

WLS Policy: Time to Count

Recognising experience gained before training starts

Some applicants may have previously worked in a legal environment and gained equivalent experience before starting a training contract at Warwickshire Legal Services (WLS). WLS may, in its discretion, recognise relevant prior experience and take this time into account to reduce the period of training of an applicant. This is known as 'relevant work-based experience'.

The SRA allow training providers to recognise relevant work-based experience on a like-for-like basis up to a maximum of six months (183 calendar days). Part-time experience is calculated pro rata; for example a trainee who worked two and a half days per week for six months may be awarded a three month reduction to their training period.

Process

If a candidate is requesting any previous experience to be considered as time to count, then they should confirm this on their application form where indicated. Any such application will be considered by the Council's Training Principal as appropriate, should the candidate be offered a training contract. Late applications for time to count will not be considered.