withers

Join a law firm that is genuinely different

Graduate careers in the UK



Where global collaboration delivers exceptional results

Hello

Welcome to Withers, a law firm focused on people.

For the past 130 years, we have supported some of the world's most remarkable individuals and organizations.

What we do for them is exciting, because what they're doing is exciting. Our working environment is flexible and agile, which suits them and us.

And our culture is highly collaborative. We work hard together, but always with humour and balance. We listen to ideas, and nurture talent and creativity.

We're helping our clients to shape the future. Can we help shape yours too?

Chambers STUDENT FEATURED FIRM 2026

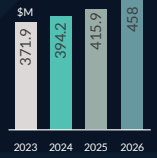
1,500 PEOPLE

200+ PARTNERS

15 LOCATIONS ACROSS US, EUROPE AND ASIA PACIFIC

44% OF THE FIRM'S PARTNERS ARE WOMEN

65+ LANGUAGES



FIRM REVENUE



I enjoy working with a diverse range of clients across a breadth of practice areas. The variety of work is intellectually stimulating, no two days are the same! The small trainee intake ensured I received a personal and unrivalled level of training.

Lucy Malek
Associate | London

Working here

Withers exists to help our clients succeed, and we can only do that by supporting our people, and providing interesting and rewarding career opportunities.

We want to be the best, and we work hard to keep improving. But that doesn't mean living at the office. We've found that we perform best when we work flexibly around our clients' needs and our own.

Ours is a collaborative, inclusive culture where everyone can flourish. We look to attract and develop people with wide-ranging backgrounds and skillsets. It's the only way for us to keep pace with change.

Our clients, in business, in dispute or in private

Creative advice for businesses in complex and turbulent times

Our global team of business lawyers has the depth and diversity of knowledge to advise on issues that arise over the entire life cycle of a company, from securing investment, to structuring executive pay, to completing mergers and acquisitions.

The largest global disputes and litigation group of its kind

We are strategically spread across key dispute resolution centres around the world, including New York, London, Milan, Singapore, Hong Kong and the BVI. We are uniquely placed to resolve our clients' issues efficiently and without drawing unwanted attention to them.

An international team dedicated to the needs of private clients

We provide real-time, on-the-ground advice to clients in the locations where they live, work and invest and we continually look for opportunities to enhance our strong presence worldwide. We are committed to delivering creative solutions to help our clients achieve their aims and avoid any adverse consequences of planning for the future.

Areas of legal practice

- Banking and finance
- Commercial litigation
- Corporate
- Divorce and family
- Employment
- Immigration
- International arbitration
- Investment funds
- IP and data protection
- Private client
- Public international law
- Real estate
- Tax
- Trust, estate and inheritance disputes
- White collar defense and investigations

Clients and industries



Art
Aviation and marine
Charities and philanthropy
Climate change, sustainability and social impact
Crisis management
Crypto and digital assets
Education
Energy
Farm and estates
Fashion and fashion tech
Financial services
Food and drink
Hotels and hospitality
Life sciences and healthcare
Luxury brands
Media and reputation
Sponsorship
Sports, talent and entertainment
Technology

Clients we work for

For over 130 years we have been proud to assist some of the world's most remarkable individuals and organizations in realizing their ambitions, protecting and defending their interests, and using private capital to transform the world around them.

CANCER RESEARCH UK

LEICESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

BINANCE

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

FLAT IRON

NOVAK DJOKOVIC FOUNDATION

OPPENHEIMER

Grab

ISSEY MIYAKE

ACCOR

SOHO HOUSE

GIORGIO ARMANI

The most rewarding part of my training at Withers has been the supportive and collaborative culture, which has given me the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to client work while gaining valuable global exposure.



Kelly Cheung
Trainee solicitor | Hong Kong

Working alongside leading lawyers in their fields has been an invaluable learning experience. I have also enjoyed the exceptional client exposure and the opportunity to work on complex matters with an international dimension.



William Toft
Trainee solicitor | London

There are incredible opportunities for professional growth at all levels and exposure to a diverse and sophisticated range of client matters.



