

Apprenticeship Standard (Trailblazer)

Legal: Solicitor

Level 7



Solicitor Apprenticeship - new for 2016

This new Solicitor Apprenticeship offers a work-based learning route to qualification as a solicitor. The Apprenticeship Standard has been created by employers, for employers across the sector and including leading global law firms. BPP University Law School is among the first to offer the apprenticeship to organisations and learners.

Overview

BPP University Law School's Solicitor Apprenticeship programme incorporates a university degree – the innovative LLB (Hons) Legal Practice – which apprentices will study whilst working in a law firm or other legal services environment. Apprentices will gain the 'gold standard' professional qualification of Solicitor, recognising their ability to deliver excellent commercial legal advice and client service, behave ethically, and demonstrate commitment to continual learning and development.

Key Information:	
Duration	<p>Standard guideline: Minimum 6 years</p> <p>Dependent on previous experience, individual progression rate and access to opportunities to gain the full range of competence.</p> <p>The learner will study for their apprenticeship whilst working in a full time role. Throughout the programme, work-based assignments will demonstrate the practical application of theory in the workplace.</p>
Qualification	LLB (Hons) Legal Practice awarded by BPP University
Assessments	<p>To complete the apprenticeship the learner must pass the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) centralised assessment, consisting of two parts:</p> <p>Part 1: Functioning Knowledge Tests Part 2: Standardised Practical Legal Examination</p> <p>In addition, to be awarded the degree, learners complete a variety of university assessments during the programme.</p>
Delivery	Blended learning with synchronous and asynchronous online learning supported by regular face-to-face sessions in University centre locations and individual support.
Study time	A minimum of 20% of the apprentice's contracted hours of work must be made available for learning off the job. Additional release may be needed around assessment periods.
Entry requirements	<p>From September 2016: 320 UCAS points (ABB) and 5 GCSEs grades A* - C including English and Mathematics (or other UK or International equivalent).</p> <p>From September 2017: 128 UCAS points (ABB) and 5 GCSEs grades A* - C including English and Mathematics (or other UK or International equivalent).</p> <p>Or successful completion of BPP's Certificate of Higher Education (Legal Services).</p> <p>Or successful completion of a Level 3 apprenticeship in Legal Services, Business Administration or similar, together with successful completion of our LLB (Hons) Admissions Test.</p> <p>Students who do not otherwise fully meet our criteria may be able to apply following successful completion of our LLB (Hons) Admission Test, or through the Accredited Prior Learning route if they have a recognised and equivalent qualification or experience.</p>
Costs	Total cost £27,000

Requirements

Employer

- Provide apprentices with a contract of employment for the duration of the apprenticeship on the first day of their apprenticeship and be paid at least a wage consistent with the law for both the time they are in work and in off-the-job learning
- Employer must not ask the apprentice to contribute financially to the direct cost of learning
- Provide the apprentice with paid time to attend off-the-job training, including additional support for English and Maths, or support accessed for learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- Recognise that the apprentice must complete the apprenticeship within their working hours
- Ensure apprentice spends at least 20% of their time in off the job training
- Enter into a contract with BPP University
- Support the apprentice to gain new skills

