

# Guide to Becoming a Supporting Artist

How to maintain your profile and  
stand out from the crowd



# Thank you for joining the Entertainment Partners Casting Community!

The Entertainment Partners Casting Portal is used by the UK's biggest casting agencies to find, book and manage supporting artists for major films and TV shows.

Our artists have worked on epic productions like *Mission Impossible*, *No Time To Die*, *Sex Education*, *Barbie*, *The Witcher*, *Bridgerton*, *The Crown*, *The Flash* and *Wonder Woman* – to name a few!

Working as a supporting artist is a great way to make some extra money and be a part of your favourite films and TV shows.

You can work around your schedule, meet like-minded people and showcase any special skills or experience on the big screen.

Everyone is welcome, and no former experience is required. That said, those with a strong profile – which they update regularly – are much more likely to be cast.

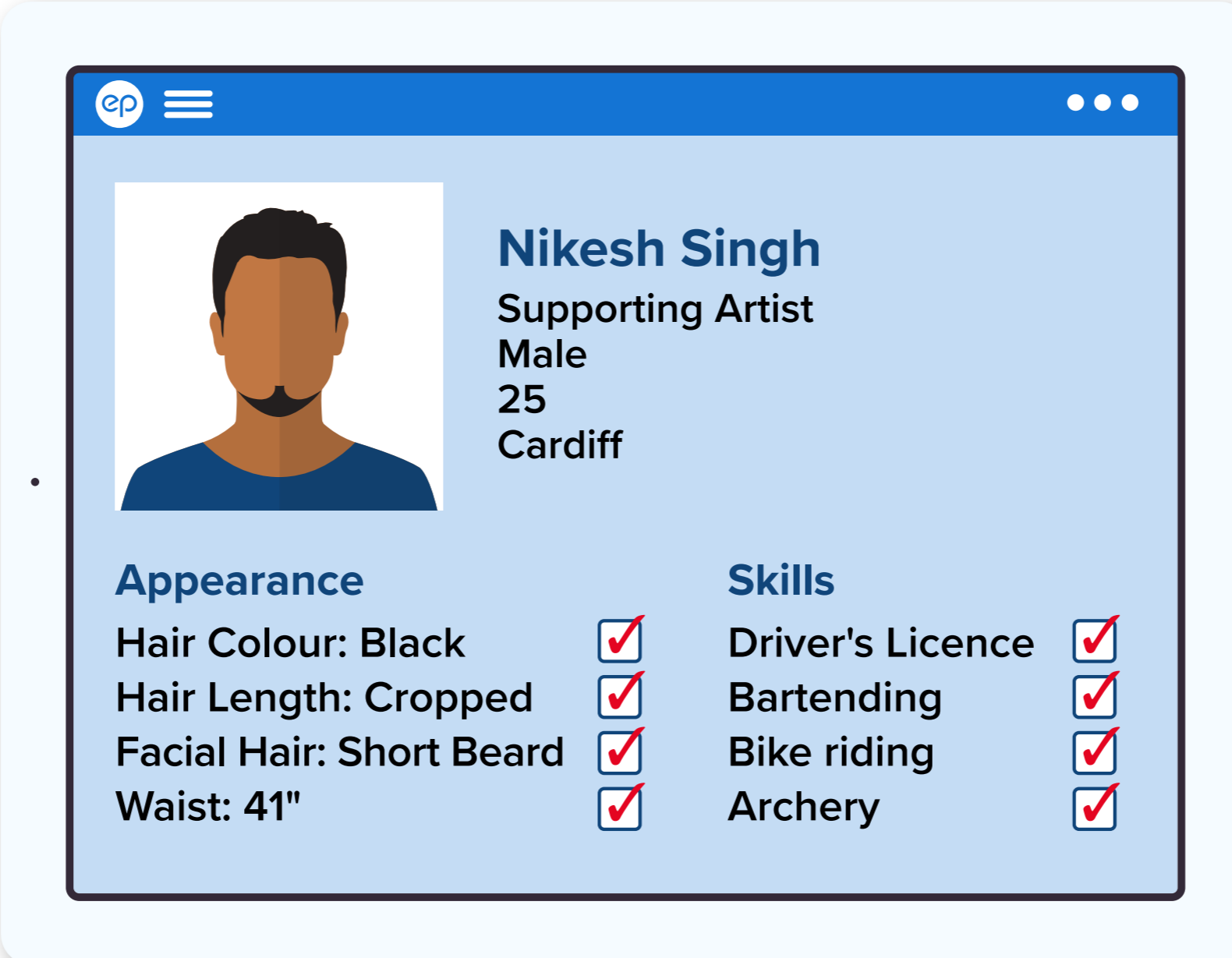


# Completing your profile

Your Entertainment Partners profile is how casting agents will find you and decide whether you're the right fit for their project.

