FAQS

APPLICATIONS AND INTERVIEWS

1. When do APPLICATIONS OPEN?
   A: 1 September 2023

2. How can I apply?
   A: Online: https://www.apply4law.com/GibsonDunn/

3. What does the APPLICATION include?
   A: We are keen to get to know you so there is the opportunity to share more about you and your experiences as well as what attracts you to Gibson Dunn; why you want to become a solicitor.

4. Are applications reviewed on a ROLLING BASIS?
   A: Yes, so please do get your application in early

   Note: To secure a training contract you should first apply for our vacation scheme but training contract will be open for those unable to participate in the programme.

5. HOW MANY TRAINEES are you looking to recruit each year?
   A: Up to nine

6. WHICH YEAR are you currently recruiting for?
   A: 2025

7. HOW MANY SUMMER VACATION SCHEME STUDENTS are you looking to recruit for 2024?
   A: Eighteen to Twenty-Two.

8. What are the SUMMER VACATION SCHEME DATES?
   A: 24 June 2024 – 12 July 2024 (3 weeks)

9. What is the vacation scheme INTERVIEW PROCESS?
   A: First stage interview with Graduate Recruitment, followed by two second stage interviews with partners and associates (competency based interview and a case study)

10. When do APPLICATIONS CLOSE?
    A: 16 January 2024

11. What are your GRADE REQUIREMENTS?
    A: You should have obtained, or expect to obtain, a strong 2:1 undergraduate degree or better. We do accept mitigating circumstances in application form.

12. Do you recruit from certain UNIVERSITIES OR LAW SCHOOLS or require certain SUBJECTS?
    A: No. We welcome applications from exceptional students from any university and discipline

13. WHO can apply?
    A: Undergraduate law students in their penultimate year of study, students of other disciplines in their final year, those who have already graduated and those completing the GDL or LPC or SQE

14. How can I make my application STAND OUT?
    A: Be yourself. Your application will stand out if it is well-considered and a true reflection of your achievements and ambitions. Do your research, but don’t just repeat what you have read on our website or tell us what you think we want to hear. Connect your skills and experience with the firm; we like curious individuals! We don’t expect all candidates to have valuable legal work experience, but we encourage you to think outside the parameters of the roles that you have held and consider any commercial aspects

15. What key CHARACTERISTICS do we look for in a Gibson Dunn trainee?
    A: Intellectual curiosity; Entrepreneurial Spirit; Maturity; Sociability

TRAINING WITH US

16. Does the firm cover GDL AND LPC, SQE FEES?
    A: Yes those who need sponsorship. We also pay a competitive maintenance allowance during each year of study

17. What is a trainee’s STARTING SALARY?
    A: £55,000 (year 1) and £60,000 (year 2); rising to £162,000 per annum on qualification (as of 2023)

18. Who will SUPERVISE?
    A: You will be supervised by senior associates and partners

19. What SEATS are available?
    A: We offer seats in Dispute Resolution (arbitration, investigations, litigation), Corporate, Energy, Competition, Tax, Real Estate, Finance & Restructuring, Employment

20. Do you offer international and client SECONDMENTS?
    A: Yes, we currently provide an international secondment to our Hong Kong office but are exploring other regions going forward such as Dubai and a secondment to an investment banking client

21. What makes the Gibson Dunn TRAINING CONTRACT UNIQUE?
    A: We are the go-to firm for global HIGH-END LEGAL WORK where the financial and reputation risks are at their highest. Our LOW LEVERAGE MODEL allows trainees greater early experience and exposure to clients and interesting aspects of the work. Our FREE MARKET SYSTEM provides lawyers the flexibility to chart their long-term career goals. We are a TRULY INTERNATIONAL firm and you will work on complex cross-border matters, with fluid overlap between offices. Our trainees benefit from annual INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ($1,000 USD), CLIENT DEVELOPMENT ($1,000 USD) & BOOK BUDGETS ($300 USD)

    Lead by our Executive Committee, we have firm-wide and local office DIVERSITY committees and affinity groups to support our lawyers through programming and training. PRO BONO – 1 for 1 billable credit. We have a long-standing and valued tradition of service to the community and we look forward to welcoming trainees who are interested in getting involved in pro bono work.