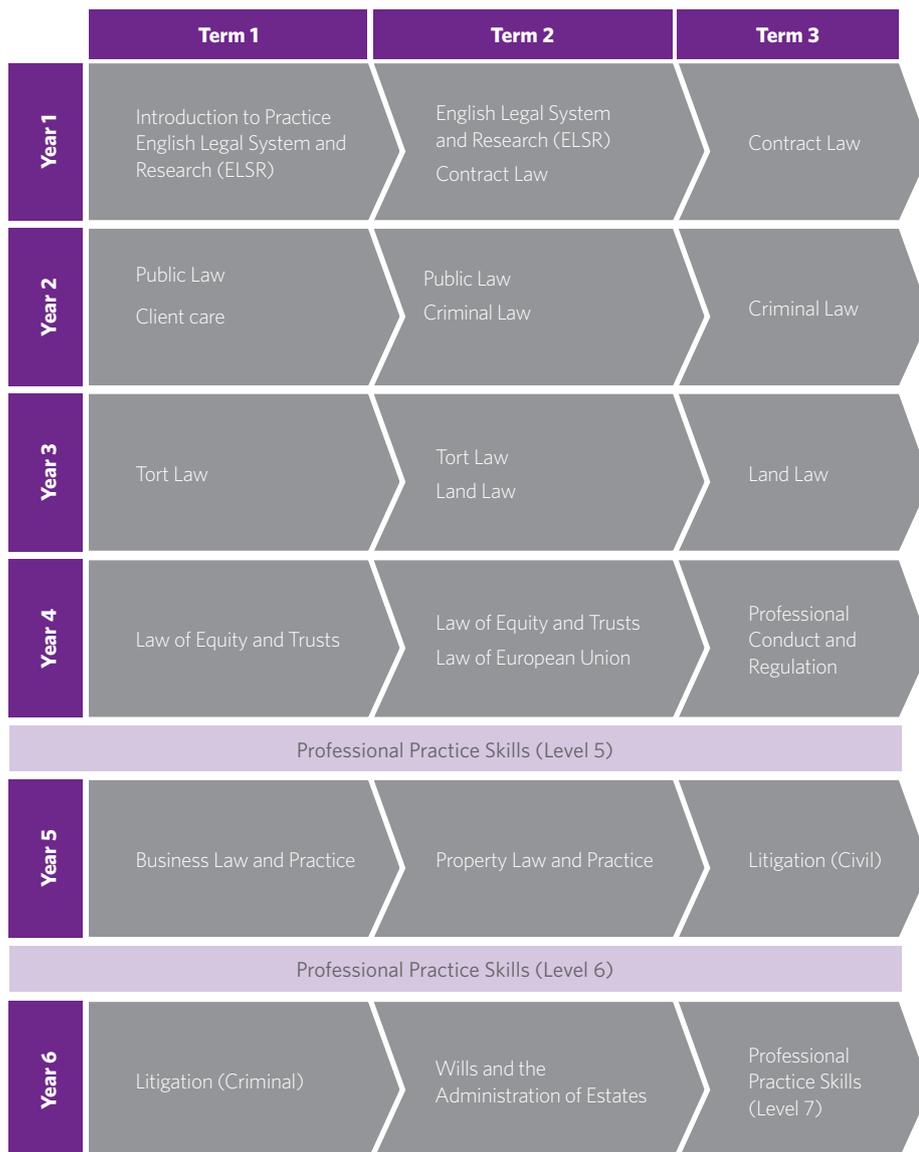
Apprentice

- Be in full-time employment for at least 30 hours a week
- Be an employee (have a contract of employment for the duration of the apprenticeship) on the first day of their apprenticeship and be paid at least a wage consistent with the law for both the time they are in work and in off-the-job learning
- A citizen of a country within the European Economic Area (EEA) or have the right of abode in the UK, and have been ordinarily resident in the EEA for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning
- Not be enrolled on another apprenticeship at the same time
- Has the right to work in England
- Able to complete the apprenticeship in contracted working hours
- Be in a new job role (nine months or less), or in an existing job role, where significant new Knowledge and Skills are needed – employer statement of justification needed (relevant to the apprenticeship)

Legal Apprenticeship: Solicitor

LLB (Hons) Legal Practice: Programme Outline

Year and module overview



The skills of drafting, writing, interviewing and advising, advocacy, research and negotiation will be pervasive throughout Year 6, culminating in the applied intensive preparation in Term 3 of Year 6 for Part 2 of the Solicitors' Qualification Examination (SQE).

Role suitability

- Legal Administrator
- Legal Secretary
- Paralegal
- Junior Fee Earner

Learning outcomes

In order to successfully meet the Apprenticeship Standard leading to qualification as a solicitor, apprentices must demonstrate that they can:

- Act honestly and with integrity and professionalism, exercising sound judgment
- Evidence technical legal competence at a standard expected of a solicitor
- Work with other people, deploying effective communication skills
- Manage themselves and their own work, applying good business practice

Solicitor status

This apprenticeship includes the knowledge, experience, skills and behaviours required to be admitted to the Roll of Solicitors.

Trailblazer group

The employer Trailblazer group that created this Standard includes:
Addleshaw Goddard, Browne Jacobson, Burges Salmon, Clyde & Co, DAC Beachcroft, Dentons, DWF, Eversheds, Gateley, Kennedys Law, Lewis Silkin, Mayer Brown, Olswang, Simmons & Simmons, Stephenson Harwood, Withers, Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

Costs and government funding

This is a government approved Apprenticeship Standard against which employers are able to draw down Apprenticeship Levy funds.

Quality Assurance

All BPP University Law School programmes go through a validation process prior to launch to ensure that they meet academic standards and provide quality learning opportunities for students.

Programmes are designed and informed by external reference points such as subject benchmark statements, professional body requirements and national qualifications frameworks, and are externally reviewed by academics and professionals in the field of law. The validation process is made up of a number of stages, including a University Approval Panel which includes an independent chair, at least two external subject experts and a student representative. University awards are subject to revalidation every five years but programmes are reviewed annually.

The Apprenticeship Standard is reviewed by the Trailblazer group every three years.

Delivered by BPP University Law School

BPP University Law School is the leading provider of vocational, professional training for aspiring lawyers in the UK. Incorporating established, highly-regarded programmes, we have combined innovative study content with real-world experience and insight from expert tutors delivering practical skills and sector knowledge to help our students excel in the workplace.

Key business benefits of BPP University Law School Solicitor Apprenticeship



Attract talent:

Our innovative programme will recruit and develop ambitious school leavers or existing employees and equip them with the skills, knowledge and experience to excel in the workplace. The apprentices themselves have no tuition fees to pay.



Tuition from market leaders in legal education:

We are trusted by over 60 international and UK leading law firms who exclusively send their trainee solicitors to study with us.



Cost effective:

With government funding available, apprenticeships offer a chance to develop a talented team of individuals without expensive training. From April 2017, employers will be able to draw their Apprenticeship Levy funds to spend against this apprenticeship.



Practice-focused:

Our work based assessments and projects demonstrate how theoretical knowledge is applied to practical challenges in the workplace.



Flexible learning without compromise:

Apprentices are able to utilise BPP University Law School facilities including innovative online resources, enabling them to study alongside their existing commitments.

To incorporate apprenticeships into your business, contact our expert team:

☎ 03331 309 119

✉ legalapps@bpp.com

🌐 bpp.com/apprenticeships

