

INTRODUCTION

This is a programme primarily targeted at ethnic minority and disadvantaged first, second and penultimate year undergraduate students. There will also be some places for those about to start their degrees and those who have completed their Legal Practice Course (LPC), Bar Vocational Course (BVC) and graduates.

WHY

Higher than average numbers of law students and graduates are from BME backgrounds and yet they are less likely to find training contracts, pupillages and tenancies. Some of the stumbling blocks is that BME students (due to their family backgrounds and other evident disadvantages) are more likely to be less prepared and less informed about the different routes into the profession, what is required and the recruitment process. By the time they become aware of these, it may be too late along their career path, resulting in waste of their talent, resources and time.

The aim of this scheme is to help prepare participants into the legal profession by increasing the likelihood of success, improving skills, providing information and raising aspirations via training workshops, coaching, mentoring and work placements.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Educate and inform about what the legal profession has to offer and the available wide ranging opportunities
- Raise aspirations and empower participants
- Assist participants in making informed choices and being open to the many available options
- Provide inclusive BME recruitment and retention services
- Provide work experience
- networking opportunities

WHAT

Assisting undergraduate students by offering a schedule of intensive training seminars, open days run by sponsoring organisations, workshops and one-to-one support that will include the following:

- Different routes into the profession.
- Academic requirements and other attributes required
- The various career options available on qualification
- Presentational skills – spoken, written, delivery, attitude and physical presentation
- CVs
- Application process and mock applications
- Interview process and mock interviews

- Coaching
- Commercial awareness workshops
- Mentoring
- Jargon busters
- Work placements in 2-4 different places
- Networking opportunities

HOW DELIVERED

Variable. Delivery will include interactive face-to face, workshops, DVD and podcasting.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Those aged 18 years and over who are already at university or about to start university and interested in a career in law and/or wish to find out whether a legal a career is for them and/or want to be armed with the relevant information to make an informed choice. Also graduates, including LPC and BVC graduates who are yet to secure training contracts or pupillages.