Paralegal (PAR)

Associate of Applied Science



Is Paralegal Right For You?

Why a Paralegal Degree?

- Does the excitement and challenge of the legal field appeal to you?
- Are you prepared to serve a crucial role in law firms, corporations, and government agencies?
- Are you ambitious, hard-working, and willing to work with diverse groups of people?
- Are you a good researcher?

Graduates of this program are prepared to enter a Paralegal/Legal Assistant career in private or public organizations, governmental, and not-for-profit agencies.

American Bar Association (ABA) Approved Program

The paralegal program at Pikes Peak State College is approved by the American Bar Association (ABA). This approval ensures that the program complies with the high academic standards of the ABA for education and entry into the legal profession.

Colorado Licensed Legal Para-Professional Program

The Legal Ethics class offered by the paralegal program at Pikes Peak State College meets the guidelines for practice as a licensed legal paraprofessional in Colorado. Please contact us for more information!

NOTE: Graduates are not authorized to practice law. The Paralegal program provides training to perform substantive legal work under the supervision of a licensed attorney. All students must complete at least 9 semester credits of Legal Specialty courses through synchronous instruction.

Faculty Profile

Each of our paralegal faculty have real-world experience in the legal profession and have practiced law in the workforce. All faculty hold Juris Doctorate (JD) degrees.

Future Career Prospects

- A two-year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree with a Paralegal/Legal Assistant designation is a terminal degree designed for those seeking entry-level Paralegal/Legal Assistant positions or for those already working in the legal field
- Paralegals/Legal Assistants are always in demand and the position is considered by the US Labor Bureau to be one of the fastest growing career fields in the country
- Pikes Peak State College Paralegal program has over 90% job placement within 6 months of completion.
- Average paralegal pay in our region is \$65,000 per year

For more career information, visit:

<u>Colorado Department of Labor - Labor Market</u> O*Net's Paralegal/ Legal Assistant Career Website

Program Specifics

The Paralegal/Legal Assistant program is designed to allow students to become proficient in:

- Performing basic legal research
- Drafting various legal documents
- Conducting client and witness interviews
- Participating in basic fact-finding and investigation
- Assisting in trial preparation

The Pikes Peak State College Paralegal/Legal Assistant program maintains Institutional Memberships and Relationships with the following organizations:

- American Association for Paralegal Education
- National Association of Legal Assistants/Paralegals
- National Federation of Paralegal Associations
- El Paso County Bar Association
- American Bar Association

Legal Assistant Certificate

- Only 36 credit hours in length (three semesters)!
- Available to students with a Bachelors Degree or higher
- Qualifies you to work as a paralegal in Colorado

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) - Paralegal/Legal Assistant (64 credit hours)

| Semester 1 Course & Credit Hours | Semester 2 Course & Credit Hours | Semester 3 Course & Credit Hours |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ENG 1021 English Composition (3) | ENG 1022 English Composition II (3) | *PAR 1118 Contracts (3) |
| PAR 1114 Computers and the Law (3) | *PAR 2213 Legal Research and Writing (3) | *PAR 2205 Criminal Law (3) |
| *PAR 1115 Introduction to Law (3) | *PAR 2201 Civil Litigation (3) | *PAR 1116 Torts (3) |
| MAT 1240 Math for Liberal Arts (4) | *PAR 1127 Legal Ethics (3) | PAR 2208 Probate and Estates (3) |
| | General Elective (From Approved AAS Electives) (3) PHI 1012; PHI 1013; CRJ 2035; BUS 2016; COM 1025; ACC 1021 | *PAR 1125 Property Law (3) |
| Total 13 Credit Hours | Total 15 Credit Hours | Total 15 Credit Hours |

| Semester 4 Course & Credit Hours | Semester 5 Course & Credit Hours | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| *PAR 2209 Constitutional Law (3) | *PAR 2202 Evidence (3) | |
| *PAR 1117 Family Law (3) | *PAR 2080 Internship (3) or *PAR 2087 Cooperative Education | |
| PAR 2206 Business Organizations (3) | | |
| Political Science (From Approved AAS Electives) (3) PSC 1011; PSC 1025 | * Classes required for the Legal Assistant Certificate 36 credit hours in length (three semesters) | |
| General Elective (From Approved AAS Electives) (3) PHI 1012; PHI 1013; CRJ 2035; BUS 2016; COM 1025; ACC 1021 | Sign up Today! PikesPeak.edu/PAR | |
| Total 15 Credit Hours | Total 6 Credit Hours | |

Talk to a program advisor today:

Paralegal Department Chair — Jason DeVaux

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