LAW

IS A CAREER IN LAW FOR YOU?

Whether you are studying law or not, there are many routes into the legal profession and many positions within the sector to choose from.

You might even be studying law but don’t want to pursue a career as a legal professional. To get a feel for where a degree in law can take you, visit Chambers Student or Prospects for information on careers related to your degree.

chambersstudent.co.uk/where-to-start/alternative-careers-in-the-law
prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/law

SOLICITOR

Solicitors take instructions from clients and give advice on necessary legal action. Clients can be individuals, groups, or private companies. The routes to qualifying are set out overleaf. The following links are some of the resources available providing greater insight into the training and role of a solicitor. You no longer need to register with the SRA before starting a legal practice course.

Prospects Job Description www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/solicitor
Becoming a solicitor www.lawsociety.org.uk/law-careers/becoming-a-solicitor/

APPLICATIONS

LPC Central Applications Board www.lawcabs.ac.uk
BPTC applications www.barsas.com

CHANGES TO SOLICITOR QUALIFICATION ROUTE

There will be significant changes to the qualification route in 2020. Look at sra.org.uk/home/hot-topics/Solicitors-Qualifying-Examination. page to keep up to date.

BARRISTER

Barristers (in England and Wales) are specialists in advocacy, and represent individuals or organisations in court. The routes to qualifying are set out overleaf. The following links are some of the resources available giving you greater insight into the training and role of a barrister.

Prospects Job Description www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/barrister
How to become a barrister www.chambersstudent.co.uk/the-bar/how-do-you-become-a-barrister
Joining an Inn of Court www.barcouncil.org.uk/about-the-bar/what-is-the-bar/mms-of-court
Pupillage Gateway www.pupillageway.com

LEGAL EXECUTIVE

Legal Executives and Solicitors do a very similar job but a chartered legal executive specialises in a particular area of law. Otherwise, Legal Excs and Solicitors work together and Legal Excs can go on to be partners in a law firm. The training is less expensive and can be carried out while you work as a paralegal.

Prospects Job Description www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/chartered-legal-executive-england-and-wales
Chartered Institute of Legal Executives: www.cilex.org.uk/about-cilex/about-cilex-lawyers

PARALEGAL

Paralegals carry out legal support work and clerical duties. They are an essential part of the legal industry and a good starting point for your legal career. Paralegals are recognised as a professional group in their own right.

National Association of Licensed Paralegals www.nationalparalegals.co.uk/what_is_a_paralegal
Prospects job description: www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/paralegal
Institute of Paralegals theiop.org

WORK EXPERIENCE

Most employers want to see evidence of relevant work experience. Investigate:

Local law firms www.lex100.com / www.yell.com
Work placement opportunities www.allaboutlaw.co.uk/law-careers/legal-work-experience

ALTERNATIVE CAREERS

Interested in the management of a business? Company Secretary www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/company-secretary
Enjoy contracts, business or valuations? Chartered Surveyor www.rics.org/uk/the-profession/what-surveyors-do/
Enjoy financial analysis and litigation? Costs Lawyer www.associationofcostslawyers.co.uk/Train-to-be-a-Costs-Lawyer-2
Interested in business and enjoy employment law, contracts and strategy? Human Resources www.cipd.co.uk/new-hr-learning-development/about
## Timetable for Entry into the Legal Profession 2018/19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Barrister</th>
<th>Solicitor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Autumn Term 2018</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>LLB Final Year</td>
<td>BPTC applications December 2018 to January 2019 online at <a href="http://www.barsas.com">www.barsas.com</a>.</td>
<td>Full-time LPC applications Apply online at <a href="http://www.lawcabs.ac.uk">www.lawcabs.ac.uk</a>. No closing dates, but early application recommended</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Apply to Inns of Court for BPTC scholarships (closing dates late October/early November).</td>
<td>Training Contract applications: Employers can start interviewing candidates for training contracts from 1 September in final year. Look out for early deadlines in the first few weeks of term.</td>
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<td>Target National Pupillage Fair - 1 December 2018 (London) targetjobs.co.uk/events/national-pupillage-fair</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arrange pupillages <a href="http://www.pupillagegateway.com">www.pupillagegateway.com</a> closes early February, or direct with some Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Law Final Year</td>
<td>Full-time conversion course (GDL/CPE) application online at <a href="http://www.lawcabs.ac.uk">www.lawcabs.ac.uk</a> from October 2018 with no closing date but suggestion to apply early.</td>
<td>Apply for full-time GDL/CPE applications online at <a href="http://www.lawcabs.ac.uk">www.lawcabs.ac.uk</a>. Apply for vacation placements in Christmas/Easter/Summer. Check City firms training contracts early closing dates <a href="http://www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/TrainingContractDeadlines">www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/TrainingContractDeadlines</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Events at Essex:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Law Fair 15 November 2018 - law fair with employers and LPC, BPTC and GDL providers exhibiting</td>
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<td><strong>Spring Term 2019</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>LLB Final Year</td>
<td>Closing date for joining Inn of Court is 31 May you must be a member of an Inn to commence BPTC. BPTC applications clearing round from February to August (early application recommended) online at <a href="http://www.barsas.com">www.barsas.com</a>. Summer season pupillage applications via <a href="http://www.pupillagegateway.com">www.pupillagegateway.com</a> (March to April).</td>
<td>Apply for Law Society’s Bursary &amp; Diversity Access Schemes around Feb/March each year. Check <a href="http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/careers/becoming-a-solicitor/equality-and-diversity">www.lawsociety.org.uk/careers/becoming-a-solicitor/equality-and-diversity</a> Confirm LPC place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLB Penultimate Year</td>
<td>Arrange mini-pupillages. Summer season pupillage applications via <a href="http://www.pupillagegateway.com">www.pupillagegateway.com</a> (January to February).</td>
<td>Apply for vacation placements in Summer. Arrange relevant work experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Law Final Year</td>
<td>Apply for Inns. Submit GDL/CPE applications by February 2019. GDL/CPE scholarships by February 2019.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summer Term 2019</strong></td>
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<td>LLB Final Year</td>
<td>Submit documentation for the completion of the academic stage as required.</td>
<td>Apply for training contracts commencing 2021 in June/July of the summer vacation between your second and third year. Search places at <a href="http://www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/AdvancedSearch">www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/AdvancedSearch</a>?</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLB Penultimate Year</td>
<td>Autumn season pupillage applications via <a href="http://www.pupillagegateway.com">www.pupillagegateway.com</a> (August to September).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Law Final Year</td>
<td>Apply for 2021 training contracts. Closing dates during this term and around July for some firms. <a href="http://www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/TrainingContractDeadlines">www.lawcareers.net/Solicitors/TrainingContractDeadlines</a></td>
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All our handouts and information leaflets are available in other formats on request. The Employability and Careers Centre makes this information available in order to help students and graduates make well informed choices regarding employment opportunities, postgraduate study options and career paths. We make every effort to ensure that the information is accurate and up to date but can accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

2018/19

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