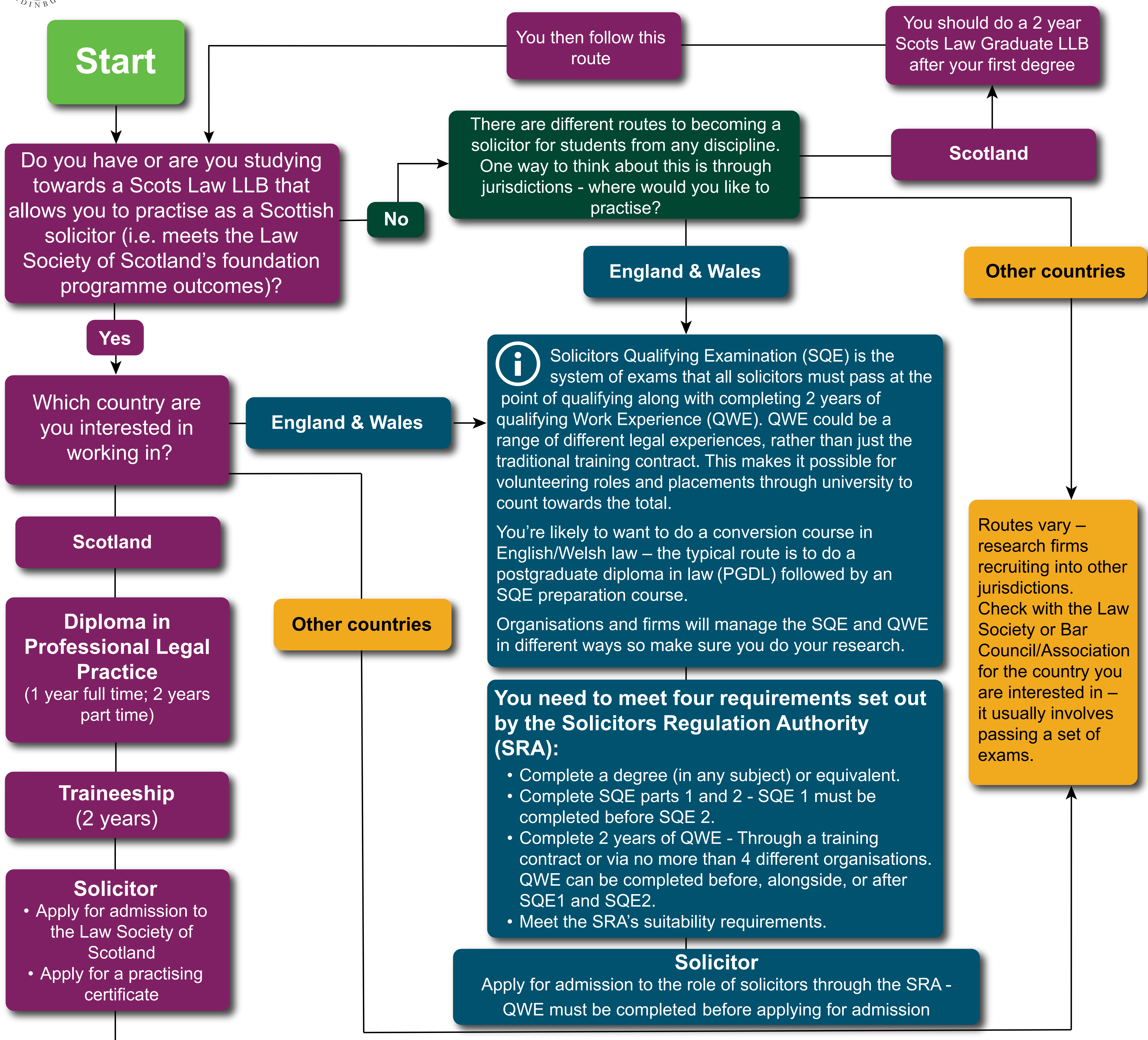


What are the routes towards qualifying as a solicitor?



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 2027/2028 start dates so you may have a 1-2 year gap after finishing your Diploma. Through the year, opportunities for 2026 starts will arise, particularly with smaller firms and just-in-time recruitment.

2026:

Apply for traineeships starting 2027 or 2028. Look at routes in via vacation placements too.

2027:

Talk to firms about internships/vacation placements and early applications to 2028 traineeships.

2028 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