

LEGAL STUDIES/PARALEGAL

Program Number: 10-110-1

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Campus: Online

This program is eligible for financial aid (<http://www.morainepark.edu/financial-aid/>)

Prepare for a rewarding career in the growing legal field with a Legal Studies/Paralegal associate degree from Moraine Park Technical College.

About the Program

Paralegals, also known as legal assistants, assist lawyers with a variety of tasks (please note: paralegals do not provide legal advice).

What You'll Learn

Students in the Legal Studies/Paralegal program learn to interview clients, prepare for hearings and trials, and research the law. Graduates are skilled in preparing legal documents and legal correspondence. Paralegals are also skilled investigators and analyzers. Paralegals need to be detail-oriented, organized and have strong communication skills.

Transfer Opportunities

Your academic journey can continue at a four-year college or university. Earn your associate degree at Moraine Park and then apply those credits toward a bachelor's degree. Starting at MPTC makes completing a bachelor's degree **affordable**, **accessible** and **convenient**. You can go anywhere as MPTC has transfer agreements with colleges and universities both in Wisconsin and throughout the country.

Visit the Transfer to a Four-Year College (<https://www.morainepark.edu/transfer-to-a-four-year-college/>) page for more information on credit transfer agreements between Moraine Park and four-year colleges, both public and private.

Admission Process

Standard Admissions (<http://www.morainepark.edu/admissions/new-student/how-to-apply-for-admissions/>) steps details

Credit for Prior Learning

Transform the skills and abilities developed through previous experience into college credit through MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning process.

- Transfer credit from other colleges/universities
- Earn college credit for your military training and experience
- Earn college credit via Advance Placement, CLEP, DANTES/DSST or MPTC Challenge Exams
- Earn college credit from previous/current work and life experiences

Visit MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning (<https://www.morainepark.edu/academics/credit-for-prior-learning/>) page for more information.

Approximate Costs

NOTE: The fees below are 2025-2026 fees. They will be updated when 2026-2027 fees are approved.

Tuition

Occupational

- \$152.85 per credit (resident)
- \$229.28 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Associate of Arts/Associate of Science

- \$192.20 per credit (resident)
- \$288.30 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Online students are not charged out-of-state fees.

Student Fees

- \$5.00 minimum per course Material Fee
- \$13.76 per-credit Supplemental Fee for Undergraduate courses
- \$4.50 per term mandatory Student Accident Insurance Fee

Please refer to Tuition & Fee Information (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/admissions-registration/tuition-fee-information/>) for additional enrollment fee information.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available for associate degree and technical diploma programs (those that are 2 semesters in length and typically with 28 credits or more). Processing can take 4-5 weeks after a student's completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>)) is received.

Several factors influence the total cost of your degree, including enrollment fees, the number of credits required, textbooks and equipment. **Financial aid** (<https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/>) can assist with those costs.

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Semester 1		
103-159	Computer Literacy - Microsoft Office	1
106-120	Document Formatting	1
110-101	Introduction to Paralegalism	3
110-102	Civil Litigation	3
110-168	Criminal Law	3
801-136	English Composition 1	3
890-101	College 101	2
Credits		16
Semester 2		
106-182	Information Management	3
110-104	Legal Research	3
110-105	Legal Writing	3
110-106	Family Law	3
110-114	Administration of Estates	3
809-122	Introduction to American Government	3
Credits		18
Semester 3		
101-184 or 101-130	Principles of Accounting or QuickBooks	3
105-160	Business Law	3
110-130	Real Estate Law	3
Mathematics Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/mathematics/)		3
Social Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)		3
Credits		15

Semester 4		
110-107	Legal Aspects of Business Organizations	3
110-136	Legal Ethics	3
110-169	Legal Office Applications	3
Communication Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/communications/)		3
Behavioral Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		64

Program Outcomes

- Apply ethical principles in a legal environment.
- Process legal documents.
- Perform legal research.
- Apply critical thinking skills to address legal issues.
- Demonstrate professionalism in a legal environment.

Career Opportunities

Paralegal or legal assistant in any of the following:

- Law Office
- Government Agencies and Departments
- Corporate Human Resources or Legal Department
- District Attorney's Office
- Insurance Company
- Title Company
- Trust Department of a Bank
- Legal Aid Office
- Public Defender's Office
- Legal Advocate

Statewide Median Salary for Recent Graduates

\$44,645