

Criteria for becoming a NALP Principle Fellow

The applicant must have either:

Route 1

A qualification at Minimum Level 6 (graduate) with either an LLB or BA Law degree or GDL with a minimum of 5 years relevant legal experience.

or

Route 2

The experiential route: at least 10 years' relevant legal experience.

“Relevant Legal Experience” is defined as either:

1. Work within a solicitor's office,
2. Barristers chambers
3. Legal department of an industrial or commercial firm, company or corporation or within the public sector
4. Or any other environment with a legal content to the work undertaken including voluntary work at Citizens Advice Bureau and Law Clinics and Legal Advice Centres

Such work must involve:

- (1) Applicants spending at least 50% of employed time as a 'fee earner' with direct responsibility for their own clients and/or workload and minimum supervision or
- (2) Assisting and being responsible to a qualified solicitor, barrister, legal executive or paralegal and undertaking at least 75% of employed time in directly contributing in the pursuit of goals and the implementing of procedures (*excluding purely secretarial and office administrative matters*).
- (3) Performing tasks within a legal department which are wholly legal in content and which substantially benefit the employer, e.g. processing or drafting of commercial contracts, or debt case work or any other legal tasks, the performance of which is accepted by the NALP Governing Board.
- (4) Legal tasks performed on a voluntary part-time or full-time basis provided the work done is monitored by a 'supervisor' and evidenced at the time of membership application.

The requisite period of qualifying experience will be:

For route (1) Not less than **five** years immediately preceding the application for Principle Fellow Membership.

Or



For route (2) More than **ten** years immediately preceding the application for Principle Fellow Membership.

Character Requirements

Applicants must satisfy NALP as to their good character to be eligible for a Principle Fellow Membership.

On application for, or renewal of Principle Fellow Membership, NALP will seek confirmation of good standing from the Applicant's employer and, if appropriate, from a previous employer.

Annual Renewal - Continuous Professional Development:

Annual renewal of a NALP Principle Fellow Membership requires the Principle Fellow Member to provide evidence of **12** hours CPD during the previous 12 months

Acceptance of NALP's Practice Rules & Ethical Codes:

The signing of the NALP Principle Fellow Membership Application form constitutes an acceptance of NALP's Membership code of practice and ethics.