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The 2025 -2026 Student Clinical Legal Education Recognition List

Student law clinics make a significant and lasting contribution to helping communities thrive through a broad range of schemes designed to deliver free legal advice and assistance, and to raise awareness of legal rights and responsibilities. They empower members of the public to utilise the law to achieve fairness and equality, and they support vital access to justice regardless of means and circumstance. In return, students gain a vital insight into unmet legal need, its consequences and the importance of publicly funded legal services.

Through their university law clinics, students dedicate their time and learning to achieve these ambitions. Their contribution is invaluable, and we hope that the access to justice ethos is one they will champion throughout their careers because of their engagement.

The **Student Clinical Legal Education Recognition List** (CLERL) acknowledges the achievement of those university law clinic students who have devoted **25 hours or more of their legal learning to provision of legal advice and assistance** to achieve access to justice and community impact during their **2025-2026 academic year**.



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FAQs

1. Who can be included on the list

Any student who has volunteered through their university law clinic or university law school programme, and who provides a minimum of 25 hours of legal advice and/or assistance to an identifiable individual, groups of individuals, organisation(s), charity or community group (“the client”).

*please note specific definition in the FAQ list of what will be recognised as legal advice and assistance

2. Can University Alumni be included on the list

No. Alumni can, however, be directed to the Attorney General Pro Bono Recognition List.

3. Can students outside of England & Wales apply

No. Eligibility to be included on this list is limited to students who attend university in England & Wales.

4. How is legal advice and assistance defined for the purpose of being included in this list

To qualify as “legal advice and/or assistance”, the following must apply:

1. The individual, groups of individuals, organisation(s), charity or community group (“the client”) receiving the advice and/or assistance must be identifiable as an actual and not simulated client.
2. Students must be actively engaged in delivery of advice and/or assistance to the client; shadowing or observational work does not apply.
3. To qualify as legal advice and/or assistance, there must be an identifiable request from the client or identifiable benefit for the client for the support prompting the



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resulting advice and/or assistance. Drafting of generic legal factsheets, letter writing for Amnesty International, or production of generic blogs/vlogs will not qualify.

4. The advice and/or assistance must be free to the client.
5. Public Legal Education (PLE) project work will apply if the PLE is either delivered further to a specific request or identifies a need for legal education e.g. Streetlaw addressing a specific legal topic and the relevant law as requested by the client or supporting a charity delivering workshops on the law to their volunteers.
6. Time spent training for the project / scheme / clinic work is not included.
7. Feedback and reflection time is not included.
8. Travel and waiting times are not included.
9. Legal research required to deliver the advice and assistance is included.
10. Mediation assistance in legal disputes is included.

***To assist with determination of whether the hours undertaken count as advice and assistance, a scenario table of examples is below**

5. Can hours of simulated legal advice and assistance scenarios count

No

6. What is the timeframe for the 25 hours being undertaken

The timeframe for the advice and assistance delivery will be between 1st September 2025 – 30 June 2026. Any hours undertaken will need to be undertaken through the student's university law clinic / law programme.

7. How do I submit my name to the list



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Individual students cannot submit directly Your name can only be submitted upon verification of your hours by your university law school / law clinic staff who will add your name the university's bulk list by the 30th June deadline.

8. Can I submit my name individually

No. (See FAQ 7 above)

9. Who is responsible for the list

The CLERL will be administered by [Trustees](#) of Clinical Legal Education Organisation (CLEO).

10. How is the relevant advice and assistance undertaken verified

The university law school/ clinic submitting your name will be responsible for verifying the hours undertaken by each student and the accuracy of the information they are submitting.

Given this responsibility, it is important for any student wishing to apply to be included in the CLERL to notify their university law clinic / school in sufficient time for any verification of hours / volunteering to occur.

CLEO trustees reserve the right to request further information, challenge or refuse any inappropriate individual submission.

11. How is my data used

The submission made by your university on your behalf will note only your full name and hours undertaken. Data processing will comply with our [Data Privacy Policy](#).

12. When will the list be published?

The list will be published in September 2026. Your university will contact you directly to confirm your inclusion and congratulate you on your contribution.



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If your studies have finished or you will not be returning to the university in September 2026, please ensure that your law school has your contact details.

13. Can I post on social media that I am included on the list

Yes. We hope you will be celebrating your achievement. Students included on the list will be contacted to congratulate them and will receive a CLERL virtual badge that you are encouraged to use on social media and signatures to celebrate your achievement.

14. Who can I contact with any enquiries regarding the CLERL

Any enquiries regarding the list should be directed to the student's Law Clinic / programme staff.



