



# Get Your First Freelance Writing Jobs: 4 Steps to Earning Online

Welcome to Get Your First Freelance Writing Jobs! We're excited to have you in our 4-week bootcamp.

There's a lot going on in this course, and the month will fly by fast. So we want to make sure this course works for you.

## The basic structure:

Each week, we'll release new trainings, bonuses, and a homework assignment. Watch, do, and — if you're a full-participation student — post your homework for review in the forums. Full participation students can also join us for weekly live Q&As, while the rest of the Den membership is free to read/listen to those after they're posted.

Don't worry about being 'behind' — we'll review all modules of homework throughout the entire month of this master class. BUT... try to move along (and download as you go), because these materials go away in 30 days. And participation students will want to get an article draft done before month-end, to get editors' valuable feedback.

## 6 Tips for Crushing Get Your First Freelance Writing Jobs

Want to really crush this bootcamp? Here are 8 tips to help you get the most for your money, succeed as a student...and learn enough to land some great gigs.

### 1. NEW HERE? READ THE ORIENTATION GUIDE.

If you're new to Freelance Writers Den, you're going to want to read our [Orientation Guide](#). It shows you how to set up your profile with social links, your head shot, and more. You'll learn how to use our forums — start a topic, leave a response, and most importantly, how to know when you get an answer to your question.

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By: Carol Tice and Mandy Ellis  
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It also gives you the steps to upload an avatar so we feel like we're talking to a real person, not some gray facsimile, and to change your display name to your real name. No hidden identities in freelance nonfiction writing.

**Big Den usage tip:** Be sure to check the login box that says 'keep me logged in for 2 weeks.' That'll help keep you from being logged out in the middle of leaving a long forum comment. And when you leave one of those, copy it to your clipboard before you press 'send,' just in case your 2 weeks are up, right then.

## 2. DON'T TAKE SHORTCUTS.

Guess what? We can tell when a student submits a homework assignment without having read and watched the course materials. And let us tell you, it ain't pretty.

Avoid all that awkwardness and begin each week by taking in the training in your chosen format (read a transcript, watch a webinar, or listen to a recording). Read through the forums, and carefully read/watch the additional resource materials. This will save you a lot of time and angst.

## 3. USE THE SAME HOMEWORK THREAD THROUGHOUT.

For full participation students: Please create one homework thread with your name in the topic title. Then reply to it with each new assignment. This ensures that we can see the progression of your ideas throughout the bootcamp and what feedback you've been given already.

## 4. GET NOTIFICATIONS WHEN YOU GET REPLIES TO YOUR POSTS.

There are two easy ways to track responses to your forum comments — "Watch" and "Subscribe." These are two options you'll see at the bottom of any forum post.

Clicking on "Watch" will light up a counter for you at the top of your forums, under "Watching," if you have responses. Click on that, and you'll see a clickable list of threads you're interested in that have received responses.

Choosing "Subscribe" will sign you up to receive an email notification any time there is activity on the post. A Subscribed counter will also be displayed in the upper right of the forum pages.

Not sure how to do that? The [Orientation Guide](#) has full instructions.

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## 5. PARTICIPATE IN THE FORUMS (IF YOU SIGNED UP FOR 'EM).

Full-participation students in Get Your First Freelance Writing Jobs get a full month of forum feedback. One common mistake we see is students only looking at the threads they started. They post a question, or a homework assignment, and only ever look at the answers we give to them—and not at what other students are asking...thereby missing out on some of the most educational stuff in this whole course.

Be sure to read through ALL the threads. Chances are, someone has a question that you also have—or one you didn't even know you had until you read it!

Also, reading other people's homework assignments and our critiques will help inform your own assignments. You can learn a lot from other's mistakes—and successes. Honestly, it's almost like a whole bonus course, if you read all the instructor feedback.

We'd like to encourage you to interact with other students on the forums, too. Don't let this be a one-way conversation with students asking questions and then only Carol and Mandy answering! (We hate that.)

If you have an idea for someone, a resource to share, a suggestion, or some experience you want to share—please do so! It makes the forums much more fun and useful.

## 6. EMAIL THE RIGHT PEOPLE.

If you have a technical question — for example, if you have trouble logging on to the forum or downloading materials — email the helpdesk at [help@freelancewritersden.com](mailto:help@freelancewritersden.com). If you email Carol or Jennifer, this will delay your response, as we'll need to forward it to the helpdesk ourselves. (We're the writing pros, not the tech geeks.) We have tech wizards standing by at the helpdesk, to assist you with website and forum questions!

Note that we do not support this bootcamp on email—please do not email us ideas, assignments, or questions. We are just going to refer you back to the forums. We need your work posted on the forums, so all the students can learn from the exchange of ideas. The forums accelerate the learning...so be on them.

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If you're having any trouble getting on those forums, that email to contact, once again, is [help@freelancewritersden.com](mailto:help@freelancewritersden.com).

## 7. PARTICIPATE IN THE LIVE Q&AS.

Full participation students get access to live Q&A calls each week. The access info is posted on the course dashboard — and we'll send you an email reminder about an hour before the call. If you can't attend live, post your questions on the dedicated forum thread each week. Then, Jennifer will answer them during the call, and you can catch the replay.

Self-study students will have access to the recordings and transcripts after the call.

We hope these tips help you have a productive and smooth journey through this bootcamp!

—Carol and Mandy

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