The article presents selected socio-demographic characteristics of the elite of the Polish public administration, and senior clerks’ career paths. Empirical picture of the elite’s careers has been referred to the two ideal types of recruitment and career in administration: the model of career model and the model of positions. This leads to the conclusion that the career of the elite of the Polish administration is characterized by a mixed model, slightly shifted toward the model of career. Professional biographies of a substantial part of the elite are carried out mainly on the highest level of the structures of government administration. The article is based on biographical data available in the public domain.

**Tags:** administrative elite, professional career, civil service