During the application process, we'll ask for the basics to get you up and running. Once you have a profile, we recommend that you complete the additional fields to help you stand out from the crowd.

**Essentially, the more information you provide on your profile, the greater your chances of being cast!**



The screenshot shows a user profile for Nikesh Singh. The profile includes a placeholder image of a man with a beard, his name, profession (Supporting Artist), gender (Male), age (25), and location (Cardiff). Below this, there are two sections: 'Appearance' and 'Skills'. Each section lists several attributes, all of which are marked with a red checkmark in a box, indicating they are completed.

Appearance	Skills
Hair Colour: Black <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Driver's Licence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hair Length: Cropped <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bartending <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facial Hair: Short Beard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bike riding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Waist: 41" <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Archery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# Key Information

Here is where you can provide key information such as your name, date of birth and location. Some of the fields are mandatory; these will be highlighted in orange and will also be listed at the top of the page.

Fields highlighted in yellow are optional, but strongly recommended.

You'll see that this section includes optional questions regarding gender identity, ethnicity and disability. We encourage you to answer these questions to help us improve the casting process and promote diversity and belonging efforts within the industry.

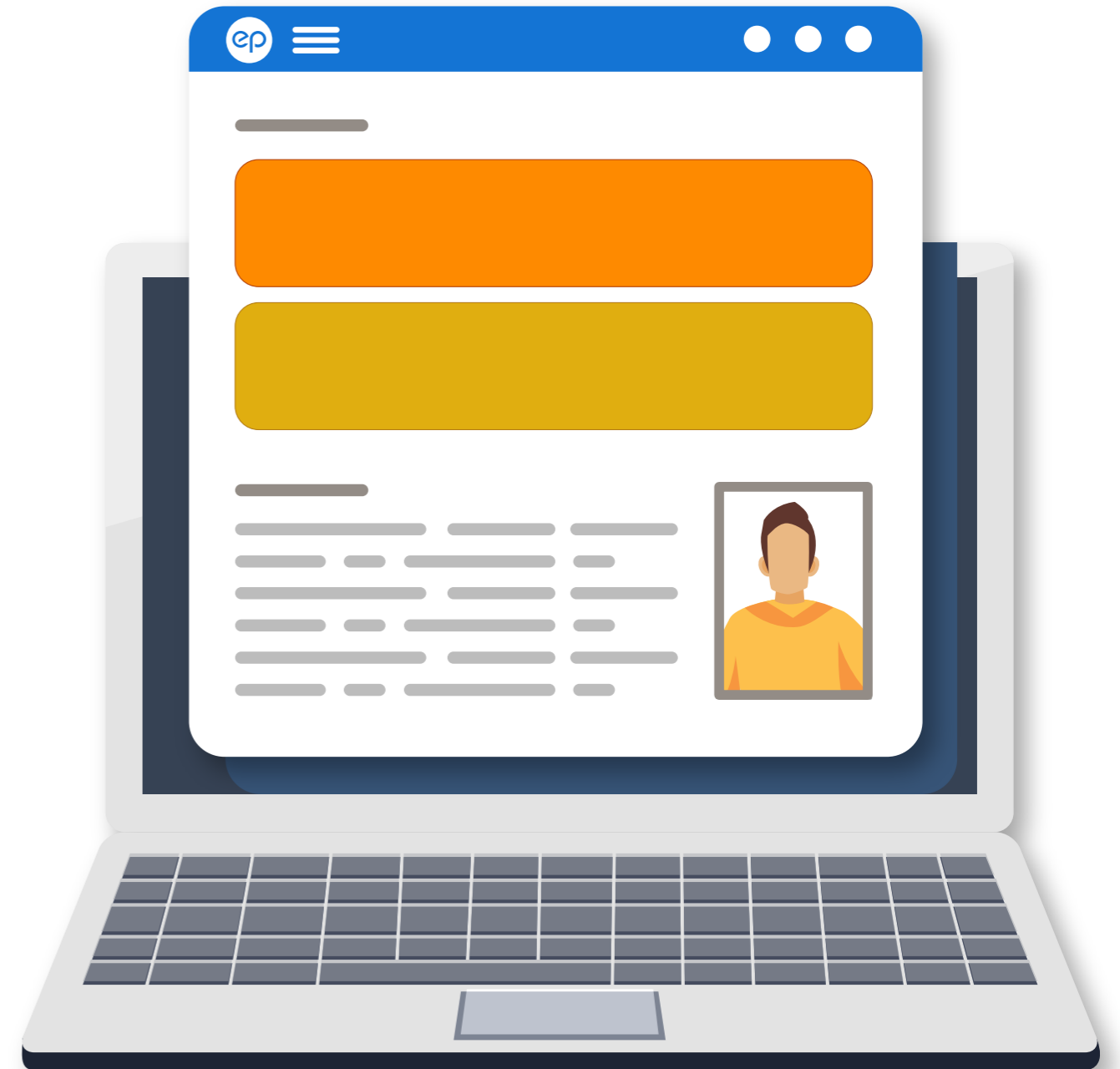
## A note on gender

We ask for your legal gender during the application process because this information must be submitted to HMRC for pension and national insurance purposes. Currently in the UK, male and female are the only two legal genders that are recognised.

You also have the option to specify your gender identity and your preferred pronouns. Agents will use this information during the casting process.

# Contact Information

Agents will use the information in this section of your profile to contact you. Be sure to keep it up to date so that you don't miss out on any potential work.



# Appearance

Information on your appearance allows casting agents to decide whether you're the right fit for a scene. For example, they might be looking for people with long hair for a medieval blockbuster (wigs are expensive!) or tattoos and piercings for a punk scene.

As casting briefs are diverse, we've included fields regarding ethnicity, hair, eyes, skin tone, build, piercings, tattoos, augmentation and whether you wear any religious clothing. These are optional, but as always, the more information you provide, the better.



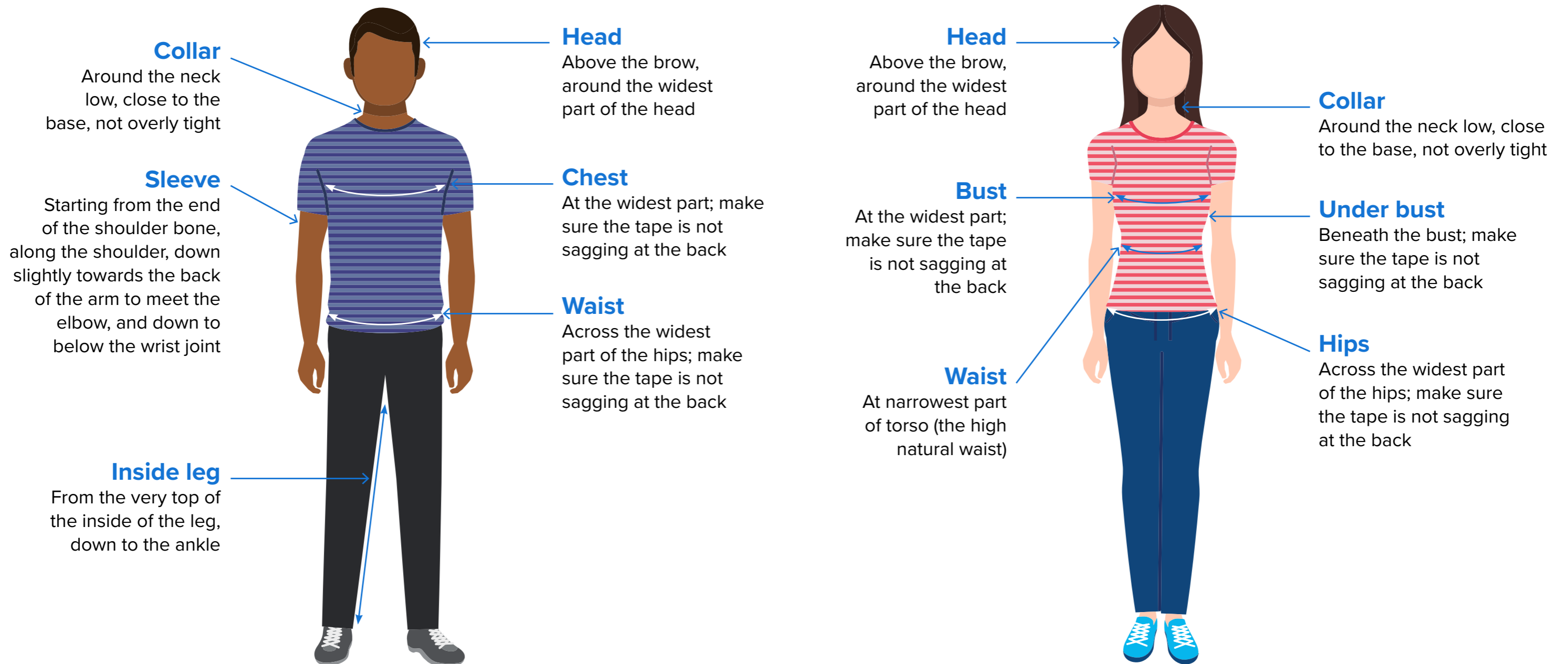
**I need people  
with afro hair for  
a disco scene**

