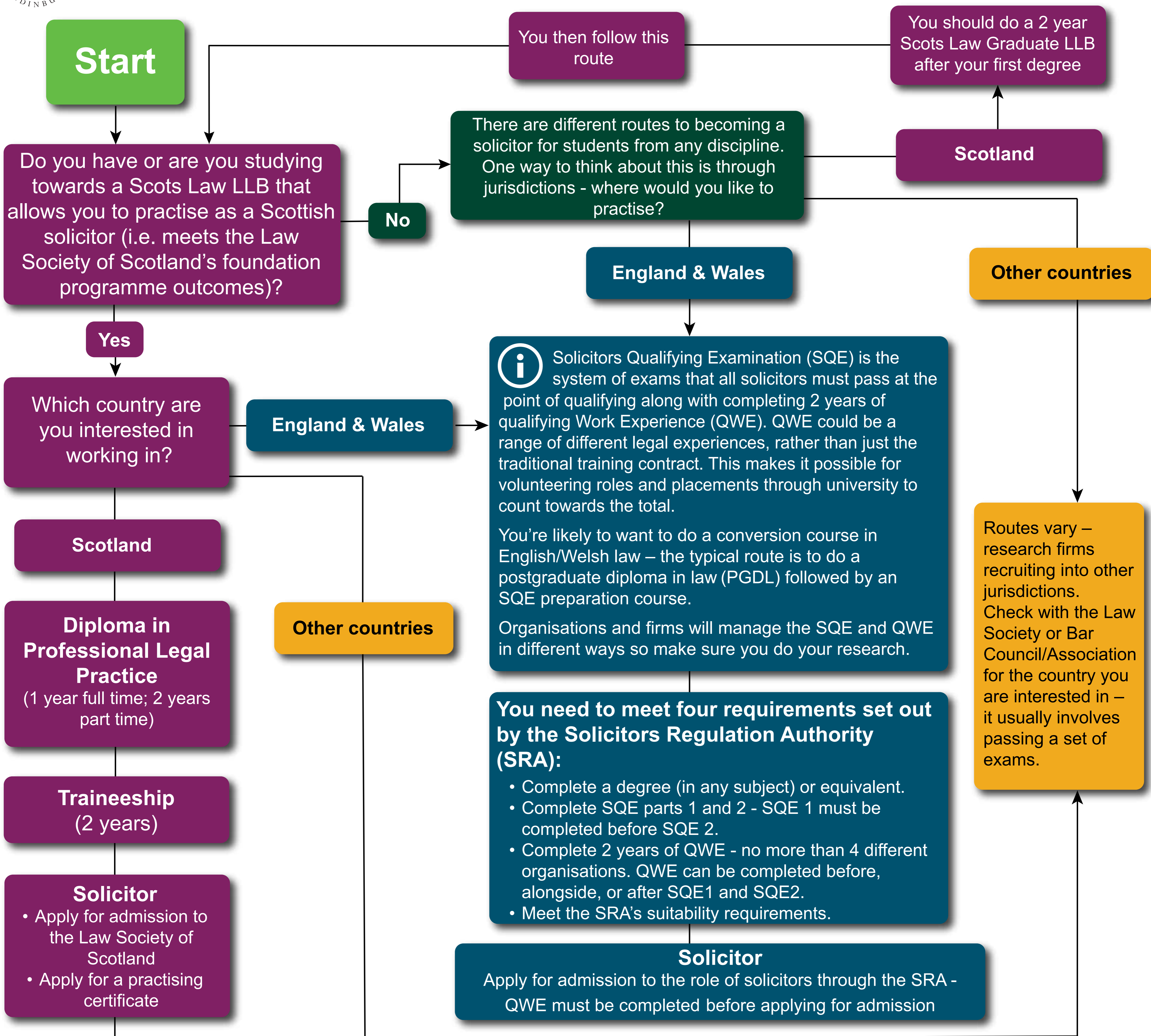


# What are the routes towards qualifying as a solicitor?



## Where can you do a traineeship?

- Big law firms; tend to be large commercial firms - can recruit two years in advance
- Smaller, medium sized firms; high street firms - recruit as and when they need a trainee
- In-house organisations; private or public sector - can offer anything from current vacancies up to 1-2 years in advance

## When are you due to graduate from your LLB?

### I already have, and have started the Diploma:

Most of the large commercial firms advertising will be recruiting for 2026/2027 start dates so you may have a 1-2 year gap after finishing your Diploma. Through the year, opportunities for 2025 starts will arise, particularly with smaller firms and just-in-time recruitment.

#### 2025:

Apply for traineeships starting 2026 or 2027. Look at routes in via vacation placements too.

#### 2026:

Talk to firms about internships/vacation placements and early applications to 2027 traineeships.

#### 2027 or later:

Some firms offer work experience opportunities for earlier year students and you can get an insight into different areas of work to help inform your future choices.

## If you have qualified in another jurisdiction and wish to requalify, there may be various exemptions and exams to take:

- Requalifying into Scotland - check with the Law Society of Scotland
- Requalifying into England and Wales – check with the Solicitors Regulation Authority