

UPWORK BADGES

Upwork badges are a recognition system that was created to encourage freelancers who have reached certain milestones. IT ALSO helps potential clients know a little bit more about the performance history of that freelancer.

There are 4 levels total. Each level is a bit different in what is required and the benefits you get from them. Let's talk a little bit about each of these and then pick a level that you're going to shoot for in this next season.

There are even some fun badge certificates that you can print out and put up as a reminder of what you're aiming for.

An overview of the four badges you can earn are:



01 RISING TALENT



02 TOP-RATED



03 TOP-RATED PLUS



04 EXPERT VETTED



01 RISING TALENT

Here are the requirements and the benefits of the Rising Talent badge. This is for freelancers who are new to the platform but are showing promise with their skills and the way they've worked with clients.

Upwork intentionally makes you wait at least 90 days from your first hire to be eligible to become a Top-Rated freelancer. So, this is a way to help freelancers who are doing great but just haven't been on the platform that long.

REQUIREMENTS



- Pass the Upwork Readiness Test
- Complete projects on time and as promised to clients
- Maintain a 100% complete profile with accurate skills and genuine work
- Genuine work means you've got a portfolio that looks like what you say you can do as a freelancer
- Keep your availability status up-to-date
- Regularly submit proposals to projects that match your skill set
- That means don't be applying to stuff you don't have skills in on your profile!
- Have been active in the past 90 days or joined in the past 30 days
- Adhere to the Upwork Terms of Service

BENEFITS



- A Rising Talent badge that displays on your profile
- Reduced fees (starting at 10%) on Featured Jobs
- A one-time bonus of 30 free Connects so you can submit more proposals to clients
- Access to chat and ticket support from a specialized customer support team



02

TOP-RATED FREELANCER

Ahh the coveted top-rated freelancer. Things got much easier for me when I reached this status. Clients started reaching out to me first rather than me having to go look for them.

It's 100% doable to be successful on Upwork without it BUT it sure does make it easier. This is the badge we're focusing on in this course because this is the badge that makes the biggest difference until you hit Expert Vetted which is likely to take a while. So, let's look at what you need and what you get.

REQUIREMENTS



- A current Job Success Score of 90% or higher
- First hire on Upwork was more than 90 days ago
- Maintained Rising Talent status or a Job Success Score of at least 90% for at least 13 of the last 16 weeks
- A 100% complete profile (90% for those who brought their profiles over from Elance)
- 12-month earnings of at least \$1,000
- Up-to-date availability (if unavailable now, set a date estimate)
- An account in good standing with no recent account holds
- Activity on the platform (proposal, accepted invitation, or earnings) in the past 90 days

BENEFITS



- Reduced fees (starting at 10%) on Featured Jobs
- More control over your Job Success Score
- Invitations to submit proposals to jobs assisted by Talent Specialists
- Our Job Digest email to make it easier for you to find jobs that are a great match
- Faster payments on hourly contracts
- Premium customer support, including phone and chat



03

TOP-RATED PLUS

Top-Rated Plus is basically the same thing as Top-Rated. The only difference is the amount of money you've made in a given year.

You will definitely reach this if you follow the principles in this course BUT I would be patient. Keep your head down and work toward becoming a Top-Rated freelancer first. This will be the natural second step

REQUIREMENTS



- The same requirements as a Top-Rated freelancer PLUS:
- Total earnings over \$10,000 in the past 12 months
- Worked or working on one or more large* contracts in the past 12 months without negative outcomes (<10% for agencies)

BENEFITS



- Reduced fees (starting at 10%) on Featured Jobs
- More control over your Job Success Score
- Invitations to submit proposals to jobs assisted by Talent Specialists
- Our Job Digest email to make it easier for you to find jobs that are a great match
- Faster payments on hourly contracts
- Premium customer support, including phone and chat
- In other words the same benefits as Top-Rated



04

EXPERT VETTED

Becoming an Expert Vetted freelancer is a huge accomplishment. And, Upwork keeps the requirements sort of vague. That's likely because this is more of a hand-picked scenario.

they see certain freelancers really excelling and then they reach out to them. This is a great badge to shoot for and I hope and pray all of you reach this level if that's something you want to shoot for.

But, again, this takes time and effort and a willingness to play the long game. So, stay patient and diligent and one day it'll happen

REQUIREMENTS



- Hard skill vetting with professional Talent Managers to ensure the highest technical competence
- Expertise in your domain
- Soft skill assessment, including reliable execution and excellent communication
- Personal interview

BENEFITS



- A dedicated Talent Manager who understands your strengths and helps match them to the right clients
- A premium profile design visible to Upwork Enterprise and Business clients

UPWORK BADGES

Your homework for this week is to choose a badge you're going to try to receive in this next season of your freelancing career.

Remember, be smart about it! Use the list of requirements in this worksheet to make a roadmap and a timeline for getting there.

This isn't just wishful thinking. This is having a plan and then going after it until you reach the finish line.

Whichever you choose I'm behind you all the way. And, as I mentioned in the video, you always have the coveted "Chris Thinks I'm Awesome Badge."

HOMEWORK



Put a check next to the badge you're going for:

☐**01****RISING TALENT**☐**02****TOP-RATED**☐**03****TOP-RATED PLUS**☐**04****EXPERT VETTED**

I, _____, HEREBY DECREE THAT I WILL ONE DAY BECOME A

RISING TALENT FREELANGER



Sign here to make it official

I, _____, HEREBY DECREE THAT I WILL ONE DAY BECOME A

TOP-RATED FREELANCER



Sign here to make it official

I, _____, HEREBY DECREE THAT I WILL ONE DAY BECOME A

TOP-RATED PLUS FREELANGER



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EXPERT VETTED



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