

Morgan Lewis

LONDON TRAINEE PROGRAMME

UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITIES



WELCOME TO MORGAN LEWIS



A career in law starts with choosing the right firm for you—a firm where you can develop the skills and attributes needed to become a successful and high-quality lawyer. At Morgan Lewis, we offer trainees the opportunity to work on complex and often cross-border matters for high-profile clients in a collegiate and supportive environment.

Engagement and teamwork form the foundation of the training you will experience at Morgan Lewis. In the London office, our trainees work closely with partners and associates, often in teams. We offer a hands-on and varied experience, and our trainees are given early responsibility to help them build a thorough understanding of our firm's business and clients.

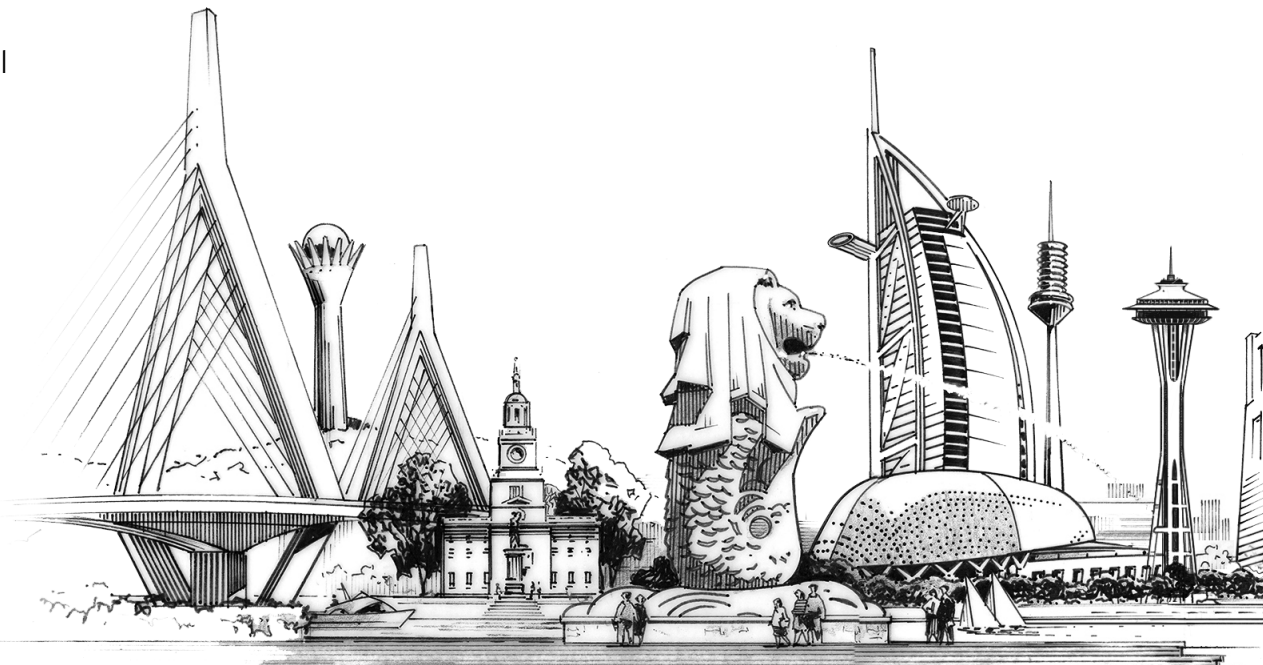
Our training programme is designed to provide you with the breadth of experience needed to become a confident and successful commercial lawyer. The programme starts with a comprehensive induction into the firm that provides all the tools you will need to hit the ground running. During the training contract, you will be given the opportunity to sit in four different practice areas, including the possibility of a secondment to one of our international offices, giving you exposure to as much of our business as possible. Regular in-house seminars and training sessions provide ongoing learning opportunities to help you further develop your knowledge and proficiency.

Our collaborative culture underpins everything we do. As a trainee at Morgan Lewis, you will be supported by colleagues who will be on hand to encourage, mentor, and guide you throughout your training contract. They will provide regular advice and feedback on your progress and performance to help you succeed and transition into becoming an accomplished associate.

We look forward to welcoming you to Morgan Lewis.

Nick Bolter

Training Principal



GLOBAL REACH

At Morgan Lewis, we work in collaboration. We work around the world—always ready to respond to the needs of our clients and craft powerful solutions for them.

