

Mentee Eligibility for Mentorship Programme 2025 – 2027

Please note that due to capacity/availability of mentors, we do not anticipate that we can match everyone who is eligible. Even if eligible based on the criteria below, there is still a possibility of not being selected for the mentorship programme when applying.

Prospective mentee applicants will be required to complete an online application form within the published Application Period.

To be eligible for a place on the Mentorship Programme, prospective mentees must be:

1. Aged 18 or over on the date of application.
2. A person who at all times in their interactions with Lawyers Who Care and other members of our wider community act with honesty and integrity.
3. Living in the United Kingdom and intending to pursue a legal career in England and Wales. In certain circumstances we may consider applicants who are not currently living within the United Kingdom but who are eligible to and intend to pursue a career in England and Wales
4. Care experienced. We define ‘care experienced’ as someone who has been in foster care (including kinship care) or a residential care placement, provided by their local authority during their childhood. Our definition further extends to include adoption.
5. Able to provide proof of care experience in the form of a letter from a social worker or other communication from a local authority, or School/College or personal advisor confirming their care experience. For example, a screenshot from a subject access request (SAR).
6. Has successfully completed any of the following courses in England and Wales or is currently enrolled or due to start within the next twelve months:
 - a. Degree or degree-level qualification; or

- b. Law degree or similar higher education law course including CILEX law course; or
- c. Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) or Post-Graduate Diploma in Law (PDGL); or
- d. Bar Course, for example the Bar Training Course, Bar Practice Course, Bar Vocational Course or Bar Vocational Studies; or
- e. Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE); or
- f. CILEX Professional Qualification (CPQ).

Alternatively, the applicant must be able to show the commitment and capacity to pursue a legal apprenticeship or another pathway to a career in the legal profession.

- 7. *FOR THE 2027 INTAKE ONLY: Able to demonstrate a commitment to pursuing a career in the legal profession. This can be by way of university degree, evidence of work/life experience and a short 100-word statement on why they want to become a legal executive (CILEX), solicitor or barrister.*

Approved by: CEO, Chair of the Advisory Board & Chair of the Mentorship Programme Committee, Lawyers Who Care

February 2025

To be reviewed in January 2026.