

Access to the Bar Awards

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

**Eligibility**

The scheme is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students who;

* Are available to participate in the last week of June and the first week of July.
* are in the second, third or fourth year of a qualifying law degree, or taking the Graduate Diploma in Law or an equivalent conversion course. Postgraduates with a qualifying law degree may also apply.
* have little or no family history of higher or professional education.
* completed secondary education in a state school. (In exceptional circumstances, students who attended secondary education in a fee-paying school may be considered.)
* are not a member of the Honourable Society of Inner Temple, The Honourable Society of Lincoln’s Inn or the Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn.

Please Note: Recipients of the Inner Temple Pegasus Access and Support Scheme will not be eligible to receive an Access to the Bar Award.

**Criteria for the making of an award**

The criteria for the making of an award are as follows:

* A profile indicating that the student is likely to be awarded a good upper second or first class degree, or has already been awarded one if the student is a graduate undertaking the conversion course; and
* A good performance in mooting or debating activity at university or at school or other evidence of potential to be a successful advocate; and
* Good references as to their academic and intellectual ability and other relevant qualities such as self-confidence, strong communication skills and motivation and determination for a career at the Bar from two of their university tutors.
* Students who have limited experience of the Bar thus far and meet the previous criteria are preferred.

Students should be aware that an unsuccessful application to Access to the Bar is ***not*** an indictment of their ability and will not affect their chances of being awarded a Middle Temple BPTC Scholarship - which is awarded on merit alone.