



LONDON OFFICE

Training at
Winston & Strawn

WINSTON
& STRAWN
LLP

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For more than 170 years, Winston & Strawn LLP has served as a trusted advisor and advocate for clients across virtually every industry. In that time, through careful growth and thoughtful fiscal management, we have built a law practice with tremendous breadth and global reach.

We are proud of the many accolades we have received over the years – a tribute to our lawyers’ creativity, flexibility, depth of experience, and commitment. The most meaningful accolade to us, though, is the continued trust and confidence of our clients.

With 14 offices in key financial centres across the world, we bring an understanding of the global legal issues our clients face to both transactional and dispute-related matters.

WHY CHOOSE WINSTON?

What differentiates Winston from other firms? Winston prides itself on providing a personable, down-to-earth working environment. Our goal is to maximise individual potential, reinforce the firm’s culture and expand our trainees’ professional development, in London and through our international networks.

WHAT WE OFFER

Winston offers trainees challenging and interesting work for high-profile, international clients in a dynamic and supportive environment. Whilst being part of a global law firm with a reputation for delivering results, we believe that our relatively small, but rapidly growing, London office offers something genuinely different. Our trainees are asked to carry out “real legal work” from the outset, interact directly with clients, and contribute to all aspects of firm life. Our London trainees are integral to the London office, the successful completion of complex transactions, and the resolution of disputes for our clients.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Given the wide scope of our work in London, we employ bright and agile people who will thrive in our dynamic environment. We look for the following criteria when evaluating candidates:

- Common sense and integrity;
- Enthusiasm and drive;
- Interests outside of law;
- Strong academics (2:1 or a 1st in your first degree, expected or obtained);
- Commercial awareness;
- Interpersonal skills with the mindset of a team player;
- Willingness to take responsibility; and
- Flexibility.

A genuine connection and true expression of your personality from your first interactions with us is among the most important factors we consider when evaluating, hiring, and retaining talent.

‘I have never experienced a Firm before that is so interested in your personal development and willing to share their own personal experiences’

VACATION SCHEME STUDENT

“Winston & Strawn London LLP is ‘very strong, reliable and responsive’

THE LEGAL 500 UK 2023

WINSTON & STRAWN IN LONDON

Based in the heart of the City, Winston & Strawn London LLP is comprised of a close-knit group of lawyers and staff who work as a team to serve high-profile US, UK and multinational clients. Our practitioners, including solicitors who are recognised as leaders in their field, are a diverse group of international legal professionals.

The London office serves a broad range of clients and maintains a reputation for excellence in areas including corporate, finance (including general finance), restructuring and insolvency, tax, EU antitrust/competition, commercial litigation, and international arbitration. We represent UK clients as well as US and other international clients who use London or English law as a springboard for conducting business around the world, with significant recent growth in our work involving emerging markets such as Eastern Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.

Our calibre of work is widely recognised. The London corporate team won “M&A Team of the Year (Medium- Sized Deal)” at Legal Week’s British Legal Awards 2016 and was shortlisted for “Corporate Team of the Year” at The Lawyer awards 2016 for its involvement in the £817.5 million acquisition of Airwave Solutions by our client, Motorola Solutions (Airwave is the largest private operator of a public safety network in the world, and the entire UK fire, ambulance, and emergency services network).

The work of the office is diverse and high profile. For example in 2023, the London corporate team represented **a significant investor** in connection

with the multi-billion-dollar acquisition of Fordstam Limited (the owner of Chelsea Football Club). In the same year we acted a cross-border deal for Chart Industries in connection with its multi-billion-dollar acquisition of UK-based fan manufacturer Howden from KPS Capital Partners.

We have been involved in some of the most innovative litigation before the English Courts across the commercial spectrum. Example cases have ranged from seeking injunctions to prevent the disclosure of confidential information, protecting our client’s rights under complex international agreements, and advising on enforcement.

Our arbitration team has represented clients in proceedings in many of the world’s leading institutions, as well as in ad hoc proceedings. Many of our recent representative matters have involved complex shareholder disputes arising from investigations into wrongdoing, non-compliance, and breaches of directors’ duties. We also represent a number of clients in investor-state arbitrations.

“The London office has a very close and collegiate working environment, which means trainees become an integral part of the team from day one.”

PAUL AMISS, GRADUATE RECRUITMENT PARTNER

“The work was insightful and challenging”

VACATION SCHEME STUDENT AND FUTURE TRAINEE

YOUR TRAINING CONTRACT

Each year, our aim is to recruit two or three trainees from the pool of participants in our vacation scheme (see below for details). We can offer both March and September start dates. Winston looks for ambitious individuals who are seeking to build a long-term career at the firm. Consequently, we invest significant time and effort in our trainees, and see them as critical to the promotion and success of not only the London office, but the firm as a whole worldwide.

As a trainee with Winston, you will be expected to complete four six-month seats in different departments. During each seat you will be supervised by a partner or experienced associate. Current seat options include:

Corporate

Our corporate practice provides a wide range of legal services to public and private companies, private equity and investment funds, investors, and emerging companies on a broad range of high-profile transactions and matters. These include cross-border mergers, acquisition and disposition, strategic alliances and joint ventures, initial public offerings, and distressed acquisitions.

Finance

Our finance practice represents clients in transactions covering all segments of the debt market. The practice focuses on complex cross-border transactions and we represent domestic and international commercial banks and investment banks, finance companies, private equity funds, public and private companies, and private equity portfolio companies. We also advise major banking and financial institutions and organisations, including multilateral financing institutions, development institutions, and export credit agencies.

