



February 2025

The Young Person Access Award

Do you know what a barrister is? Want to be one?
Or are you interested in learning more about the
legal profession?

The Young Person Access Award could be for you!

The Access Award

The successful applicant will delve into the world of a barristers' chambers, including shadowing barristers at court, speaking with chambers staff and judges, benefiting from a mentor for a year and receiving financial support. No experience or knowledge of the profession is required.

A commitment to promoting equality and diversity at the Bar as well as taking proactive steps to support and encourage social mobility are incredibly important to us. We encourage as many people as possible, from a variety of different backgrounds, to consider the Bar as a viable career choice. We are delighted to invite you to apply.

Who can apply?

Our Young Person Access Award is open to existing Year 12 and Year 13 students under the age of 19.

What will I be awarded?

You can select from the following opportunities:

- A mini-pupillage with Chambers at date to suit candidate (between 2-5 days) with reasonable travel expenses covered
- Shadowing a Judge with reasonable travel expenses covered
- Advocacy workshop with junior barristers
- A CV and application clinic with a barrister (not to include specific tips on our pupillage application process). Can include a discussion on university choices/location if requested.
- A conversation with a King's Counsel (KC)
- A dedicated mentor from our Chambers for a year (note we cannot provide any assistance in your application to Chambers for pupillage)
- The Memorial Temple Bursary of £500.00

Meet a previous winner

Why did you apply for the Nine Chambers Access Award?

Program for multiple reasons. The program was a chance for me to clear up any doubts I had about the Bar and practice as a barrister. Moreover, Bar themed work experience at such an early stage is very rare and difficult to get since priority is given to those already at university; the program is special since I could have completed a Mini-Pupillage before I had even started my law degree. I also looked forward to conversing with barristers and employees of Chambers to better understand what the daily life of a barrister entailed, and to a KC about his role and his views on the way the law is developing in the UK.

What key things did you learn through the experience of this Award?

During my time shadowing barristers, the distinctions between different areas of practice became clearer to me. Conversing with a senior clerk, I got a better understanding about the different niche areas of the bar that I could potentially specialise in, and the differing types of advocacy I could get involved in. I also found it interesting to how barristers on opposite sides of the case interacted and cooperated to bring about the best resolution, and how barristers were able to adapt and think on their feet in unforeseen circumstances. I understood better the importance of the relationships between solicitors and barristers, I was able to gain practical advice on creating positive working relationships and developing commercial awareness.

How do you think the award has helped you?

The award has definitely deepened my understanding about the role of a barrister, what it entails, and cleared up misconceptions about different areas of practice. I can apply what I have learnt throughout the experience during the academic program. It has also proved valuable for me to be introduced to the world of mini pupillages at such an early stage.

How do you think the award has helped you?

I would highly recommend anyone thinking of applying to do so, even if you are unsure about going to the bar. I would not be put off by the idea, the interview is just a conversation, with the questions provided beforehand. It can seem intimidating at first, to go into a Chambers and shadow a barrister at such an early stage, but as long as you remain open minded you will enjoy the experience! Everybody at Chambers is supportive and kind, and it is a chance for you to ask questions without feeling shy. I would like to thank all those involved in this program!



Zamry Rizwan
Young Person Access
Award Winner 2023

How do I apply?




Applications for the Access Award are currently closed.

To apply, we would like you to answer the following question in no more than 350 words:

Why should you be the recipient of the Nine Young Person Access Award?

It is up to you how you split the word count. You must state on your application the number of words you have used. Applications which exceed the 350 word limit will be disqualified.

We are able to receive applications by:

-  Email
-  Audio
-  Video Recording

Here are some helpful things to think about to answer the question:

What is unique about you and your experiences?

What do you hope to gain from this award?

What attracts you to the legal profession?

What are your key skills and weaknesses?

Have you struggled to understand or access a career in law, if so why?



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