

Legal Career Guide



Why work in Legal?

Those in the Legal sector perform a valuable role, especially as law is intertwined with every aspect of our society - from the minimum wage you can expect to earn in a new job to the rights you have should you lose it.

Working in law requires hard work, commitment and attention to detail. To succeed you require a logical and analytical approach, together with excellent verbal and written communication skills. Competition is strong and standards are high but the results can be rewarding and well-paid.

Is Law right for me?

A number of key skills are needed to be a good lawyer, core strengths include:

- ✓ Intellectual ability
- ✓ Motivation
- ✓ Resilience
- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Commercial awareness
- ✓ Communication skills

What qualifications do I need?

The Legal sector is an intellectually rigorous career, which is why firms and chambers require excellent academics. Most will require a law degree whilst others accept legal apprentices.

Whilst a degree in law is favourable, you can study another subject and convert to law by doing the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL).

But note: most firms do favour traditional academic subjects (eg, history or sciences) over more modern options (eg, media studies or drama).

What makes a good Legal CV?

- ✓ Giving examples of working under pressure
- ✓ Showing ability to persuade
- ✓ Demonstrating commercial awareness
- ✓ Tailoring CV to the firm you are applying for

Roles include:

- ✓ Solicitor
- ✓ Paralegal
- ✓ Partner
- ✓ Legal secretary
- ✓ Associate

Progression example:

Senior Associate



Associate



Solicitor



Non-qualified average starting salary
£15,000*



Non-qualified highest earners
£19,000*



Qualified average starting salary
£30,000*



Qualified highest earners
£60,000*

Interested in a career in Legal?
Get in touch with our specialists:

Cardiff 02920 220078
info@yolkrecruitment.com

yolkrecruitment.com