From our more than 30 offices in North America, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East, and with a footprint across Africa and Latin America, we work with clients ranging from established, global Fortune 100 companies to enterprising startups.

We provide comprehensive litigation, corporate, finance, restructuring, employment and benefits, and intellectual property services in all major industries, helping clients to anticipate, address, and overcome challenges across vast and rapidly changing landscapes. We approach every representation with an equal commitment to first understanding, and then efficiently and effectively advancing, the interests of our clients to help them arrive at the best results.

Our team encompasses more than 2,200 legal professionals, including lawyers, patent agents,

employee benefits advisers, regulatory scientists, and other specialists. If a client has a question, we'll immediately find the person in our global network with the answer. If there's a shift in the legal landscape, we're on top of it, and our clients will be too.

We focus on both immediate and long-term goals with our clients, harnessing our resources from strategic hubs of commerce, law, and government across North America and in Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. You'll find us everywhere—from New York to Dubai, San Francisco to Beijing, London to Washington, DC, and Philadelphia to Singapore.

Founded in 1873, we stand on the shoulders of more than 150 years of achievement, but we never rest on our reputation.



OUR LONDON OFFICE

Our London office opened in 1981, and since then, we have advised clients on English law-governed transactions, disputes, and regulations in a range of international markets, both established and emerging, with a particular focus on Europe, the Middle East, and Asia (EMEA). Operating as a global hub, we work seamlessly with lawyers throughout EMEA to provide integrated teams for deals and complex litigation.

London's role as a key financial and business centre means that we are well positioned to advise clients around the world on market-leading projects across legal disciplines such as finance, corporate transactions, investment funds, international tax, competition, dispute resolution, immigration, and employment, and governed by English law.

As a trainee, you will work with lawyers who have experience in the financial services, energy, life sciences, and technology sectors. Trainees can gain experience in any of the nine practices within the London office:

Antitrust & Competition

This practice provides high-quality advice to achieve successful outcomes for clients engaged in a full range of matters, including antitrust investigations, infringement actions, and merger control.

Banking & Finance

We advise clients on international banking and finance transactions, derivatives, private placements, debt and equity securities offerings, and restructurings all around the globe.

Corporate/M&A

We provide counsel to clients on a broad range of transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, leveraged buyouts, venture capital, and other public and private equity financings.

Unique among law firms, Morgan Lewis has a substantial team dedicated to advising clients in all aspects of technology and commercial transactions. We support our clients with respect to all aspects of technology transactions to enable them to more efficiently and effectively acquire, transfer, and protect their technology assets; exploit their products and services; interact with personnel, customers, and providers; and otherwise run their business operations.

Dispute Resolution/Investigations, White Collar & Compliance

We handle a wide range of sophisticated and often sensitive issues, including international commercial disputes, international arbitration, insurance recovery, and white collar matters. We have experience in most courts and arbitration venues, including those in primary offshore jurisdictions.

Companies that operate internationally face increased anticorruption risk and scrutiny. We bring a cross-disciplinary team of lawyers to advise clients in government investigations as well as white collar and compliance matters.

Intellectual Property

This practice focuses on the selection, prosecution, protection, and enforcement of trademarks, brands, and designs in the United Kingdom and across Europe.

Investment Management

We handle private investment funds' formation and operation and represent institutional investors in funds. We also advise funds, investment managers, broker-dealers, and corporate finance and other financial services firms on all aspects of UK/EU regulation and compliance.

Labour & Employment

Our global reach allows us to provide employment and immigration services to clients from all business sectors on a range of domestic, European, and multijurisdictional projects.

Structured Transactions

This practice serves the financing needs of the world's most sophisticated businesses around the globe. Our lawyers represent a broad range of leading financial institutions, investment funds, and issuers in the financial services, automotive, education, government, real estate, telecommunications, and technology industries.

Tax

We help structure tax-efficient operations for clients and assist them with negotiating and structuring commercial transactions.



"Engaging with our communities in this way provides us with the opportunity to be a part of something larger than ourselves—in ways both small and large—and adds to our ability to thrive as individuals and as a firm."

