

Students starting the Costs Lawyer Qualification 2020-2024

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June 2025

Costs Lawyer Standards Board

CLSB


Diversity data

This document provides diversity statistics for those students who commenced the Costs Lawyer Qualification ('CLQ') in 2020-2024.

The contents of this report are based on data that is explicitly and voluntarily declared by students taking the CLQ. All questions on the diversity survey contained an option of 'prefer not to say' and not all respondents chose to provide their diversity information. As a result, percentages for each category may not add up to 100%. Where data is not available for a particular year, this is represented by a '-' in the table.

Enrolment changes in 2023

The new, CLSB-accredited, Costs Lawyer Professional Qualification ('CLPQ') had its first intake in September 2023. The new CLPQ intakes students twice per year, in February and September. Future data will therefore reflect two groups of students commencing the programme each year. Students may start at Year 1.2 or Year 2.1 with exemptions (no longer referred to as Unit 1 or Unit 2).

You can find additional data relating to the Costs Lawyer profession (including diversity data) on the [Data About Costs Lawyers](#) page of our website. If you would like further information, please [contact us](#).

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total number enrolled	46	23	40	51	84
Number of exemptions (starting at Unit 2 or 3)	23	10	16	41	38

		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gender	Identify as female	48%	48%	65%	57%	54%
	Identify as male	52%	52%	35%	43%	45%
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Disability	Disclosed a disability	13%	0%	2.5%	2%	2%
	Sought reasonable adjustments	2%	0%	0%	4%	2%
Age	Between 18-24 years of age	13%	22%	17.5%	8%	19%
	Between 25-34 years of age	57%	39%	45%	41%	38%
	Between 35-44 years of age	17%	22%	27.5%	33%	32%
	Between 45-54 years of age	11%	13%	10%	18%	8%
	Between 55-64 years of age	2%	4%	0%	0%	1%
	65 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
	Preferred not to say	-	-	-	1%	-
Ethnicity	Asian	15%	9%	7.5%	4%	3.5%
	Black	7%	9%	5%	4%	5%
	White	61%	78%	70%	88%	60%
	Mixed	2%	4%	5%	2%	1%
	Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Preferred not to say	15%	0%	12.5%	1%	31%

		2023	2024
Sexual orientation	Bisexual	2%	5%
	Gay or lesbian	0%	2%
	Heterosexual	82%	58%
	Preferred not to say/left blank	16%	34%
		2023	2024
Religion	Christian	44%	35%
	Muslim	4%	4%
	No religion	39%	38%
	Sikh	2%	0%
	Spiritual	2%	0%
	Preferred not to say	10%	33%
		2023	2024
Primary carer of a child under 18	Yes	47%	15%
	No	45%	51%
	Preferred not to say	8%	33%
		2023	2024
Primary carer of an adult	Yes	0%	3%
	No	90%	63%
	Preferred not to say	10%	33%

		2023	2024
Type of school attended	Attended school outside the UK	4%	5%
	Independent or fee-paying school – bursary	0%	1%
	Independent or fee-paying school – no bursary	0%	4%
	State-run or state-funded school - non-selective	61%	35%
	State-run or state-funded school - selective on academic, faith or other grounds	25%	23%
	Don't know/not sure	0%	0%
	Preferred not to say	10%	33%
		2023	2024
Parental access to higher education	Neither parent attended university	63%	40%
	One or both parents attended university	27%	21%
	Don't know/not sure	0%	4%
	Preferred not to say	10%	35%
Parental occupation	Clerical and intermediate occupations ¹	8%	1%
	Long-term unemployed ²	0%	5%

¹ Clerical and intermediate occupations such as: secretary, personal assistant, call centre assistant, clerical worker, nursery nurse.

² Long-term unemployed (claimed Jobseekers Allowance or earlier unemployment benefit for more than a year).

	Modern professional occupations ³	29%	25%
	Other (such as retired, or don't know)	0%	1%
	Routine, semi-routine, manual and service occupations ⁴	16%	11%
	Senior, middle or junior managers and administrators ⁵	16%	10%
	Small business owners who employed less than 25 people ⁶	4%	7%
	Technical and craft occupations ⁷	16%	7%
	Preferred not to say	12%	33%

³ Modern professional occupations such as: teacher/lecturer, nurse, physiotherapist, social worker, welfare officer, artist, musician, police officer (sergeant or above), software designer, accountant, solicitor, medical practitioner, scientist, civil/mechanical engineer.

⁴ Such as: postal worker, machine operative, security guard, caretaker, farmworker, catering assistance, sales assistant, HGV driver, cleaner, porter, packer, labourer, waiter/waitress, bar staff

⁵ Such as: finance manager, chief executive, large business owner, office manager, retail manager, bank manager, restaurant manager, warehouse manager.

⁶ Such as: corner shop owners, small plumbing companies, retail shop owner, single restaurant or café owner, taxi owner, garage owner.

⁷ Technical and craft occupations such as: motor mechanic, plumber, printer, electrician, gardener, train driver.