T. Sandra Fung
Partner | New York

I have enjoyed being trusted with real responsibility from an early stage while working alongside colleagues who are generous with their time, feedback and expertise. That combination of opportunity and support has made my training contract particularly rewarding.



Lucy Devine
Trainee solicitor | London

Training

The Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) introduced the Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) as the primary route to qualification for solicitors in England and Wales. Withers transitioned all future trainees to the SQE pathway from September 2024.

When you join Withers, following the successful completion of the SQE 1 and SQE 2 exams (that we will help fund), you will receive a comprehensive induction to the Firm and a tailored development programme to support you through your Qualifying Work Experience (QWE) and prepare you for a career as a solicitor.





Support network

As a Withers trainee, you will be assigned a partner as a mentor.

Your mentor will help with the choice of seats as you move through your training contract, give guidance on day-to-day issues and advise you on your potential area of qualification. When you begin, you will also be assigned a second-year trainee buddy. Your buddy is a helping hand who can answer those questions that you may not want to ask a more senior person. You will have an associate buddy as you rotate across different seats. Your buddy is there to help you with any queries you may have in your seat. You will be assigned an HR contact who oversees your wellbeing and ensures that your training consistently meets the high standards we set.



We look for the most talented people, and recognise that a broad range of strengths and experiences are what makes for a successful team. If you have skills to contribute to our market-leading practices, then we would love to meet with you, and in turn can promise our trainees that they will experience an exciting, collaborative and immersive environment that will challenge them and help them develop into lawyers for some of the most successful clients in the world.

Natasha Stourton
Training partner | London

Training seats

Our training programme offers four seats of six months' duration. Seats currently available are:

- Charities
- Corporate
- Employment
- Family and divorce
- Intellectual property
- Litigation and arbitration
- Private client and tax
- Real estate
- Trust, estate and inheritance disputes
- White collar defense and investigations

Current secondment opportunity for UK based trainees: Milan



"We pride ourselves on being business lawyers for private capital, representing entrepreneurs, investors, closely-held businesses and non-profit organisations. This is a very exciting area to work in, actively engaging with individuals who are major influencers and those advancing progressive change in business and society more broadly. We look for trainees with interests and talents across a broad spectrum of areas. Those with a creative and commercial mindset will excel at Withers.

Jeremy Wakeham
Partner and CEO
Business division | London

What we look for

We welcome applications from all degree disciplines and from applicants at all stages of their career (undergraduates, postgraduates, mature students and those considering a career change). We are an equal opportunities employer and actively aim to attract a vibrant, diverse pool of talent with individual skills and experience to reflect our dynamic client base.

The international nature of our practice means that language skills (whilst not essential) can be useful, particularly European languages, as well as Russian, Ukrainian, Arabic and Mandarin.

Minimum requirements

Applicants will be expected to obtain an upper second-class degree or higher and a minimum of two As and one B at A-Level (unless there are mitigating circumstances).

Salary and benefits

We offer a competitive salary and benefits package – current salaries for first and second year trainees are £50,000 and £55,000 respectively, and these are reviewed annually.

We pay the course and exam fees for undertaking the PGDL (if applicable) and SQE. We will also contribute towards your living expenses in the form of a maintenance grant of £8,000 for the PGDL and £10,000 for the SQE (LLM).

You will benefit from 25 days' holiday, an interest free season ticket loan, group personal pension, life assurance, private medical insurance, access to the firm's doctor, conveyancing and an array of social events.

How to apply

To apply for a training contract or a vacation scheme, you will need to complete our online application form. We do not accept CVs, but hard copy application forms are available on request. If you are successful following the application stage, you will be invited to complete an online assessment called Capptivate. This is a strengths-based online assessment which will help you learn more about the work you'd be doing in the role and help us understand if you'd be a good match. If you are successful, you'll be invited to the next stage of the recruitment process. All candidates will receive a personal feedback report from Capptivate.

Responsible business

We are always thinking about the future. That means doing our part to help tackle the world's problems and engaging our people across the firm to help us create a positive impact in our communities.