Jami McKeon, Firm Chair

PRO BONO

AND THE COMMUNITY

At Morgan Lewis, we have a long history of supporting our local communities by providing both pro bono legal services and participating in community service activities. Indeed, offering our skills, resources, and time to those in need is a core tenet of our firm's culture and a shared value across our offices worldwide.

Our firm's longstanding expectation is that all lawyers—at every level of seniority—will take on a pro bono matter and contribute at least 20 hours to that matter during every fiscal year. Because pro bono work is so rewarding in terms of professional development, skill development, and personal satisfaction, most lawyers and trainees exceed this minimum expectation. During the fiscal year ending 30 September 2025, 100% of eligible lawyers met the challenge. On average, lawyers billed at least 50 hours to pro bono matters.

The London office is committed to giving back through the Charity and Community Committee, which trainee solicitors are actively encouraged to join. The committee meets regularly and organises an annual office vote to select a charity to support throughout the year. Fundraising events include bake-offs, raffles and a winter fair. We regularly run drives to collect items for those in need in our community through organisations such as Pecan. The committee also coordinates participation in sporting events, such as The London Legal Walk and Tour de Law, promoting both charitable giving and staff well-being.

We proudly partner with Bookmark, a tech-led literacy charity that supports underserved primary school children (ages 5–9). Volunteers from across the office meet virtually with children twice a week, helping them improve their reading skills in a fun and supportive way. We also support The Children's Book Project as Borough Champions for Greenwich and Lewisham. Through this partnership, we have contributed to improving access to books for local schools by volunteering at the charity's book hub, where we help sort, bundle and package donated books. We also run book drives within the office to support their distribution efforts.

Our community engagement also reflects a strong focus on environmental responsibility. To mark awareness of events such as Earth Day and World Cleanup Day, colleagues have volunteered their time at an urban farm, helped with tree mulching, built hedges, and taken part in litter picking in one of London's parks. These practical team activities are a great way to contribute to a more sustainable city and build connections with others.

Each year, the firm's Community Impact Week focuses on promoting community service and pro bono legal service efforts, as well as celebrating what has already been accomplished for those in need. The wide-ranging variety of events throughout Community Impact Week includes legal clinics, legal trainings, panel discussions, volunteer events, charity drives, and more across the firm's offices in North America, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East.

COMMITTED TO INCLUSION

At Morgan Lewis, we believe that a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences makes us a stronger firm—one that achieves better results and fosters an inclusive environment where everyone can thrive. This commitment has always been, and will continue to be, a top priority.

We are dedicated to a culture of inclusion and engagement because it is integral to the success of our business. Our culture helps us continually improve how we serve clients, collaborate with colleagues, and retain talented lawyers and professional staff, and engage the global communities where we live and work.

A sampling of our engagement and inclusion efforts includes:

LAWYER NETWORKS/AFFINITY GROUPS

Morgan Lewis has a variety of active and popular lawyer networks/affinity groups within the firm that are open to all lawyers. Lawyer networks provide opportunities to connect through a common cause or interest in a space where our lawyers can feel comfortable sharing experiences that build camaraderie, support, and inclusion at all levels across offices.

ML WOMEN

Morgan Lewis women are dynamic, determined, and successful. Women lawyers at our firm are leaders. Every day, they deliver outstanding results for our clients—garnering recognition from the legal and business communities. Our ML Women Network is open to all lawyers in our firm and harnesses the strength of our talent through partnership with our clients, creating opportunities for our talent to come together around a shared industry or practice. Whether it is hosting a specialized roundtable featuring speakers

from Morgan Lewis, our clients, and external experts, or leveraging our vast network of successful alumnae to discuss topics of interest to our community, leadership, and the power of women consumers, we are proud to support women leaders in business and industry.

MOBILIZING FOR EQUALITY

In the sombre aftermath of the murder of George Floyd at the hands of a police officer, Morgan Lewis launched Mobilizing for Equality (MFE) to determine what more we can do as a firm to more directly, effectively, and aggressively mobilize against racial injustice. This includes working groups across the firm powered by hundreds of personnel, curating and taking action on substantive racial and social justice projects.

INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Our Committee on Inclusion turns commitment into action. The committee helps actualize our holistic approach by bringing together firm leadership and influential partners with senior talent and engagement personnel who meet regularly to ensure that we are strategically focused on inclusion—in recruiting and hiring, in firm leadership, and throughout the Morgan Lewis culture. Our Inclusion Committee reports directly to Firm Chair Jami McKeon.

