

Alternative legal careers

Image



Other regulated lawyers

Chartered Legal Executives and CILEX Practitioners specialise in one or more areas of the law, often working alongside solicitors, including conveyancing, criminal law, company and business law, litigation, personal injury, family law and probate.

Notaries, for example, authenticate personal and professional documents mostly for use abroad

Licensed conveyancers are qualified, professional property lawyers who specialise in the legal aspects

surrounding buying and selling property in England and Wales

Immigration advisors can help with immigration and asylum claims, including helping make applications to the Home Office and help with appeals against immigration and asylum decisions

Law cost lawyers make sure clients are properly charged for work undertaken on their behalf, helping divide up costs between the prosecuting and defending advisers. They may also be instructed to argue either in support of a solicitor's bill or to oppose a bill

Trade Mark and Patent attorneys help identify which intellectual property rights are available, advise how they can be protected, and outline likely costs and time frames. They can also help with licensing arrangements and other legal transactions

Probate practitioners are qualified, professional probate lawyers, who specialise in the legal aspects surrounding inheritance and the administration of wills and estates in England and Wales

Other lawyer/legal roles

Paralegals support solicitors, barristers and legal executives and are usually employed in law firms to work in a specialised department. They are not qualified solicitors but many go on to become solicitors. See also the Institute of Paralegals

Magistrates are volunteers who hear cases in courts in their community. They can hear cases in the criminal court, the family court, or both;

Non-legally qualified Tribunal judges such as at Employment Tribunals;

Judicial assistants support members of the court, usually by doing legal research including in family, employment, commercial law in the Court of Appeal

Will writers can advise on the contents of wills, write a will on behalf of someone else, advise how to put wills into effect, where they can be stored and who the executors of the will could be. Anyone can write a will but it is important that it is legally valid

Charity and trade union advisors can advise on a range of matters to individuals who may not, or do not wish to, appoint a regulated lawyer. This can include free advice on writing a will, setting up a power of attorney or other unreserved areas of the law

Mediators are an independent person that helps two parties come to an agreement through discussion or 'mediation'

Legal cashiers look after a law firm's finances. They process transactions and make sure the firm complies with the Solicitors Regulation Authority's (SRA) Accounts Rules

Legal secretaries provide specialist administrative support to solicitors, barristers and the law courts. They prepare legal letters and documents such as wills

Court ushers make sure that everyone involved with a court case is present and that they know what to do

Law Commission research assistants help make the law simple, modern and fair. Candidates must have a passion for law reform.

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