Commercial Litigation

Our litigation practice extends to all manner of general commercial and financial disputes in many sectors including cross-jurisdictional litigation, multi-party actions, judicial reviews, appellate proceedings, and follow-on actions from regulatory investigations.

International Arbitration

Our leading international arbitration practice has extensive experience in conducting both commercial and investor-state arbitrations under the rules of all the main international arbitration institutions, as well as adhoc arbitrations, in addition to providing advice on investment strategy for investment treaty arbitration.

EU Antitrust/Competition

The antitrust/competition team have a distinguished reputation for successfully advising high-profile clients in a wide range of competition and regulatory issues. In particular, the team assists companies, industry associates, and governments understanding and navigating applicable laws and regulations, so that their clients' strategic business goals can be achieved.

Financial Services Regulatory

We advise clients on digital assets, cryptocurrencies, and emerging technologies, guiding them through the rapidly evolving UK and EU regulatory landscape. Our team works with fintechs, crypto exchanges, token issuers, payment providers, and investors on compliance with frameworks governing tokenised instruments, DeFi, stablecoins, and blockchain-based products. With significant expertise in the Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCA), we support clients on crypto-asset classification, white paper requirements, licensing processes, and investor protection obligations.

Real Estate Finance

We represent financial institutions, non-bank lenders, and borrowers in a full range of real estate finance transactions. This includes back-leverage arrangements, and encompasses financial institutions and alternative capital providers (including the providers of long term liquidity, such as pension funds). Through our extensive involvement in both the loan-on-asset and loan-on-loan space, we can advise clients on emerging trends in established and emerging asset classes, such as data centre financings. With a broad global reach and a deep bench of talent, we are well-equipped to handle complex, cross-border real estate finance transactions with precision and insight.

How to Apply

Please visit our careers page on winston.com for further information on how to apply

VACATION SCHEME

Before joining Winston as a trainee, you will get to know us through our vacation scheme. Designed for students considering our trainee programme, it is intended to provide participants with valuable hands-on experience across a range of practice areas, as well as crucial insight into how our London team operates. The vacation scheme dates are confirmed on our website. Further details are available on application.

- Postgraduates; and
- Any other graduate wishing to commence a training contract in two to three years' time.

Further details in relation to application deadlines and the Vacation Scheme can be found on our Careers page at winston.com.

TRAINEE BENEFITS

- Salary: first year £56,000 and second year £61,000;
- Maintenance fees: we pay full course fees for SQE 1 & 2 plus £17,000 maintenance for each full year of study;
- Private medical and dental insurance;
- Life assurance (4 x normal salary);
- Employee assistance programme;
- Income protection insurance equal to 75% of salary after six months of absence;
- Pension contribution equal to 5% of salary;
- 25 days of annual leave; and
- Gym membership discount.

Rankings & Recognition

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL LAW REVIEW EUROPEAN AWARDS 2018

- M&A Deal of the Year, shortlist

FINANCIAL TIMES INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS EUROPE 2018

- M&A Deal, Shortlist

THE LEGAL 500 UK 2025

- Recommended in 9 categories
- 20 Attorneys recognised

THE LEGAL 500 EMEA 2025

- 9 practice areas recognized
- Industry Focus: Healthcare & Life Sciences
- 15 attorneys recognised

THE LEGAL 500 U.S 2025

- Top-Tier firm in 5 practice areas
- Recommended in 45 categories

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS GLOBAL 2025

- 22 recommended attorneys
- 17 ranked practice areas

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS USA 2025

- 96 lawyers ranked as top practitioners
- 15 lawyers with No. 1 or Star Ranking
- 27 Practice areas with Band 1 or Band 2 status

975+
ATTORNEYS

14
OFFICES WORLDWIDE

1853
FOUNDED

STEVE D'AMORE CHAIRMAN
JEFFREY KESSLER, DAN WEBB
CO-EXECUTIVE CHAIRMEN

Winston & Strawn is a distinguished international law firm with 170 years of experience, and a well-established presence in Europe representing clients for nearly three decades. We demonstrate excellence advising clients on transactional, disputes and regulatory matters in the financial services, private equity, industrial, health, and technology sectors.

Our transactional lawyers counsel on all areas of mergers and acquisitions, private equity, and financing transactions. We are particularly experienced in handling the full range of significant cross-border transactions.

Our multi-jurisdictional, multi-lingual, disputes and regulatory lawyers represent clients throughout the world, with the London and Paris offices acting as coordinating hubs for our clients' major disputes and regulatory issues.



ABOUT WINSTON & STRAWN

Winston & Strawn LLP is a global law firm with 975+ attorneys across 14 offices in Brussels, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Paris, San Francisco, São Paulo, Silicon Valley, and Washington, D.C. Additionally, the firm has significant resources devoted to clients and matters in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. The exceptional depth and geographic reach of our resources enable the firm to manage virtually every type of business-related legal issue. We serve the needs of enterprises of all types and sizes, in both the private and the public sectors. We understand that clients are looking for value beyond legal talent. We take time to learn about our clients' organizations and their business objectives. And we leverage technology and collaborate seamlessly to respond quickly and effectively to our clients' needs.

Please visit winston.com for additional information about our services, our experience, and the industries we serve.

Attorney advertising materials. Winston & Strawn is a global law firm operating through various separate and distinct legal entities.