

# Paralegal Studies

## Graduate Certificate 24 Credit Hours

*This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences. It is available online, at the St. Louis home campus and at the Gateway campus.*

### Program Description

The certificate program in paralegal studies is designed to provide the theoretical and practical education needed by those who work or desire to work as paralegals (legal assistants). It is important to note that, at present, there is no state or federal licensure of paralegals, and that successful completion of Webster's certificate program should not be construed to imply state, federal or board certification.

All certificate courses must be taken at Webster University. Students may pursue the certificate by itself or integrate their certificate studies with their MA degree program.

The U.S. Department of Education defines Gainful Employment program criteria and data requirements. View this program's Gainful Employment Disclosures at <http://www.webster.edu/consumers/gainful-employment/graduate/paralegal-studies/gedt.html> to see important information about the education debt, earnings and completion rates of students who attended this program.

### Requirements

The 24 credit hours required for the graduate certificate in paralegal studies must include the following courses:

- LEGL 5000 Introduction to Legal Studies (3 hours)
- LEGL 5260 Methods of Legal Research and Writing I (3 hours)
- LEGL 5270 Methods of Legal Research and Writing II (3 hours)
- LEGL 5300 Ethics for the Legal Professional (3 hours)
- LEGL 5470 Civil Actions (3 hours)
- LEGL 5490 Advanced Topics in Law (6 hours)
- LEGL 5800 Computerized Legal Research (3 hours)

### Areas of law offered in topics courses include:

- Torts
- Contracts
- Probate
- Business Organizations
- Juvenile
- Products Liability
- Consumer
- Environmental
- Insurance
- Bankruptcy
- Property
- Computers and Law
- Family
- Real Estate

**Note:** A legal assistant or paralegal is a person, qualified by education, training or work experience who is employed or retained by a lawyer, law office, corporation, governmental agency or other entity and who performs specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a lawyer is responsible. Paralegals or legal assistants may not provide legal services directly to the public, except as permitted by law.

Webster University's St. Louis area paralegal programs have been approved by the American Bar Association.

## Admission

Students who are interested in applying to this certificate program should see the Admission Section of this catalog for general requirements.

### Send all admissions materials to:

Office of Admission  
Webster University  
470 E. Lockwood Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63119