For more information, please visit morganlewis.com/our-firm/our-culture/inclusion.

LONDON OFFICE EVENTS

- **Neurodiversity Lunch-and-Learn with Adjust**

In acknowledgment of Neurodiversity Celebration Week, our London office hosted a Lunch-and-Learn in partnership with Adjust, an organization that offers neurodiversity workplace awareness trainings. The Lunch-and-Learn provided an opportunity for attendees to learn more about neurodiversity and how to nurture neuro-inclusivity in the workplace.

- **Queer Britain Museum**

In recognition of PRIDE, our London office hosted an in-person tour of the Queer Britain Museum and a program highlighting the historical and significant contributions women have made to the LGBTQ+ movement.

- **UK Black History Month Program**

Reclaiming Narratives: In honor of Black History Month in the United Kingdom, our London office hosted an in-person poetry event. The program featuring Deanna Rodger highlighted this year's Black History Month theme of Reclaiming Narratives and celebrated the arts as a medium to share the rich histories and stories of individuals of Black heritage in the United Kingdom.

ACCOLADES

- **Top 5, A-List Law Firm**, *The American Lawyer* (2023–2025)

- **400+ lawyer recognitions**, *Chambers & Partners* (2025)

- **Client Service 30**, *BTI Client Service A-Team* (2002–2025)

- **Top 10, The Global 200**, *The American Lawyer* (2023, 2024)

- **Top 15, Most Innovative Law Firms in North America**, *Financial Times* (2022–2024)

- **Most Prestigious Firms**, *Vault Guide to Top 100 Law Firms* (2014–2025)

- **Leader in Tech Law, Innovations in Knowledge Management**, *Legalweek* (2023)

- **21 fellows**, College of Labor and Employment Lawyers

- **11 fellows**, American College of Trial Lawyers

- **7 fellows**, American College of Employee Benefits Counsel

- **7 fellows**, American College of Tax Counsel

- **Clients include more than 80% of the Fortune 100 companies**—including nine of the Top 10 and 16 of the Top 20—and nearly 75% of the Fortune 500 companies, as well more than half of the Fortune Global 100 companies—including eight of the Top 10 and 13 of the Top 20—and over a third of the Fortune Global 500 companies.



GET TO KNOW US

OPEN DAYS

Our Open Day runs in April of each year. This one-day programme is a great way to learn more about Morgan Lewis as a firm and about commercial law in general.

We will introduce you to our key practice areas in the London office and give you the opportunity to meet with some of our trainees during a Q&A session. You will also sit down with some of our associates and trainees over an informal lunch, before attending skills sessions.

SUMMER VACATION SCHEME

Our summer schemes are a great way for you to gain genuine insight into life as a trainee at Morgan Lewis. We offer up to 10 places on our two-week programme, which runs in early July of each year.

During the scheme, you will be given as much hands-on experience as possible and will be supervised by a senior lawyer who will provide advice and guidance throughout the placement. You could be conducting legal research for live deals/cases, attending client meetings, sitting in on conference calls, or drafting engagement letters during your time at the firm. You will also be assigned a trainee “buddy” who will act as an informal mentor throughout the placement. You will have the opportunity to attend seminars and workshops, including presentations from each of the London office’s practices and a Q&A session with some of our trainees. We also organise social events during the scheme, providing you with the opportunity to meet many of our partners, associates, trainees, and business support staff in a more informal setting.

Summer scheme students are assessed for a training contract during the course of the placement. Assessments vary each year, but typically will include a comprehension or written exercise, a research activity, and a group presentation, as well as a partner interview at the end of the scheme.



SUMMER SCHEME INSIGHT



ALISON BALINT

Summer Scheme Student 2025

What drew me to Morgan Lewis was its combination of an international outlook with the intimacy of a smaller trainee intake. I wanted to join a firm where I would not just observe from the sidelines but really get to know people and contribute to meaningful work. The scheme more than lived up to that expectation.

During my two weeks, I had the opportunity to sit in the Finance and Employment practice groups. I was initially apprehensive about Finance, as it was an area I knew little about, but the team went out of their way to make me feel welcome and showed me that I had something to contribute. They were generous with their time, always happy to answer my questions, which quickly gave me the confidence to engage fully with the work. While working alongside the Employment team, I was then able to move beyond transactional matters and gain greater insight into litigious and advisory work, allowing for a deeper comparison of the daily tasks of solicitors within the same firm.

