



North Carolina State Bar Board of Paralegal Certification

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www.nccertifiedparalegal.gov

Application for Designation as a Qualified Paralegal Studies Program

Name of Program: _____

URL: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Title of Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Is the program an institutional member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) or other national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education? Yes / No

If so, please identify the national or regional accrediting agency and the initial date of membership:

Is the program ABA-approved? Yes / No Date approved: _____

If so, please sign here to verify and return the form: _____

If not, please complete the rest of this form.

Is the program an institutional member of the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE)?
Yes / No Initial date of membership: _____

Please attach the course catalog for your program and the syllabi for your legal specialty courses.
Additional information may be requested.

Failure to adequately complete or clarify the information required on this application may delay review and approval time. Applications are reviewed by the board on a quarterly basis in February, May, August, and November each year.



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Qualified Program Checklist

Please indicate in the spaces provided below the page number(s) on which the following information can be found in the program materials you are providing with this application. Failure to provide this information may delay review and approval time.

NOTE: A “clock hour” equals sixty minutes of classroom instruction, a “contact hour” equals **fifty minutes of classroom instruction**, a “**semester credit**” equals **12.5 clock hours or fifteen contact hours of instruction**, and a “**quarter credit**” or a “**continuing education unit**” equals **8.33 clock hours or ten contact hours of instruction**.

Programs must meet the minimum hour requirements for the units of instruction used by the program as indicated in the chart below.

	General Education Course Work	Legal Specialty Course Work	Additional Course Work	Total Course Work
Clock hours	225	225	300	750
Contact hours	270	270	360	900
Semester Credits	18	18	24	60
Quarter Credits	27	27	36	90
Continuing education units	27	27	36	90

Degree(s) Offered:

_____ **Associate’s Degree** Date this degree was initially offered: _____

This option requires at least 60 semester credit hours, or the equivalent, of general education courses and legal specialty courses. Of the 60 semester credit hours, at least 18 semester credit hours (270 contact hours), or the equivalent, must be legal specialty courses.

Total number of semester credit/contact hours for Associate’s Degree: _____
Page(s) _____

_____ **Bachelor’s Degree** Date this degree was initially offered: _____

This option requires at least 60 semester credit hours, or the equivalent, of general education courses and legal specialty courses. Of the 60 semester credit hours, at least 18 semester credit hours (270 contact hours), or the equivalent, must be legal specialty courses.

Total number of semester credit/contact hours for Bachelor’s Degree: _____
Page(s) _____



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_____ **Certificate/Diploma Program**
(circle which one)

Date this degree was initially offered: _____

Students must already have either an associate degree or a bachelor's degree which was composed of at least 60 semester credit hours, or the equivalent of general education courses and the certificate program must consist of at least 18 semester credit hours (270 contact hours), or the equivalent of legal specialty courses.

Total number of semester credit/contact hours for Certificate/Diploma Program:
Page(s) _____

Legal Specialty Courses:

For all of the following questions, indicate whether (and when) the answers have changed since the date(s) the degree(s) or certifications noted above were initially offered.

Do all of your legal specialty courses cover substantive law or legal procedures and process developed for paralegals and emphasizing practical paralegal skills? Yes / No

Do you offer a course in Legal Research and Writing, including electronic resources, that consists of *at least* 1 semester credit hour or 15 contact hours? Yes / No Page(s) _____

Do you offer a course in Ethics and Professional Responsibility that consists of *at least* 1 semester credit hour or 15 contact hours? Yes / No Page(s) _____

Are students required to take at least 9 semester credits or 150 contact hours, or the equivalent, in traditional classroom instruction? Yes / No Page(s) _____

*****Please note that programs that can be completed entirely online cannot be qualified at this time.*****

If some of the legal specialty courses are taught in an alternative format (such as real-time, simultaneous broadcast via satellite or webinar), are your instructors available for feedback and can you identify students submitting homework and taking examinations? Yes / No

As the person responsible for the paralegal program above, I verify that the information contained in this application is true and complete.

Signature

Date

Title: _____