



Paralegal Studies A.A. Degree

FULL TIME

This program roadmap represents one possible pathway to complete the program. **Please see a counselor** to create an education plan that is customized to meet your needs. This roadmap is not a guarantee of course availability or financial aid applicability.

Catalog: 2025-26

GE Pattern: local AA/AS

Total Units: 60

Start Term: Fall

First Year

Semester 1 (Fall)

15 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
GE	ENGL C1000 ^{ABA} Academic Reading and Writing or	3		L1A
	ENGL C1000H ^{H, ABA} Academic Reading and Writing - Honors	3		
GE	STAT C1000 ^{ABA} Introduction to Statistics or	4		L2
	STAT C1000H ^{H, ABA} Introduction to Statistics - Honors	4		
GE	POLS C1000 ^{ABA} American Government and Politics or	3		L4
	POLS C1000H ^{H, ABA} American Government and Politics - Honors	3		
Elec	any Area L7B (Life Development Skills) course ¹	2		L7B
Elec	any elective course	3		

Semester 2 (Spring)

16 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	LA 300 Introduction to Law and the American Legal System	3	ENGL C1000 or C1000H or ESLW 340	
Req	LA 320 Legal Research	3		
GE	ENGWR 303 ^{ABA} Argumentative Writing and Critical Thinking Through Literature	4	ENGL C1000 or C1000H	L1B
GE	PHIL 310 ^{ABA} Introduction to Ethics	3		L3
GE	any Area L6 (Ethnic Studies) course	3		L6

Second Year

Semester 3 (Fall)

15 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
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CAREER PATH

Career Options:

Paralegals find employment in both state and federal government as well as private practice and corporate settings.

Advising Notes:

- This degree can be completed using either the local AA/AS general education (GE) pattern or the Cal-G ETC transfer GE pattern. See a counselor to determine which pattern is best for you based on your academic goals.
- Students can substitute ESLW 340 for ENGL C1000/C1000H (formerly known as ENGWR 300/480).
- Elective Courses:** any elective courses numbered 100-499, or having a 4-digit number starting with C.

Scheduling Notes:

- LA 300 is offered in the fall, spring, and summer.
- LA 310, 312, 314, and 350 are offered in the fall and spring.
- LA 320 is offered in the fall regularly, and in the spring and summer occasionally.
- LA 321 is offered in the spring regularly, and in the fall and summer occasionally.
- LA 330, 332, 336, and 342 are offered in the fall.
- LA 334, 360, 362, and 365 are offered in the spring.

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	LA 312 Torts and Personal Injury	3		
Req	LA 321 Legal Writing	3	LA 320	
RE	LA 342 Evidence	3	LA 300	
Req	LA 350 Law Office Management	3		
GE	ANTH 300 ^{ABA} Biological Anthropology or ANTH 480 ^{H, ABA} Honors Biological Anthropology	3 3		L5

Semester 4 (Spring)

14 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES	GE AREA
Req	LA 310 Civil Procedures and Litigation	3		
Req	LA 314 Contract Law	3		
RE	LA 334 Criminal Law and Procedure	3	LA 300	
RE	LA 362 Estate Planning and Probate Procedure	3	LA 300	
Elec	any Area L7A (Physical Education) course ¹	1		L7A
Elec	any elective course	1		

¹ Students in majors (like this one) with 45 units or more of required coursework are exempt from the Area L7 general education requirement. [See a counselor](#) if you wish to waive this requirement.

^{ABA} courses that meet the ABA Breadth requirements for this degree

^H honors courses

- This program can be started in spring and summer as well. [See a counselor](#) to adjust the coursework.

Other Notes:

- The American Bar Association (ABA) has specific requirements for 18 units of additional non-legal-assisting coursework (ABA Breadth). See the Legal Assisting website for more information.
- An internship (LA 498) is highly recommended as it opens up potential employment opportunities. Students can earn between 0.5 – 4.0 units for related paid or unpaid work experience including volunteer and internship positions through LA 498. See the [Work Experience website](#) for more information.

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES

GE	General Education	A course that fulfills a specific general education requirement for a degree, which can be replaced with another course that meets the same requirement
Elec	Degree Elective	A degree-applicable course that is part of a degree roadmap to ensure that there is a total of at least 60 units, which is a requirement for an associate degree
Req	Required Core	A course that is required for this program
RE	Restricted Elective	A course selected from a list of elective courses specified for this program in the course list in the catalog, which can be replaced with another course from the same list