## A note on measurements

It's essential that you provide your measurements so that casting agents know what you look like and whether you're the right fit for a project. Occasionally costumes are limited, so they might also use this information to find people who will fit a certain sized pant or shoe.

**We recommend that you re-input your measurements every three to six months. This will let agents know that they're up to date, making them more likely to book you.**

It's essential that your measurements are accurate, so don't guess! Grab a measuring tape and follow the guidelines below – it should only take a few minutes.



# Casting Information

This section allows you to specify any other skills, experiences or qualities that might make you the perfect fit for a brief.

As you can see, the sheer variety of traits agents look for means that almost everyone has something – if not many things – to bring to the table.



<p><b>Bio</b></p> <p>A short bio is helpful, but be sure to also include any details in the relevant profile fields, as this will ensure you appear in as many agent searches as possible.</p>	<p><b>Acting</b></p> <p>Add any acting experience or skills (like crying on cue) and let agents know what you'd be willing to do on camera, such as kissing or nudity.</p>	<p><b>Memberships</b></p> <p>Let agents know if you belong to a union (like Equity or Bectu) or if you are registered as a stunt artist or Security Industry Authority licence holder.</p>
<p><b>Qualified professionals</b></p> <p>Agents often look for people who have worked as doctors, nurses, paramedics, fire fighters or police officers to bring a sense of realism to a scene.</p>	<p><b>Other career experience</b></p> <p>The same goes for other professions, like bartender, cabin crew, chef, drag artist, hairdresser, mechanic, pilot, waitstaff. Select as many that apply.</p>	<p><b>Skills</b></p> <p>Dance, circus, martial arts, sports, music – the list of skills agents might search for is almost endless. Be sure to choose all that apply (don't be shy)!</p>
<p><b>Stunt skills</b></p> <p>Productions are always looking for qualified stunt artists, so be sure to let agents know if you have any Special Action ("SPACT") training.</p>	<p><b>Languages</b></p> <p>Are you proficient in another language (or two or three)? Include them all on your profile and you may be chosen for a small speaking part.</p>	<p><b>Accents</b></p> <p>Like languages, if you have a distinctive accent (or are a good mimic), list these on your profile and you might be given a line or two.</p>
<p><b>Wardrobe</b></p> <p>Let agents know if you own any special outfits (such as a business suit, police uniform, flamenco outfit or hospital scrubs) which you could wear in a scene.</p>	<p><b>Pets</b></p> <p>Own a friendly dog or cat? Or maybe a bird, iguana or bunny that's itching for its big break? If you have a furry friend you could bring to set, let agents know.</p>	<p><b>Vehicles and licences</b></p> <p>Got a car, bike or scooter you could bring along to a shoot? Or a licence which would let you drive in a scene? Select all that are relevant from the dropdown.</p>
<p><b>Family members and children</b></p> <p>If you have a family member who is registered with us, let agents know in case they need supporting artists with a family resemblance.</p>	<p><b>Children</b></p> <p>Similarly, let agents know if you have any children who aren't old enough to register with us (under 16) but would be available to work with you.</p>	<p><b>Quick casting opt-outs</b></p> <p>We assign quick casting themes to help agents quickly find people for common briefs. Let us know if you don't want to appear in any of these themes.</p>

# ID Documents

To legally contract you to work as a supporting artist, agents need certain information from you. Make sure you've completed this section or they won't be able to book you.

