

# Train to be a Probation Officer

## What does a Probation Officer do?

As a Probation Officer your aim is to protect the public by reducing crime, safeguarding victims and rehabilitating offenders. You could be based in an Offender Management team, a court or a prison setting.

## Probation Officers will:

- Work with complex individuals, including those who have committed violent or sexual offences.
- Work in multi-agency teams with police officers, social workers and mental health professionals to manage offenders in the community.
- Communicate effectively with offenders and write professional reports.

The work is both demanding and rewarding, requiring resilience and professional judgement.

## Probation Officers need to be able to:

- Demonstrate professional ethics, values and practices.
- Assess the potential risks and needs of offenders.
- Manage risk of serious harm to protect the public.
- Create an enabling environment conducive to change.
- Rehabilitate, resettle and promote desistance from crime.
- Produce reports, including court reports, on offenders.

## What qualification do I need?

You will need to achieve the Professional Qualification in Probation (PQiP). The PQiP is equivalent to a Higher Education, level 6 qualification and is a 15 month work-based qualification which focuses on both skills development and applied academic learning.

During your 15 month training, you will be employed and paid as a Probation Services Officer (PSO) and will be expected to undertake routine PSO tasks while you complete the qualification. You will also be allocated time to complete a skills-based vocational qualification (VQ) and to undertake applied academic study with an approved University provider.

All fees for the VQ and the academic study will be paid by your employer, and successful completion of both components will lead to the award of a level 6 higher education qualification (equivalent to an Honours degree) as well as the PQiP.

## How can I access the PQiP?

Access to the qualification is subject to recruitment and selection and you will need:

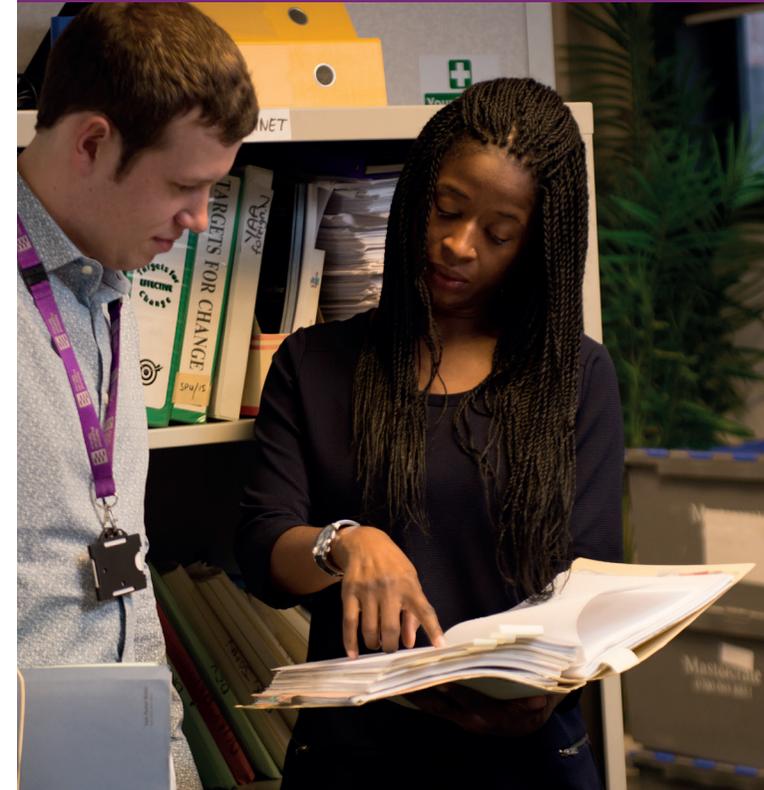
- Experience of working with people exhibiting challenging behaviour.
- A recognised qualification at Level 5 or above (Diploma of higher education, Foundation, honours degree, higher apprenticeship)
- Required knowledge modules in four areas, which may already have been achieved as part of a previous qualification.

Further information:

[www.sfjuk.com/community-justice-learning/](http://www.sfjuk.com/community-justice-learning/)  
and [www.traintobeaprobationofficer.com](http://www.traintobeaprobationofficer.com)



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'Level' refers to the level of the qualification in both the previous Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and the new Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)

**Key:**

= Skills

= Knowledge

= Experience

