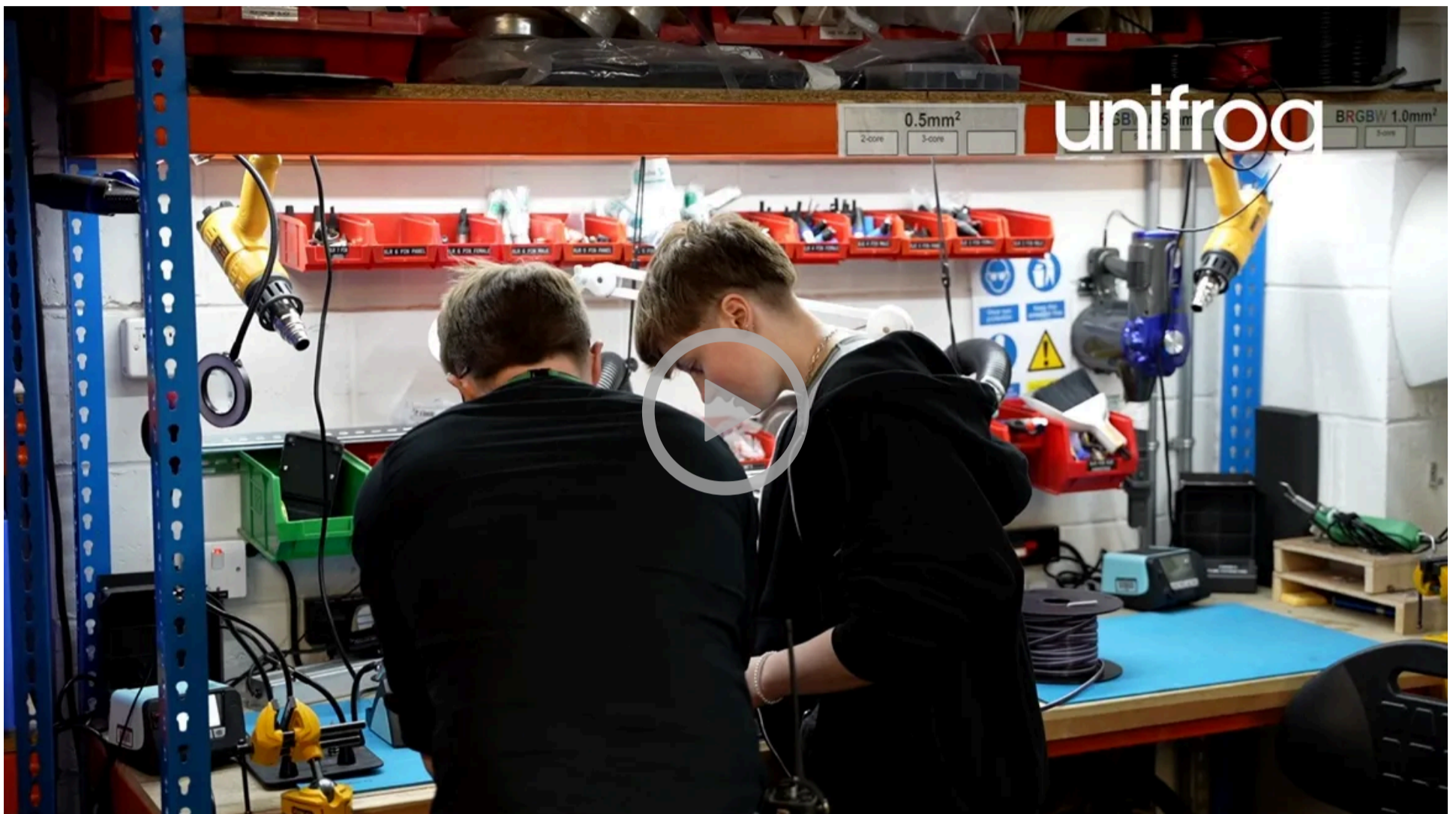


1 2 3

Lighting technician



Lighting technicians set up and operate lighting for concerts, conferences and theatre, or in film and TV productions.



Sophie
Creative Venue Technician Apprentice

[Show transcript](#)

CREATED WITH
[Royal Ballet and Opera](#) >

[Connect](#)

What you'll do

You'll usually specialise in film and TV, or theatre, concerts and live events.

Your work would range from basic spotlighting to operating strobes, lasers and pyrotechnics.