At Morgan Lewis there is real scope to build connections across departments, and I found that this gave me huge exposure to the different communication styles and approaches that teams adopt. With the support of my supervisor, I was able to reach out and take on work from the Litigation team while in the Employment practice group. An underrated benefit of training at Morgan Lewis is that you gain breadth without losing depth. All it takes is the initiative to pursue work that interests you, and you are rewarded with diverse experiences that broaden your learning.

Through these opportunities I was able to take on a wide range of tasks, from reviewing a term sheet for a preferred equity investment, to researching a potentially litigious situation, to compiling complex information into clear tables and creating a chronology for a live dispute. Having the context explained and being trusted with work that genuinely mattered made these tasks both challenging and rewarding.

What stood out most to me was the culture. Everyone I worked with, from partners to trainees, showed real passion for their practice and was generous with their time, even when busy. The experience left me excited about training at Morgan Lewis, knowing I will continue to learn from brilliant lawyers in a truly supportive environment.

TRAINING

CONTRACT PROGRAMME

Each year we recruit up to six trainees, and we are looking for candidates who show us their team spirit, commercial awareness, resilience, and passion for a career in law.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM MY TRAINING?

As a trainee, you can expect to be an active member of a busy team and play a real part in doing challenging legal work. The work will be varied and complex and will most likely involve working across a variety of different jurisdictions.

Training will begin with a comprehensive induction programme, designed to provide you with the tools and skills needed to make an immediate contribution to the firm. Each practice runs regular seminars and training sessions that all trainees are expected to attend, allowing you to continually further your knowledge and build on your proficiency throughout your training contract. You will receive regular feedback on your performance from a range of people throughout your seats, including your supervisors, peers, and colleagues. There will be an informal progress review midway through each seat, as well as a more formal evaluation with your supervisor at the end of each seat.

WHAT SEATS CAN I DO?

All of our trainees spend six months in four different practice areas, including a compulsory transactional seat (usually corporate and business transactions) and a seat in one of our contentious practices (litigation or antitrust). We offer additional seats in finance, investment management, labour and employment, structured transactions, intellectual property and tax, as well as the occasional client secondment in London. There is also the possibility to undertake a secondment in one of our international offices, including Dubai or Singapore, depending on the needs of the business.

While classic "seat" allocations bring a practice area focus to each six-month phase of your training, the versatility and integration of our lawyers ensure that you will have a varied workload and regular exposure to diverse learning experiences.

TRAINEE SALARY AND BENEFITS

Salary is competitive and benefits include the following:

- Pension scheme
- Private medical and dental insurance
- Life assurance
- Cycle-to-work scheme
- Employee assistance programme
- 25 days' holiday per year
- Income protection
- Interest-free season ticket loan
- Discounted shopping

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LAW (PGDL) AND SOLICITORS QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (SQE)

Our future trainees currently complete the SQE (as well as the PGDL, if required) at BPP University Law School in London. All law school fees are paid in full and our future trainees are provided with a maintenance grant whilst studying the SQE and/or PGDL. The firm does not provide retrospective funding for law school fees or maintenance grants.

From September 2021 the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) introduced the SQE. Prospective trainees should not be concerned about these changes, and can expect a fit-for-purpose programme which is favourably comparable with the Legal Practice Course route. For those who are offered a training contract starting in 2028 and beyond, you will need to follow the SQE route.

A DAY IN THE LIFE...



OLIVER BARNES-DEAN, a second-year trainee, describes a day in the life of a trainee in the London Litigation team

9:00 AM I arrive at my desk and read over the emails that I received overnight. As many of the firm's matters have an international element, I often wake up to correspondence from colleagues and clients in various jurisdictions. I then attend our weekly team meeting—many of the team's ongoing cases are highly dynamic and our weekly meetings are an opportunity to share noteworthy developments and exchange thoughts and observations, particularly in relation to one of our major matters involving several clients who are large lessors of aircraft.

9:30 AM I return to my desk and update my to-do list. I am currently assisting my supervisor in preparing a draft witness statement for a Summary Judgment application. I finish reviewing the last of the exhibits to the statement ahead of an afternoon client meeting, send this to my supervisor for their thoughts, and await their comments.