## Proof of your right to work

It's vital that we can confirm you have the right to work in the UK with no restrictions before you're put forward for work. These checks are performed in line with right to work policies, and on that basis, we need you to provide the appropriate documents evidencing your status.

### *British and Irish citizens*

If you're a British or Irish citizen, please provide a scan of your passport and your passport number. If you don't have a passport, you can provide your national insurance number and a scan of your birth certificate.

### *Other EU/EEA citizens*

If you're a citizen of another EEA country, please provide a scan of your passport or national ID card and your nine-digit Home Office share code. If you don't have a share code, you can get one [online](#).

### *Non-EEA citizens*

If you're a non-EEA citizen, in addition to your passport, we need a scan of your current visa, residence permit, residence card or equivalent immigration documentation which states your right to work.

### *A note on student visas*

Unfortunately, student visa holders are generally not allowed to work as entertainers or in a self-employed capacity, so we aren't able to approve profiles for those on a student visa.

## National insurance number

Any work you do as a supporting artist is classed as self-employment. For you to fulfil the tax requirements of self-employment, you must have a national insurance number, so this field is mandatory during the application process.

## DBS certificate

You also have the opportunity to upload a DBS certificate if you have one, but this isn't necessary.





# Payment Information

Here is where you provide your bank details (and VAT number, if you're VAT registered) for payment after any work.

## Photographs

Providing suitable photos is essential, as this is the main way agents decide whether you're a good fit for their brief. They don't have to be professional, but they should be of a high enough quality that agents can clearly see what you look like.

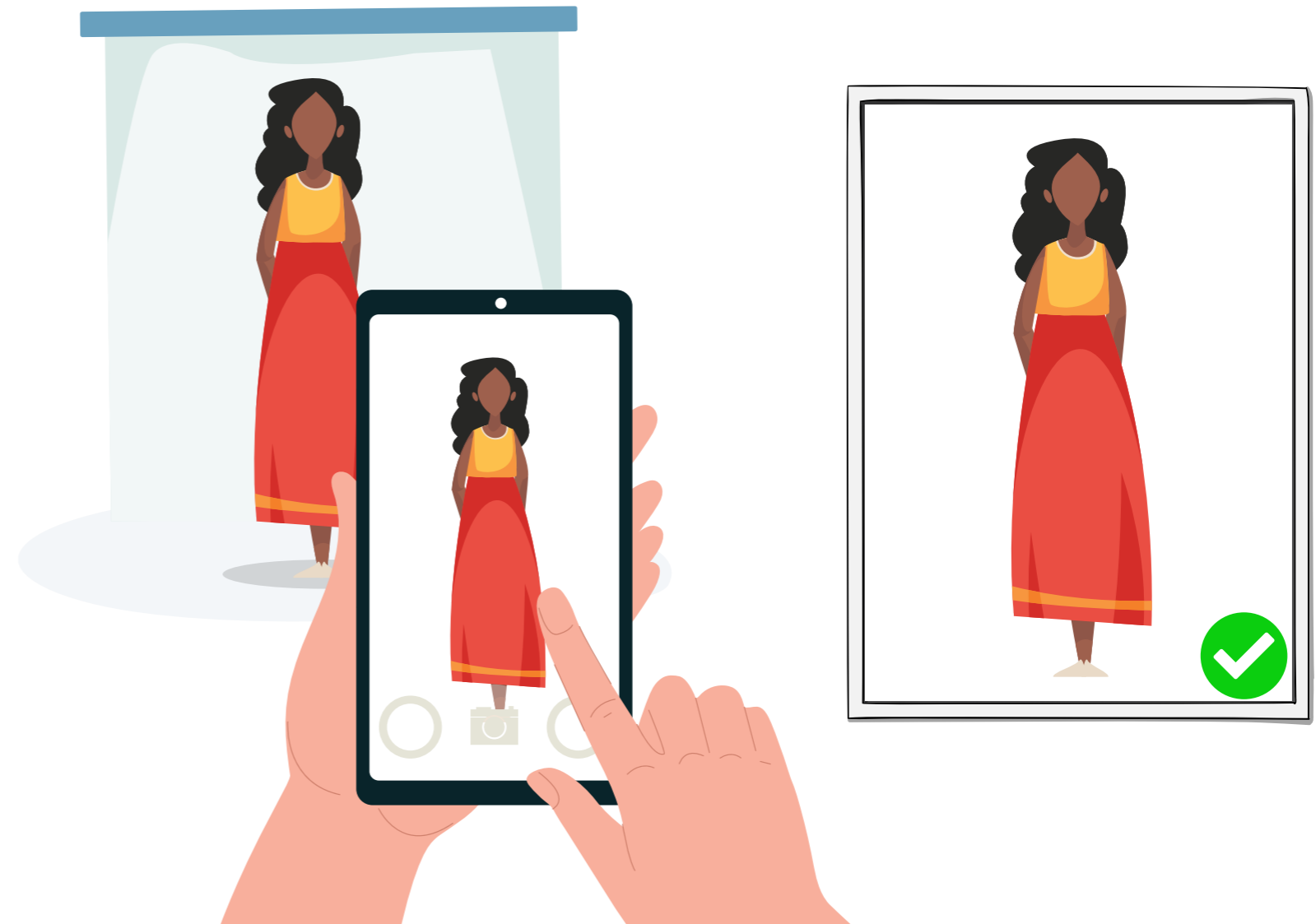
You're required to submit a Main and Face photo when you sign up, and these will be locked once your profile has been reviewed by the Entertainment Partners team. This way, you can be sure your photos meet the needs of casting agents and production teams, increasing your chances of being booked!