Depending on your role, your day-to-day tasks may include:

- interpreting a lighting designer's plan
- carrying out risk assessments for health and safety purposes
- planning where to run cables and place lights at film locations
- helping to rig and check the equipment
- taking cues from the stage manager in theatre, the floor manager in TV, or director in documentaries
- programming and operating manual and computer-controlled lighting systems taking down the equipment after shows or filming

You may be the only lighting technician on a theatre production, or you could be part of a large crew on a concert tour or feature film.

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

Hours can be long and irregular. In film and TV, you'll work any time of the day or night, depending on filming schedules. Live performances usually take place in the evening, but may also involve you setting up equipment during the day.

Your working environment will vary. Location work and outdoor concerts can involve working in all weather conditions. Theatres and studios can be very hot. You may have to work at height.

You may also be required to wear protective clothing like safety boots, and use equipment like safety harnesses.

The work could involve time spent away from home and some travel abroad.

Career path and progression

You could work on more complex events, or specialise in areas like electrical safety, inspection and testing, pyrotechnics or rigging.

Skills required

You'll need:

- practical and numeracy skills
- communication and people skills
- creativity and problem-solving skills
- the ability to follow technical and design instructions

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

You could qualify as an electrician and get practical experience in production lighting. You could also do a college course to learn skills like stage electrics and lighting design.

You'll need relevant practical experience, like a traineeship with a specialist lighting company, or work experience in:

- lighting equipment hire theatres or concert venues
- amateur theatre
- student or community film projects

You could get into this job through an advanced [apprenticeship](#).

Making a showreel or portfolio of your work can help.

You'll need colour-normal vision.

Related know-how guides

Explore know-how guides related to this career:

- [Get on the ladder: TV, radio and film production](#) >
- [Employer profile: Royal Ballet and Opera \(RBO\)](#) >

Related university subjects

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the [Subjects library](#):

- [Drama and Theatre studies](#) >
- [Film and Photography](#) >
- [Media and Communications](#) >

Related careers

You may also be interested in:

- [Sound technician \(TV or film\) >](#)
- [Live sound engineer >](#)
- [Audio visual technician >](#)

Explore

Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

Drama and Theatre studies at uni:

[USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Film and Photography at uni:

[USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Media and Communications at uni:

[USA >](#)
[UK >](#)
[Canada >](#)
[Europe >](#)
[Asia >](#)
[Australasia >](#)
[Middle East and Africa >](#)
[Ireland >](#)

Apprenticeships:

[UK >](#)

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Median averages relating to the Lighting technician profession.

UK
 USA

Jobs

Artistic, literary and media professionals

342,899

 **2,417** in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Surrey	8,868
2	Hackney	8,587
3	Kent	8,466
4	Hertfordshire	8,120
5	Lambeth	7,261

Salaries

Photographers and audio-visual equipment operators

£32,643

📍 (Not enough data for this region) in your region of North West

Top 5 regions

1	London	£31,026
2	North East	£30,048
3	East Midlands	£28,233
4	Scotland	£28,054
5	West Midlands	£24,544

🕒 Hours/week

Photographers and audio-visual equipment operators

37.5

📍 37.4 in your region of North West

📈 Growth

2020-2035

Culture, media and sports professionals

+0.2%

↑ 1,593 jobs

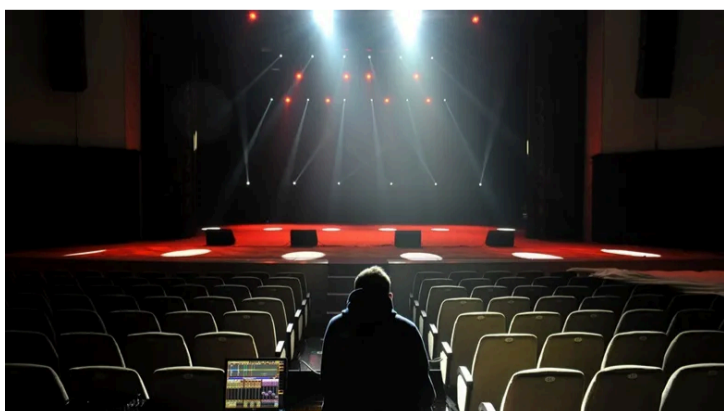
📍 -4.8% in your region of North West, an decrease of 2,325 jobs

Save to Favourites? ❤️

You haven't favourited any Careers library profiles yet

People also liked...

Those that liked this career profile also liked the following



Set designer ❤️



Sound technician (TV or film) ❤️



Photographer

Photographers professionally proc

Design and create backdrops and settings for video productions including TV, film, and theatre.

[Read the profile >](#)

Sound technicians record actors' voices and any background noise on TV and film shoots.

[Read the profile >](#)

[Read the profile >](#)