10:00 AM I call the London Commercial Court on behalf of a partner to check the status of an order to transfer one of our claims to the Financial List and to ask for the new case number.

10:15 AM I receive an email from an associate asking me to conduct some legal research and draft a response to a client's query about corporate compliance obligations under UK bribery legislation.

12:45 AM Satisfied with the level of research I have conducted and my draft response, I send it to the associate for review. I pause for lunch and meet a few of the other trainees for a catch-up.

1:45 PM With the Summary Judgment application client call in 15 minutes, my supervisor quickly runs through his feedback on my comments to the witness statement and the exhibits; we plan our approach of what points to raise with the client during the call.

2:00 PM I join the call with the client and take a full note of the points raised. I was also given the responsibility for presenting some of my own observations and opinions of the Witness Statement to the client.

3:45 PM I type up the note of the call and make further amendments to the Witness Statement based on additional information provided by the client. It is crucial for the statement and attached exhibits to be accurate and comprehensive, since they are primary pieces of evidence that will be used during the Summary Judgment trial.

5:30 PM I have a catch-up chat with my supervisor. We discuss the matters that we are currently working on together, and they check in on how I am doing generally as well as what my current capacity is like.

5:45 PM I receive feedback on my contribution to the bribery legislation compliance research piece. I am also working with another associate and a partner on an interesting case in which we represent shareholders of a company and are investigating whether certain directors had knowledge of misconduct that caused a drop in the company's share value. The associate asks me to draft a section of a memorandum for counsel—the barrister retained to represent our clients in court—which will ultimately be incorporated into our Particulars of Claim when issuing proceedings against the company in question.

7:30 PM I send my draft over to the associate for review, update my to-do list for tomorrow and log off for the day.

INTERNATIONAL SECONDMENTS

The firm offers a range of international secondment opportunities for trainees, including six months in our Abu Dhabi, Dubai, or Singapore office.

ELEANOR BECKETT **Singapore Secondment**

In my secondment to the Singapore office for my second seat, I joined the Aviation Finance team. From the outset, I was involved in transactions involving aircraft financing and leasing for leading lessors and banks across the Asian market. It was exciting to work in an industry that evolves constantly in response to global events, and to see first-hand how legal work underpins such a dynamic sector. The team in Singapore works closely with colleagues in London and Dubai, which gave me valuable exposure to cross-border deals and the chance to build relationships with international clients. A particular highlight was advising AIP Capital on its strategic partnership with BeYoke Capital to originate aircraft and engine investment opportunities for Japanese investors. Working alongside the parties and our Japanese colleagues was both rewarding and enriching, offering me the opportunity to develop my skills on a complex, high-profile transaction.

Life outside of work in Singapore was equally fulfilling. The close-knit network of trainees created plenty of opportunities to socialise and explore the city. Having visited Singapore the year before, I was delighted to return and experience its diverse culture and remarkable efficiency—the airport being no exception, as it made regional travel seamless. During my secondment, I was able to visit Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Indonesia, making the most of being based in Southeast Asia.

Looking back, my time in Singapore has been one of the highlights of my training contract. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to be immersed in a professional and cultural context different from London, and for the confidence and perspective it has given me in approaching my future career.





HOW TO APPLY

OPEN DAYS

These are open to anyone in their first year of a law degree, or penultimate year of a non-law degree. If your application is successful, you will be invited for a telephone interview before being offered a place on the day.

Applications will open in October and close on 9 January. Telephone interviews take place in February.

SUMMER SCHEME

Our summer scheme programme is open to penultimate year law students, final year non-law students, and graduates. If your online application is successful, you will be invited for a telephone interview with a member of the graduate recruitment team, followed by a second-stage interview at the London office.

