



Take the
time,
make a
difference

Become an occupational therapy steward

Occupational therapy stewards

- represent members
- provide advice and feedback
- participate in local negotiations
- influence policy-making
- organise networks

How do I become a steward?

To be an occupational therapy steward you need to be supported by members in your workplace. This process may vary from one UNISON branch to another, so ask your branch about the best way to do this.

What support is out there for me?

All stewards are part of a UNISON branch. Your local branch will be your first point of contact for advice and support. They will assist you to receive support from more experienced stewards, branch officers and full-time union officials. Also, you can attend the National Occupational Therapy Stewards' Training Seminar. This annual seminar provides an opportunity for occupational therapy stewards from throughout the UK to network and participate in workshops and discussions. Being an occupational therapy steward is a rewarding and career enhancing opportunity.



Not sure if you want to be a steward?

There are other ways to get involved...

■ Workplace contact:

Becoming a workplace contact is an ideal role for members who do not want to take on the full role of elected steward. Workplace contacts can get involved in a variety of ways; recruiting, supporting members, distributing information, and helping with branch organisation.

■ Union learning representative:

You may have had experience of adult learning yourself, or want to support learning initiatives in the workplace you cover. As a learning rep you can promote lifelong learning in your workplace.

■ UNISON health and safety representative:

Every day occupational therapy staff are affected by health and safety issues, from the use of equipment to lone working. As a health and safety rep, you can help to ensure the health, safety and welfare of members in the workplace.

■ UNISON equality representative:

Equality reps work with UNISON branches to make our workplaces fairer by promoting respect and dignity at work.



Is this something you could do?

Get in touch if you are interested in representing your colleagues and your occupational therapy department.

Contact baotstewards@unison.co.uk or phone your UNISON Branch, via UNISON Direct on 0800 0857 857 to find out more.

BAOT.org.uk