Many of our clients are working through their businesses, charities and philanthropy to tackle the climate emergency, reduce inequality and support communities, and we are proud to help them make their initiatives more effective.

We focus on our impact too. From our greener buildings program to our employee networks, we are always pushing ourselves to be better. We take on important cases on a pro bono basis, and we offer mentoring and apprenticeships as a way to broaden access to legal careers.

The firm has six impact groups, which have created lasting change and become a core part of the firm's DNA since they were launched in 2020. Each group is led by partners across the firm, supported by teams across the US, Europe and Asia to help us deliver important initiatives.

We are seeing measurable results, for example we are tracking our carbon output at a detailed level globally, in order to identify changes to create the greatest impact in the coming years.

Managing our environmental impact is vital, as part of our commitment to reduce our carbon emissions and operate sustainably, all our global offices have achieved Planet Mark Business Certification.

From new offices to diversity, equity and inclusion, wellbeing, pro bono and our giving back initiatives across our offices, we seek to create a positive impact for our people and for our local communities.

PlanetMark
Certified Business

WINDRUSH JUSTICE CLINIC

CLOONEY FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE

FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE ON DEATH ROW
AMICUS

Our impact groups



All of our people are encouraged to get involved in areas that they are passionate about or interested in, helping to develop and share knowledge, and play an active role in initiatives across the firm.



Diversity, equity and inclusion

An inclusive workplace is one where everyone feels free to be who they are, supported and encouraged to fulfill their career potential.

Inclusion is deeply embedded in our culture and having a diverse workforce at all levels within the firm has long been an essential guiding principle for us. Our aim is to ensure that all staff can bring their full selves to work and excel in their role.

We are proud to partner with the organisations featured opposite, as part of our commitment to fostering a truly diverse and inclusive workplace.

We're not complacent about the diversity of our workforce or the challenges that individuals can face in their professional and personal lives. We treat everybody equally and we are committed to promoting and conducting an open, honest and fair culture.

Our diversity partners

10000 INTERNS FOUNDATION

PRIME
FAIR ACCESS TO QUALITY WORK EXPERIENCE

LFAA LAW FIRM ANTIRACISM ALLIANCE

rare
DIVERSITY RECRUITMENT EXCELLENCE

AS ASPIRING SOLICITORS

Stonewall DIVERSITY CHAMPION

Recognition



The Legal 500 UK
Top Tier Firm 2026



Best Lawyers US
Best Law Firms 2026



The Times
Best Law Firms 2026



Chambers & Partners
Top ranked in UK 2026



Chambers & Partners
Ranked in Asia-Pacific 2026



Chambers & Partners
Top ranked in HNW 2026

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Withers has unbelievable strength in depth. From trainees to partners, the quality is exceptionally high. The team are brilliantly prepared; they have huge experience and the international element.

Chambers UK, 2026

A note from our leaders

In a fast-changing world, we're proud to work with many of the individuals and businesses who are making the world a better place.

If that interests you, you will find that Withers is an exciting and dynamic place to work, and that we are constantly on the lookout for ways to grow and strengthen our business.

There is a huge amount of opportunity to grow at Withers and to work on exciting client work and business initiatives, and we look forward to discussing how you can be part of that success story.



Ceri Vokes
CEO
London



Paul Hewitt
Global Chair
London

Key dates

Thursday, 1 October 2026

Applications open for
- 2026 open day
- 2027 vacation schemes
- 2029 training contracts

Friday, 6 November 2026

Application deadline for
- 2026 open day

Friday, 8 January 2026

Application deadlines for
- 2027 vacation schemes
- 2029 training contracts

2027 vacation scheme dates

- Monday, 8 March 2027 – Wednesday, 17 March 2027
- Monday, 7 June 2027 – Wednesday, 16 June 2027



Finding diverse talent is important. I'm looking for people who are curious, creative and internationally minded.

Peter Wood
Partner | London

If you like what you see, we'd love to hear from you

Withers LLP
20 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7AN
+44 20 7597 6000
recruitment@withersworldwide.com

2 November 2026