

How do I get involved in pro bono work with Advocate?

1. Advocate is the Bar's national charity, working with over 4500 volunteer barristers.

Applicants apply through our application form on [our website](#). This is then checked by a caseworker to make sure that all the necessary information is collected. These bundles are therefore more complete than with usual direct access clients. You **do not need to be direct access qualified** yourself, as you will operate under Advocate's licence.



2. The case is then sent to a [reviewer](#) – a senior barrister and specialist in the relevant area of law - who **determines whether the case is eligible for assistance** and in turn worth your time. Reviewers will assess both the means of the applicant and the merits of the case.



3. You can **browse** all our available cases through our [online members' area](#). You can also opt to receive a list of personalised cases via a weekly email matched to your specialisms, year of call and practicing Circuit.

Unlike the cab rank rule, it is completely your choice what you decide to take on and when.



4. If you are interested in a piece of work, we will send you all the relevant information. To help you make your decision about taking it on, you have **48 hours with the case papers** to decide if you would like to undertake the work. There is no contact with the applicant until you let us know that you want to take on the work.

The process is designed to be flexible to you. You only take on the piece of work that has been authorised by a reviewer, and **there is no obligation to take on a whole case**.



5. The Advocate Casework Team remain on hand to **support you** throughout the case. You can also request the assistance of a senior barrister to **mentor** you on the case through our mentoring scheme, [Collaborate](#). Solicitor assistance can also be found through [Pro Bono Connect](#). Your pro bono work can then be recognised through the [Pro Bono Pledge](#).

When you have finished the piece of work, you can either ask Advocate to find an alternative barrister to continue work on the case, or you can decide to take on further work.

[Sign up today!](#)

We look forward to working with you.
Please do get in touch if you have further questions
enquiries@weareadvocate.org.uk