We recommend that you update your photos every three-to-six months or after a significant change in appearance (like if you chop all your hair off or shave your moustache).

Your photos won't be approved unless they meet our requirements, so grab your phone or camera and follow the guidelines below.

### Main photo

This should be a full-length photo, so your entire body – from the top of your head to your feet – should be in the frame. As it would be a physical impossibility, we are unable to accept a selfie as your Main photo. Instead, use a timer or ask someone else to take your picture for you.



## Face photo

This should be from the shoulders up (like a passport photo).



## Other photos

We recommend that you upload additional photographs relevant to casting. If you have professional acting headshots, you can include these here. Note that we don't recommend that you include these as your Main and Face photo because agents prefer to see candid shots to get a better sense of what someone looks like.

You may also want to include any photos which show your physique, special skills or other identifying characteristics. Photos of you wearing any special clothing you own (like police or military uniforms, a tuxedo or fancy evening wear), of your pets or vehicle, or of your tattoos, piercings or ballerina skills are all good options.

While it can be tempting to upload as many photos as possible, bear in mind that agents might not have time to look through all of them. We therefore recommend that you only upload photos which are necessary to support your profile.

## Photo dos and don'ts

- ✓ Do use current photos (ideally from the last three months)
- ✓ Do make sure you're well lit (no dark shadows or harsh sunlight)
- ✓ Do stand against a solid background (preferably a plain white wall)
- ✓ Do stand up straight and look directly at the camera
- ✓ Do wear a neutral outfit
- ✓ Do maintain a neutral expression
- ✓ Do ask someone else to take your photos

- ✗ Don't wear a lot of makeup or have your hair (or sunglasses!) covering your face
- ✗ Don't use a filter
- ✗ Don't upload photos that are blurry or out of focus
- ✗ Don't upload photos featuring other people or distractions
- ✗ Don't zoom in or use a wide-angle lens
- ✗ Don't pull a face
- ✗ Don't use a selfie – particularly for your Main photo, as this will be rejected

# Keeping your profile up to date

Now that you've created a stellar profile, remember to keep it up to date!

Think back to what you looked like this time last year. Is your hair the same length and colour? Have you shaved (or grown) your beard or learnt a new skill?

At a minimum, we recommend that you update your profile every three-to-six months (or after any major changes to your appearance).

Doing this will let agents know that it's accurate and make them more likely to book you.



