

# SQE vs LPC

With the introduction of the Solicitors Qualifying Exam (SQE) in England and Wales, legal professionals will need to adapt to this new assessment style. However, during this transitional period which will run until 2032, firms can continue with the Legal Practice Course (LPC) or switch to the SQE. But which is best for you?

Here are some things to consider...

## LPC



### Cost

£11,000 – £16,000

Assessment fees for the LPC are included within the course providers fees.



### Duration

1 academic year full-time or 2 years part-time.



### Training contract

The training contract is 2 years, at a single organisation or firm, covering four seats of six months each. This must be secured to complete the process of qualification. The training contract can be difficult to secure due to the high demand.



### Different option for non-law graduates

Non-law graduates can only progress through the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) whilst law graduates take the LPC route.

## SQE



### Cost

SQE1 Prep costs £2,999. SQE2 Prep costs £3,499. For SQE1 Prep alumni, SQE2 Prep costs - £2,999.

The SQE1 Exam costs £1,622. The SQE2 exam costs £2,493. These fees are paid directly to The SRA.



### Greater flexibility

With the introduction of QWE, zero GDL requirement, and the ability to spread training and exam costs, the SQE offers increased flexibility compared to the existing route.



### Qualifying Work Experience (QWE)

Aspiring solicitors must complete two years of QWE in up to four organisations which can be completed before, during, or after the SQE assessments.



### No GDL required

Non-law graduates do not need to complete a GDL before studying for the SQE - they just need a degree or equivalent. But we do recommend our 40-week SQE1 Prep course to help you get familiar with the material.



### Character and suitability

Regardless of which route you pursue, aspiring solicitors will need to meet the SRA's character and suitability requirements to be admitted to the roll of solicitors. This will be checked when you officially apply to become a solicitor.

For more information, please visit [barbri.com](https://www.barbri.com)