

Training Programme FAQs

I thought that I had started my training before the PPC I – after all some of this time can count towards the two year training programme?

Yes it is true that up to 4 months of time spent in the office before you started the PPC I can count towards your training period (see the section about *Credit*), but the training formally starts after the PPC I.

I am about to finish the PPC I, can I take a two week vacation before starting my training?

This is something to discuss with your training solicitor. Your training solicitor's view about this might depend on whether or not you are receiving a salary whilst on the course. If you are being paid then it is likely that your firm will ask you to return to the office as soon as you have completed your exams. Any further absence would probably be subject to an application for annual leave.

Practice does vary however. Many trainees are not expected in the office until the actual Indenture commencement date.

If I start in the office immediately after the PPC I i.e. as in 2 weeks before the Indentures commence, can those 2 weeks count towards my two year in-office training period?

No. Apart from time that you spent in the office before the PPC I (up to 4 months) only the time that you spend in the office 14 days after the last PPC I exam will count.

If the training period starts 14 days after the last examination on the PPC I why can't I claim credit for time spent in the office before the course commenced.

The credit rule lets you apply for a dispensation from having to complete the entire two years training post PPC I. It knocks off time from the end of your training and brings forward your Indenture Expiry Date. It does not affect your start date, which is two weeks after the last examination on the PPC I. This is discussed in more detail in the section which deals with credit.

What if I started my training after the official commencement date?

The Training Regulations require that you start your training two weeks after the last exam on the PPC I. If you are not able to comply with this rule you should contact the Traineeship Section.

There are two practical consequences of starting your training late. Firstly your training will end later because it started later. Secondly your eligibility to attend the PPC II is affected. This is because the regulations state that trainees have to attend in the office on a full time and continuous basis between the PPC I and II and must complete a full 11 months of in-office training.

It may still be possible to be admitted on to the PPC II but you will need to make an application to the Education Committee. More information about this can be found under the section that deals with the entrance requirements for the PPC II.