

What we will cover (15.15 – 16.15)

Session 2 – Supporting aspiring solicitors

Topic	Speaker	Duration
Introduction	Julie Swan, Director of Education, SRA (Chair)	2 mins
The SQE training market	Richard Williams, Policy Manager, SRA	15 mins
LPC route and transitional arrangements	Julie Swan, Director of Education, SRA (Chair)	8 mins
QWE: Myth busting	Richard Williams, Policy Manager, SRA	15 mins
Apprenticeships in practice	Kerry Gilbert, Early Careers Manager – Apprenticeships, TLT LLP	20 mins

Transitional arrangements



Transitional arrangements for the LPC route - admitted by 31 December 2032



Students are eligible to qualify under the LPC route if, before 1 September 2021 they had started, accepted an offer, or paid a deposit for one of the following:

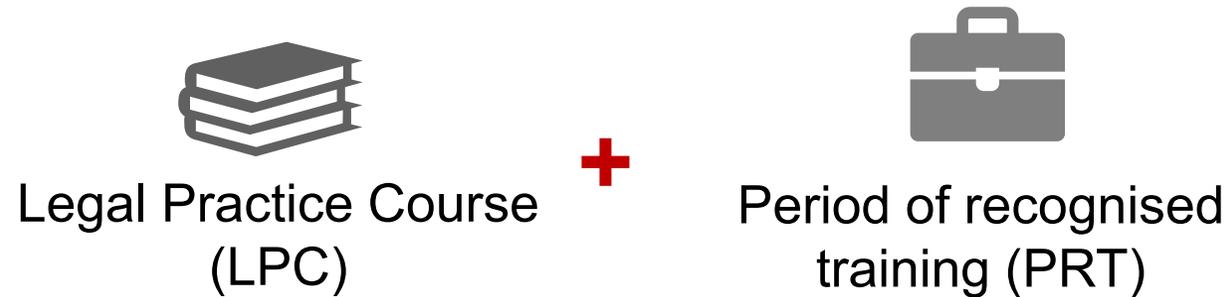
- A qualifying law degree
- Common Professional Examination / Graduate Diploma in Law
- Exempting law degree
- Legal Practice Course
- Period of recognised training

* Must have started course before 31 December 2021

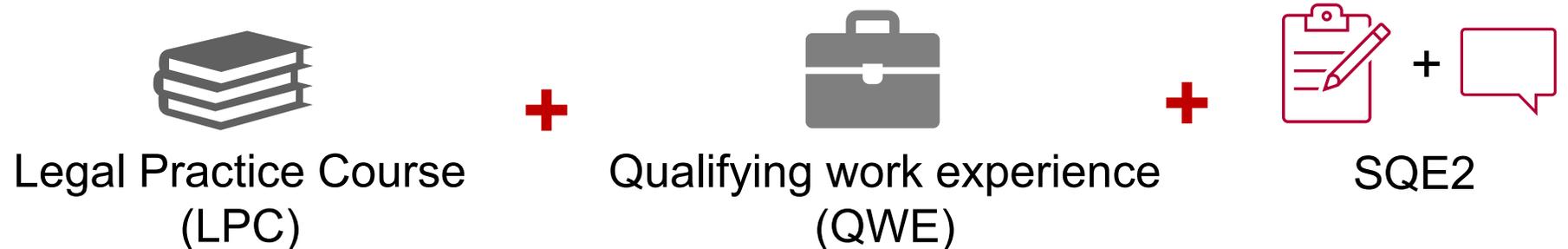
* Accepted offer before 21 September for qualifying law degree

Options for qualifying through the LPC route:

Option 1



Option 2 Equivalent to a PRT



What is qualifying work experience?

- Individuals qualifying through the SQE route need to complete qualifying work experience (QWE)
- QWE is any experience of providing legal services that enables an individual to develop some or all of the competences outlined in the Statement of Solicitor Competence
- Obtained in England or Wales or overseas
- Must be at least two years' working full time or equivalent part time
- Can be obtained in up to four different organisations
- Can be from current and previous roles

Confirming QWE

- Confirmed by a solicitor or COLP we regulate:
 - exposure to at least two competences
 - the length of work experience/placement carried out
 - also provide character and suitability issues if any
- Can also be confirmed by a solicitor that does not work for same organisation where the QWE was obtained but is willing to confirm and who has:
 - reviewed their work during the relevant period of work experience
 - received feedback from the person(s) supervising their work
- Candidates should record how their activity meets competencies

Myths – true or false?

Myth about confirming	True or false
It involves a solicitor is deciding whether an individual is competent	False. The SQE determines whether a solicitor is competent
It involves judging how well a candidate has been trained and the quality of their experience	False. A solicitor is confirming exposure to competencies, length of placement and any character and suitability issues
It automatically means I need to employ an individual as a solicitor	False. The employer decides whether to offer a solicitor role or keep the individual in their current position
It involves judging an individual's character and suitability	False. A solicitor must provide details and we assess

What makes good QWE?

- Tasks that develop a range of competencies
- Learning from experienced practitioners how to behave ethically
- Effective supervision
- Take reasonable and appropriate steps to confirm any retrospective requests
- Communicate with individuals about availability of roles once QWE is confirmed
- Candidates should record how some or all of competencies were met



QWE for candidates:
www.sra.org.uk/qwe



QWE for employers:
www.sra.org.uk/qwe



SQE webinars:
youtube.com/SRAasolicitors



Subscribe to SQE Update
newsletter: sra.org.uk/sqeupdate