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Example Scenario Table			
Student Engagement in law clinic	Student's specific role	Qualifying advice and assistance	What specific hours count
Student shadows a barrister or solicitor at court	Student observes court proceedings and drafts an attendance note	No: this counts as shadowing / observation and not the provision of advice and assistance.	None
Judge marshalling	Student sits with a Judge in Court observing proceedings and discussing cases.	No: this counts as shadowing / observation and not the provision of advice and assistance.	None
Student acts as a "McKenzie friend" for a Litigant in Person at a court and tribunal and supports the LiP during any hearing	Student attends court with their allocated LiP and supports them in a McKenzie friend capacity during and after the hearing, clarifying any concerns.	Yes: the support of a Litigant in Person at a Court of tribunal would count. This can be via a direct law clinic / university programme scheme or supporting via an organisation such as Support Through Court.	What can be counted: Any preliminary meetings with the client or file preparation work Legal research Attending court with the client Drafting notes post court /tribunal No: General training for the scheme



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			Travel to Court/ Tribunal
Students fundraise for a charity	Students engage in a series of events to fundraise for a charity.	No: This is not the provision of advice or assistance	None
Law clinic shadowing only	Students attend a law clinic where a solicitor provides advice to a client. The student makes notes and after the clinic reflects on the session with the solicitor	No: This is not the provision of advice or assistance	None
Clinic triage / file work	Students triage a client for a clinic advice session. They then attend the clinic to complete the file attendance note	Yes: this is assisting an identifiable client and providing a service to the client beyond observation (triage for the clinic and file note taking)	What counts: Triage + any specific legal research to support the triage Attending the advice session Drafting + any specific legal research to support the drafting
Client meeting / letter writing	Students attend the university law clinic and interview a client, They meet with their supervisor to discuss the legal issue and draft a follow up letter of advice.	Yes: this is advice to an identifiable client.	What counts: Any preparatory legal research or preparation to enable an effective interview Attending the client interview Discussion with the Supervisor



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			<p>regarding the issue</p> <p>Any legal research conducted to draft an accurate letter of advice</p> <p>Drafting the advice letter.</p> <p>No:</p> <p>Reflection on supervisor feedback</p> <p>General scheme training</p>
Law clinic research	The University law clinic receives a request for research upon a legal issue. Students research and draft advice	Yes: this is advice to an identifiable audience empowering them to understand their legal rights and responsibilities	<p>What counts:</p> <p>Legal research to support effective and accurate drafting of advice</p> <p>Drafting</p> <p>No:</p> <p>Feedback from supervisor and reflection.</p>
Legal factsheet drafting (specific client identified)	Students prepare factsheets for a specific organisation to assist their volunteers understand the law	Yes: this is advice to an identifiable audience empowering them to understand their legal rights and responsibilities	<p>What counts:</p> <p>Legal research to support effective and accurate drafting of advice</p> <p>Drafting</p> <p>No:</p>



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			Feedback from supervisor and reflection.
Legal factsheet drafting (general)	Students prepare general legal factsheets for use if ever requested.	No: whilst this could assist communities and organisations, at the stage of drafting there is no identifiable audience.	None
Street Law/Public legal education	Students attend a community organisation and deliver a presentation regarding an area of the law e.g. parental responsibility.	Yes: this is advice to an identifiable audience empowering them to understand their legal rights and responsibilities	What Counts: Session delivery Legal research to support session delivery. No: Generic project training Travel to organisation
School tasking	Students attend primary school and deliver interactive sessions to encourage verbal reasoning and thought about the legal system and the law	No: this is not legal advice or assistance. There is not a specific issue of legal training that the audience require / have requested	None
Schools consent project	Students attend schools and organisations and deliver interactive sessions specifically on the law relating to consent and for the audience to	Yes: this is advice to an identifiable audience empowering them to understand their legal rights and responsibilities	What Counts: Session delivery No: Generic project training



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	understand their rights and responsibilities.		Travel to schools
Tribunal or court information sessions	Students deliver presentations to clients on the procedure/ what to expect in courts and/or tribunals	Yes: this is assistance regarding legal procedure to an identifiable client	<p>What counts:</p> <p>Any preliminary meetings with the Courts/ Tribunals.</p> <p>The delivery of the session.</p> <p>No:</p> <p>Appointment booking time</p> <p>Travel to the Court / Tribunal</p> <p>General project training</p>
Mediation	Students are trained to support mediation of legal disputes. They are supervised whilst conducting the mediation session	Yes: this is advice and assistance to an identifiable client.	<p>What counts:</p> <p>Preparation of case</p> <p>Legal research to support mediation session</p> <p>Preliminary meetings with mediator to discuss the case</p> <p>Mediation session.</p> <p>Drafting appointment attendance notes</p>



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			<p>No:</p> <p>Booking the client into the appointment</p> <p>General project training</p>
<p>External/ Outreach project: Citizens Advice Witness Support Service –</p>	<p>As part of a collaboration between the university and a placement partner, students support clients attending court as live witnesses; meeting clients at court, escorting them to hearing, and providing follow up support</p>	<p>Yes: this is assistance regarding specific legal procedure and a legal case to an identifiable client.</p> <p>Whilst an external organisation, many universities support specific placement partners / charities / law centres and can verify that work undertaken is advice and assistance and forms part of the student’s clinical education</p>	<p>What counts:</p> <p>Any preliminary meetings with the Court / client.</p> <p>Support of the client at Court.</p> <p>No:</p> <p>Appointment booking time</p> <p>Travel to the Court / Tribunal</p> <p>General project training</p>