



Below you'll find some of the most frequently asked questions about membership applications, fees and payments.

How do I join?

If you are new to BTS go to the joining page and select 'Join BTS Now' and follow the instructions.

If you have a previously registered to use the website and/or, have been a member in the past, log in with your usual email address and password and select 'Join BTS' from the list of option in 'My BTS'.

Once you have completed the online form and arranged payment method, you will receive an automated email acknowledging receipt of your application.

How much does it cost to become a member of the Society?

Details can be found on the joining page of the website.

I would like to renew my membership. When do I need to pay my subscription by?

If you joined before 1 July 2018, you need to renew your membership by 1 July each year. If you joined after this date your membership renewal date is on the anniversary of your joining. This is calculated as 12 months from the first day of the month, following the one in which you joined.

What payment methods are available when renewing my subscription?

We accept payment by credit card, direct debit and cheque. Payment by direct debit

offers a discount on the standard rate for membership subscriptions. Because of the extra cost involved, we are no longer able to offer payment instalments.

How do I cancel my membership?

If you wish to cancel your membership, please send an email to membership@brit-thoracic.org.uk or a letter to BTS. If you pay by direct debit, please contact your bank to cancel this with them to be doubly sure.

What will happen if I don't pay to renew, or fail to cancel my membership by the renewal date?

Members have 30 days from the renewal date to pay their subscription. If it is not received within this time frame, your membership will lapse and access to member benefits will be cancelled.

If you have added ERS membership to your BTS membership, this will also be cancelled.

What if my membership has lapsed and I want to renew my membership?

You can re-join from the 'My BTS' page of the BTS website. Log in with your usual email address and password and select 'Join BTS' from the list of options in 'My BTS'.



What is the Society's refund policy?

Membership is on an annual basis and **no refunds** will be given to members who resign during the year. If you want us to reconsider, please write to membership@brit-thoracic.org.uk letting us know why you believe there are extenuating circumstances.

What do I need to do to add ERS membership to my BTS membership?

Discounted ERS membership is available to BTS members living in the United Kingdom. Log in to the BTS website and select 'Join ERS' from the list of options in 'My BTS'.

How long will it take for my ERS membership to be activated?

You should receive access to the ERS benefits within one month of submitting your application via the BTS website. If you have any questions about any aspect of your ERS membership (including your login to the ERS website, Congress delegate fees etc) please contact ERS directly via members@ersnet.org

My contact details have changed. How do I update these with BTS?

You can update your details (home/work address and telephone numbers) online. Log in to the BTS website and select 'My Details' from the list of options in 'My BTS'. You can also update your professional/training status, too.

I need a receipt for my membership subscription.

You can download a receipt for your current and past subscriptions from the BTS website. Log in and select 'My Membership' from the list of options in 'My BTS'.

How do I get online access to Thorax?

If you are in a BTS membership category which subscribes to *Thorax*, log in to the BTS website and from the list of options available in 'My BTS' select, *Thorax*.

I want to subscribe to a category which includes Thorax. How do I do this?

Email membership@brit-thoracic.org.uk with your request. You can upgrade your membership by paying a pro-rata fee for the difference between your current and the new subscription rate. You will be asked to renew at the new member rate.

I wish to stop receiving Thorax by post but continue to have online access. Is this possible?

Email membership@brit-thoracic.org.uk with this request. You can opt back in at any time by sending a request to receive the paper copy again. Please note online access only does not offer any reduction to the BTS membership subscription. BTS has to pay the same amount per journal subscription to BMJ irrespective of whether or not the member receives a paper copy, or has opted for online only access.

**Can I claim income tax relief on my fees?**

Membership subscriptions are tax deductible. Income tax relief was approved in 2004 by the Board of the Inland Revenue, as it was called at the time, under Section 344 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003, with effect from 6 April 2004.

Receipts for membership subscriptions may be downloaded from the 'My BTS' section of the website.

I am going on maternity/ paternity leave. Does BTS offer any concessionary rates for this?

We do not offer a reduced subscription or membership suspension arrangement while a member is on parental leave. The fees are tax deductible, and access to the Journal and other benefits will assist with Keeping In Touch (KIT) activities.

I will be retiring soon. Does BTS offer an special rates for retired members?

If you have retired completely from medical practice, you can transfer your membership to the Retired membership category, providing you have served a minimum of one year in another category immediately preceding your request. This is free of charge, but you will have to pay a small sum to attend BTS Winter and Summer Meetings.