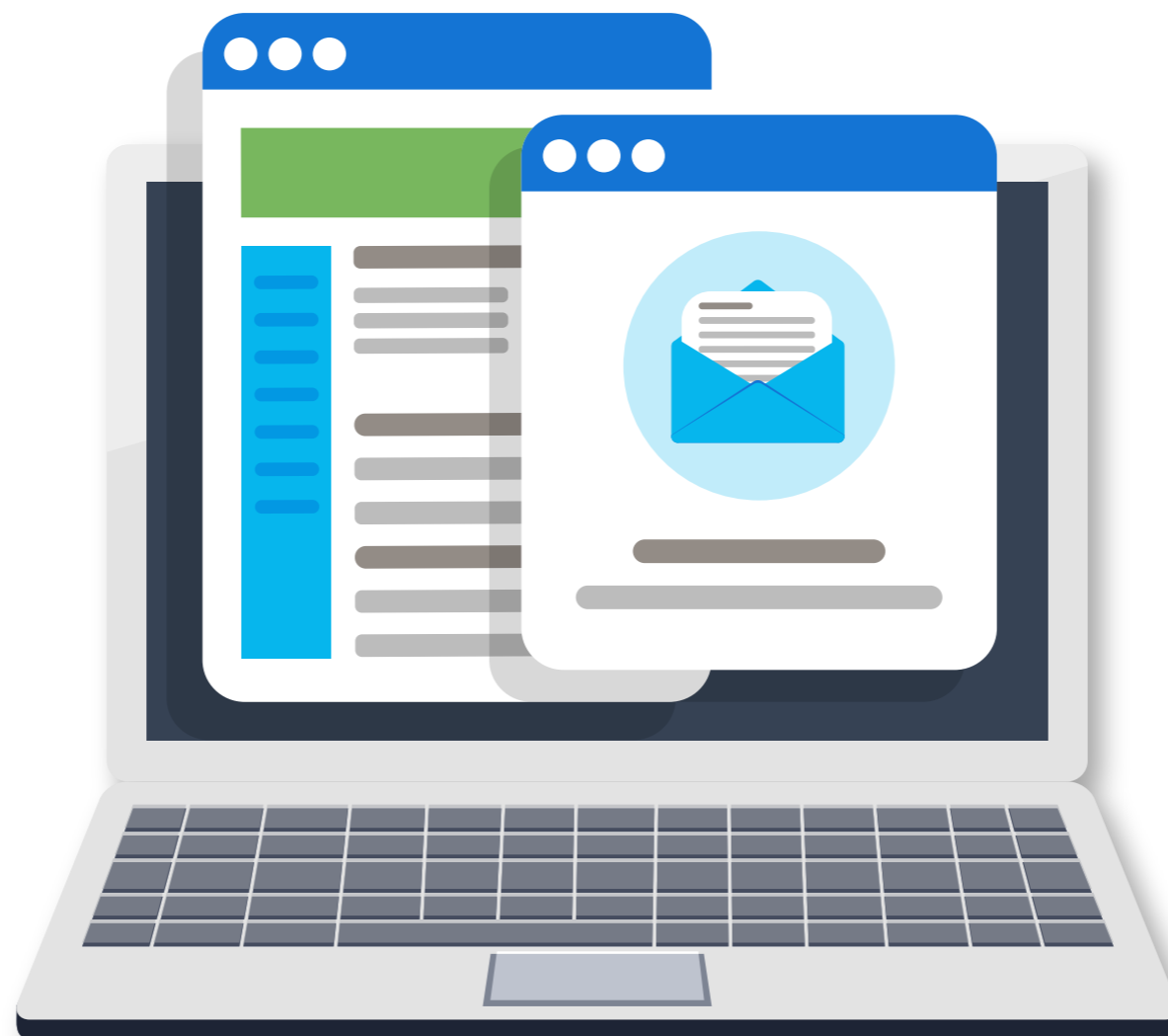
# Need more help?

If you need help with your Entertainment Partners profile, send us a message at [ukartistsupport@ep.com](mailto:ukartistsupport@ep.com).

Remember any questions about a particular production should go directly to the casting agency, which will be named in any job-related messages you receive. You can find more information on the agencies which use the Casting Portal – including their contact details – [here](#).

We also strongly recommend that you join our [Entertainment Partners Casting Community Facebook group](#), where you can get tips and advice from your fellow supporting artists.

**Now go forth and be cast! We look forward to catching a glimpse of you on the big screen.**





With more than 45 years of experience, Entertainment Partners is a global leader in entertainment payroll and production finance and production management solutions.

The Entertainment Partners Casting Portal is the industry-leading solution for finding, booking and managing supporting artists on feature films and high-end TV shows.

To see more of what our tech can do, visit [ep.com](https://www.ep.com).