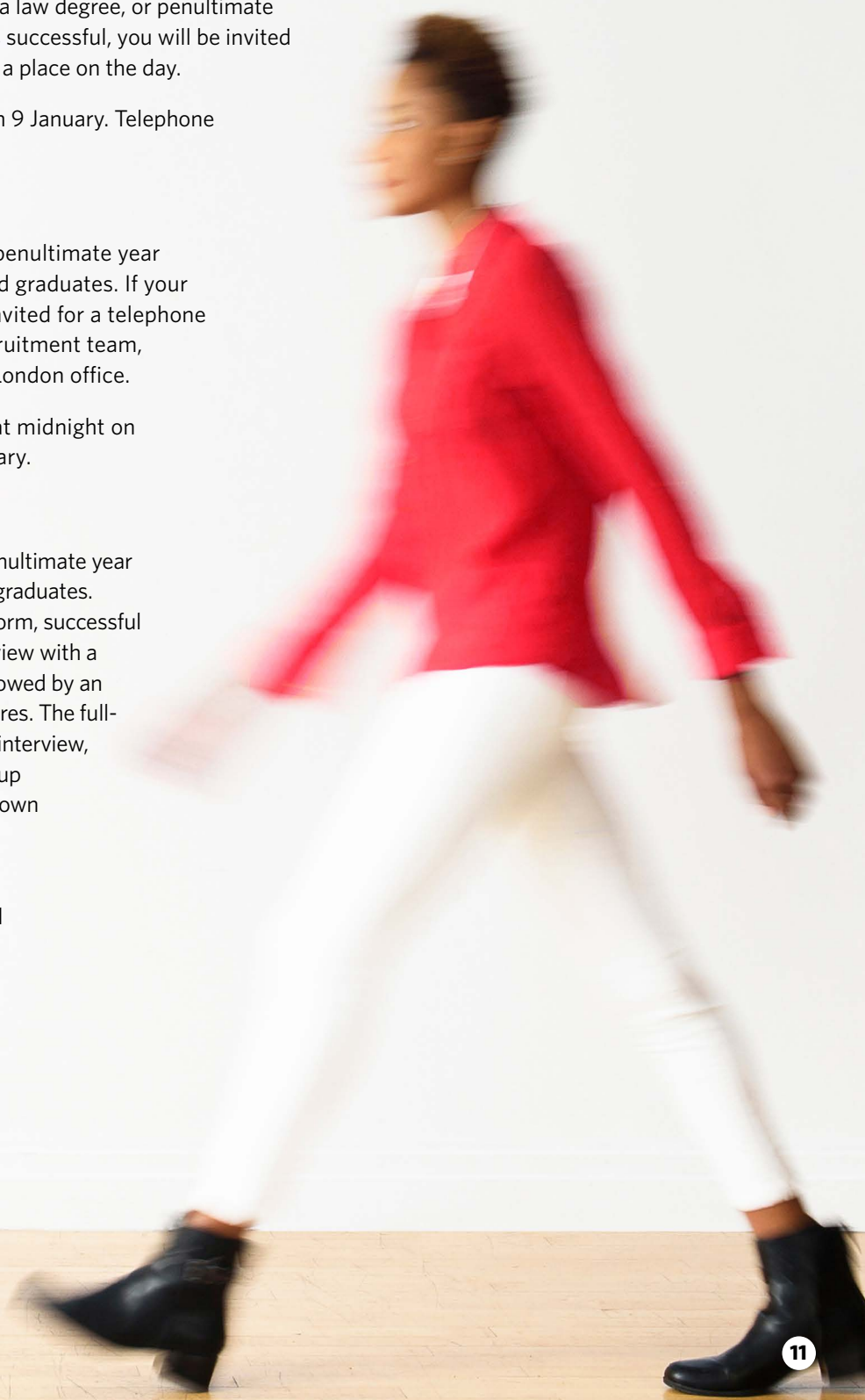
Applications will open in October and close at midnight on 21 January. All interviews take place in February.

TRAINING CONTRACT

Our training contract programme is open to penultimate year law students, final year non-law students, and graduates. Following submission of an online application form, successful candidates will be invited for a telephone interview with a member of the graduate recruitment team, followed by an invitation to attend one of our assessment centres. The full-day assessment will typically involve a partner interview, a comprehension or written exercise, and a group presentation, as well as the opportunity to sit down with some of our trainees at an informal lunch.

Applications will open in October and close at midnight on 19 June. Telephone interviews will be held in July, followed by an assessment in early August.

Further information, including a link to our online application forms, can be found on morganlewis.com/careers.



Morgan Lewis

QUESTIONS?

If you are thinking about a career in law, or have already decided that law is your chosen profession and would like to find out more, please contact us:

The Graduate Recruitment Team

+44.203.201.5000

londontrainingprogramme@morganlewis.com

www.morganlewis.com/careers

Connect with us     

www.morganlewis.com

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