

PARALEGAL STUDIES

Division: Business and Computer Information Systems

The **Fullerton College Paralegal Studies Program** approved by the American Bar Association (ABA) offers an Associate in Science Degree and a Certificate to qualified students. The goal of the program is to educate students to become paralegals who perform effectively in a variety of legal settings and adapt to changes in the ever-evolving field of law. This program prepares the student for a career as a paralegal working under the supervision of an attorney in either the public or private sector. The Fullerton College Paralegal Studies Program is approved by the American Bar Association (ABA) and does not prepare students for law school or the practice of law. Under California's Business and Professions Code, Section 6450 (et seq.), a paralegal may not market his or her services to the public, but must work under the direct supervision of an attorney licensed to practice law.

The goals of the program are as follows:

- To maintain a program that is dedicated to quality education and occupational competency for the paralegal student in the field of law;
- To ensure that students receive practical instruction and training in the skills necessary to succeed in any legal environment;
- To offer a diverse curriculum that provides a broad understanding of substantive and procedural law, and demonstrates the application of this knowledge in today's legal job market;
- To stress the importance of upholding the general principles of ethics, professional responsibility, and the prohibitions against the unauthorized practice of law;
- To provide the student with the opportunity to apply legal research and analysis principles to diverse factual situations so that they can act on the results as simulated in the legal environment.

Students who wish to transfer course work into the Fullerton College Paralegal Studies Program from another ABA-approved program will be able to transfer in no more than six (6) units of legal specialty classes provided the course is the same as a course offered at Fullerton College and awards exactly the same amount of units. Students who wish to attain an Associate in Science Degree or a Certificate from Fullerton College's Paralegal Studies Program must complete the 24 units of required courses for the major at Fullerton College.

Michael Moore (Program Coordinator)

- Paralegal Studies Associate in Science Degree
- Paralegal Studies Certificate