



STUDENT PROGRAMME

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OVERVIEW

The student programme has been designed to give trainee lawyers an introduction to working with older and vulnerable clients. It is hoped that by working your way through the programme, you will see what a rewarding area of the law this is to work in and once qualified you will seek to make this your specialism and vocation.

Who is the programme designed for?

The programme is designed for paralegals looking to take their careers forward, graduates and associates of CILEX, pupils, trainee solicitors, and newly qualified lawyers or those changing practice areas.

What are the benefits of joining Lifetime Lawyers and doing our student programme?

1. Lifetime Lawyers student membership gives you a competitive advantage for training contracts and employment prospects
2. Thorough grounding in older client law through our unique tailored student programme
3. Introduction to soft skills - hone your desk-side manner right from the start of your career
4. Access to Lifetime Lawyers job board - hear about job openings fast
5. Join a big community of professionals already working in this field
6. Access to the full library of Lifetime Lawyers proprietary best practice resources putting you at the cutting edge
7. Access to Lifetime Lawyers member forum - in-depth look at issues practising lawyers are grappling with and solutions
8. Events and other networking opportunities
9. Expert webinars every month plus access to our recorded webinar library
10. Access to free resources via the Lifetime Lawyers website – case law analysis, fact sheets, news archive, etc...

And much more...

What does the programme entail?

No exams!

Yes, you heard it right! We appreciate that whilst you are working hard at getting your professional qualifications, you will be doing plenty of exams. We do not wish to add to this burden. Instead, our programme is designed to introduce you to older client law via a series of webinars and associated practice notes. We do, however, ask that you complete the programme within 12 months of joining Lifetime Lawyers.

To complete the Lifetime Lawyers student programme, you simply have to work your way through all the elements of the programme and then fill in and sign your certificate of completion.

Once you have your professional qualification you will then be eligible to apply for Lifetime Lawyers professional membership.

Who can join the student programme?

Only the following people are eligible to apply to join as a student:

- Trainee Solicitors
- Solicitor apprentices
- Pupil barristers
- Students enrolled on or who have completed the Legal Practice Course
- Students enrolled on or who have completed the Bar Vocational Course
- CILEX members of the following grades:
 - CILEX Student
 - CILEX Member – Paralegal (previously Associate member)
 - CILEX Member – Advanced Paralegal (previously Graduate member)
 - CILEX Affiliate Membership
- Paralegals – anyone who does legal work or offers legal services who is not qualified as a solicitor, barrister or chartered legal executive and meets all the following criteria:
 - Works within a regulated law firm and has had some legal training;
 - Assists with legal work for which a solicitor, barrister or chartered legal executive is ultimately responsible; and
 - There is an Accredited Lifetime Lawyer within your firm.
- Qualified lawyers who are new to older and vulnerable client law including those who have transferred from another practice area

We expect all our members to move through Lifetime Lawyers' membership levels to become an accredited member and consider all applications for student membership on a case-by-case basis. If an applicant is not on a pathway that will qualify them as a professional member, then their application for student membership is likely to be rejected.

The programme

Once you join Lifetime Lawyers, you will be sent a copy of the Lifetime Lawyers older and vulnerable client law guidebook. This is designed to give you an overview of all areas you would be expected to cover in older and vulnerable client law, with particular emphasis on “soft skills” i.e. those specialist skills which they don’t teach you in law school.

You will also be expected to work your way through Lifetime Lawyers’ introductory webinar series. This consists of 11 webinars which have accompanying best practice notes. Once you have worked your way through all of these, you will have an excellent grounding in older client law and the associated soft skills, which will help to prepare you for career as a professional lawyer.

You will simply then need to submit your statement of completion to us and as soon as you have qualified, you will be able to apply to upgrade to Lifetime Lawyers professional membership.

Resources for students

As well as the dedicated student resources (guidebook, introductory webinars and best practice notes), there is a whole host of other resources on the Lifetime Lawyers website. You simply need to log in to the members’ area of the website and visit The Student Hub to access them: <https://lifetimelawyers.org.uk/Members/Members/Knowledge-Hub/The-Student-Hub.aspx>

The Lifetime Lawyers Knowledge Hub is a great place to start. It is accessible from your member’s home page. It contains a section – signposting to best practice: <https://lifetimelawyers.org.uk/Members/Members/Knowledge-Hub/Best-Practice.aspx>

This is an extremely rich section as it literally signposts to all the best resources an older and vulnerable client practitioner should be referring to. The hub also contains Lifetime Lawyers proprietary best practice guides. These have been specifically written for our members to use with their clients and are not only best practice but are extremely practical.

There is also the Lifetime Lawyers email forum where members discuss their current issues with fellow members.

Programme resources

Carefully crafted by some of the most experienced members of The Association of Lifetime Lawyers, the student programme aims to give students an excellent introduction to older and vulnerable client law.

Beginning with the Lifetime Lawyers older and vulnerable client law guidebook, this gives students a flavour of the key areas of law that older and vulnerable client practitioners cover and also gives strong emphasis on soft skills – the Lifetime Lawyers Way.

The introductory webinar series gives students key insights into the main areas of focus. Each webinar is accompanied by a proprietary Lifetime Lawyers best practice note.

Progressing through Lifetime Lawyers

At Lifetime Lawyers we want to ensure all our members are able to advise clients to the very highest of standards before recommending them to the public. We strongly encourage all members to follow the Lifetime Lawyers pathway to becoming an Accredited Lifetime Lawyer. This entails:

1. As student member

- Work through the Lifetime Lawyers student programme
- Sign a statement of completion
- Qualify
- Take Lifetime Lawyers Lifetime Care in Practice (LCP) Award. This qualification focuses on the soft skills needed to work with older and vulnerable clients. You will be familiar with this, having worked your way through the student programme. The LCP has its own set of resources to help you to prepare.

2. Become a member (pending accreditation)

- Complete the Lifetime Lawyers Lifetime Law in Practice (LLP) Award within 12 months of becoming a member (pending accreditation). Again, the student programme will have helped you to prepare for this and the LLP has its own set of resources to help.
- Once you have at least 3 years PQE and are spending 50% of time on older/vulnerable client matters, you are eligible to upgrade your membership to Accredited Lifetime Lawyer

3. Become an Accredited Lifetime Lawyer

- Re-accredit every 5 years

The process is shown diagrammatically on the next page.

Next steps

To get started on the Lifetime Lawyers student programme, you simply need to join Lifetime Lawyers as a student member and the rest is automatic.

If you have any questions about the Lifetime Lawyers student programme, please email Sue Carraturo – admin@lifetimelawyers.org.uk

THE LIFETIME LAWYERS PATHWAY – MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

In order to maximise the impact of members of The Association of Lifetime Lawyers on the marketplace, we expect all members to work towards becoming Accredited Lifetime Lawyers.

