



Job Title **Judicial Assistant**

Employment details

Place of work The UK Supreme Court
Parliament Square
London
SW1P 3BD

Contract type Full time – Fixed term contract from 15 September 2025 to 31 July 2026

Working pattern Hybrid working principles currently in place. Judicial Assistants are expected to work in the Court building from Monday to Thursday during term time. Remote working is generally permitted on Friday and during vacation, subject to line manager approval.

Grade UKSC Band B

Salary £40,850

Every year, the Court invites applications for up to 11 Judicial Assistants to support the work of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom and Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC). The role provides a unique opportunity for talented junior lawyers to work closely with the Justices, to observe some of the UK's top advocates and to see how appeals are decided at the highest level.

Each Judicial Assistant is assigned, typically, to a single Justice. The Judicial Assistants' responsibilities include:

1. Conducting legal research on appeals and applications for permission to appeal
2. Drafting bench memos summarising applications for permission to appeal, conducting legal research
3. Attending appeal hearings and discussing them with the Justices
4. Drafting legally accurate, plain English press summaries of judgments for publication on the Court's website
5. Generally assisting the Justices in their work, including with any extra-judicial speeches, articles and other publications
6. Responding to requests for information from international judicial and comparative law networks
7. Supporting the Court's educational and outreach activity, including the annual mooting and Ask a Justice programmes
8. Assisting the Court's Registrar with regards to applications for permission to appeal and appeals.

Due to the nature of the Court's work, in the past the majority of Judicial Assistants have been qualified to practise as a solicitor, barrister or advocate in one of the UK jurisdictions and have had some practical experience in those professions. However, the Court recognises that the

most important quality needed for the role is intellectual ability and it therefore also strongly encourages applications from non-qualified candidates able to demonstrate outstanding academic knowledge of the UK legal system and advanced experience in legal research, as detailed in the eligibility requirements set out below. From the perspective of aspiring solicitors, barristers and advocates, the role is extremely well regarded within the legal profession, with many Judicial Assistants going on to secure pupillage or training contracts at leading chambers or firms. Others have gone on to have successful careers in government or in academia.

Required for the role:

1. Excellent academic record. The UK Supreme Court hears appeals that give rise to the most challenging and complex legal issues. Many successful candidates for the role therefore hold a first-class undergraduate degree. However, the Court recognises that grades must be considered in context and it therefore also considers excellent applications from candidates with a 2.1 undergraduate degree who can demonstrate strong academic ability
2. For those who are not qualified to practise as a solicitor, barrister or advocate in one of the UK jurisdictions by 1 October 2025, we require further evidence of outstanding academic knowledge of the UK legal system and advanced experience in legal research evidenced by:
 - a. typically, a first-class undergraduate degree **in law*** (although we will consider excellent applications from candidates with a 2.1 undergraduate degree in law) from a UK-based university or other UK-based higher education provider; and
 - b. an academic master's degree **in law** (LLM, BCL or MPhil**) typically obtained, or expected, with Distinction (although we will also consider excellent applications from candidates with a Commendation) to be completed by 1 October 2025 and/or those who have completed or are currently pursuing a PhD in law
3. Right to work in the UK – the Court is unable to sponsor visas
4. Excellent legal research skills, including the ability to analyse and form a view on unfamiliar areas of law
5. Strong oral and written communication skills
6. Planning and organisational skills required to meet deadlines and manage conflicting demands effectively
7. Ability to work both independently and as part of a team

* This does not include the Graduate Diploma in Law and equivalent qualifications. However, we will treat a first-class non-law undergraduate degree plus a Graduate Diploma in Law with Distinction as satisfying condition (a).

** More vocational master's degrees (such as the LLM in Legal Practice or the LLM Bar Training Course) will not satisfy this requirement.

Desirable for the role:

1. Post-qualification experience working as a solicitor, barrister or advocate in one of the UK jurisdictions
2. A track record of building trust demonstrated by excellent professional relationships with colleagues at all levels
3. Good knowledge and experience of using MS Office suite including Outlook and SharePoint

If you have any questions about this role please contact us by emailing:
recruitment@supremecourt.uk