

# PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



## WHY EARN YOUR PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE AT MEREDITH?

### ABA-APPROVED

**Meredith's Paralegal Program is the only program in the Triangle approved by the American Bar Association.** ABA-approval automatically makes us a North Carolina State Bar-qualified program.

### CHOOSE YOUR FOCUS

Focus your studies on one of three concentrations: civil litigation, corporate, or real estate.

### SMALL CLASS SIZE

With an average class size of 20, you'll establish personal relationships and professional networks with both instructors and peers.

### EXPERT INSTRUCTION

Classes are taught by working paralegals, attorneys, and judges who teach in their areas of expertise.

### COMPETITIVE PRICES

Tuition and fees compare favorably with other paralegal certificate programs. And a number of our students' fees are paid by their employers.

### FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE

Evening classes are designed for working adults; choose from in-person or online options. Our program takes just eight months or two semesters. However, because of family and work commitments, some students choose to complete the program in three or four semesters.

### CAREER GUIDANCE

Thanks to our individualized career guidance and extensive contacts in the legal community, 88% of our 2022 graduates were employed in legal jobs six months after graduation.

### Interested in learning more about the Paralegal Program?

Please contact Marisa Campbell or Anna Lockett at [paralegal@meredith.edu](mailto:paralegal@meredith.edu).

# PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FAQs

## HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

The estimated cost of the program is \$6,400. See the table below for a breakdown of tuition and fees.

Course	Tuition and Fees
LEG-010 Legal Survey	\$950
LEG-011 Legal Research	\$950
LEG-012 Law Office Management	\$950
Specialty Course (LEG-023 Corporate, LEG-020 Civil Litigation, or LEG-021 Real Estate)	\$2,300
LEG-026 Advanced Legal Research	\$1,150
LEG-013 Professional Development	No fee
Westlaw Password	\$100
<b>Estimated Cost of Program</b>	<b>\$6,400</b>

## IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?

Yes. Students enrolled in the Paralegal Program are eligible for the Federal Stafford loan program. To be considered, students must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.

Contact our Office of Financial Assistance at (919) 760-8565 or [finaid@meredith.edu](mailto:finaid@meredith.edu) for more information. Students who are veterans may be eligible for VA funding.

There are also scholarship opportunities through the Raleigh-Wake Paralegal Association, the North Carolina Bar Association's Paralegal Division, and the North Carolina Paralegal Association.

Additionally, employers may invest in their employees by paying for their tuition and books. Almost half of our students are sponsored by their employer.

## CAN I USE A PAYMENT PLAN?

Yes. Students can pay their tuition in monthly installments, interest-free, with a monthly payment plan.

## WHAT JOBS ARE AVAILABLE TO GRADUATES OF MEREDITH'S PARALEGAL PROGRAM?

Many of our students are hired by traditional law firms, non-profits, and local, state, and federal agencies. An increasing number of our students are entering corporations after graduation and pursuing careers in contracts and negotiations, compliance, intellectual property, corporate governance, project management, and more.

## WHAT SKILLS ARE EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR?

Employers are looking for individuals who are organized, detail-oriented, calm, and who communicate well – someone who is a self-starter with a strong work ethic. Our program provides students with the necessary legal skills by focusing on practical application and theory, as well as the ability to identify potential issues.

## WHO ARE YOUR STUDENTS?

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds. 15-30% of our students are working in law firms and some of those students are sponsored by their employers to complete the program. Other students have recently earned a bachelor's degree and are looking for additional skills to enter the workforce. Some are looking for a mid-career change or nearing retirement and want to help others under the supervision of an attorney.

## WHAT ARE THE STARTING SALARIES FOR YOUR PROGRAM GRADUATES?

Salaries vary considerably but many of our recent graduates have received starting salaries of \$40,000 or higher in traditional paralegal roles. Salaries in corporations tend to be higher.

**88%**

of our 2022 graduates were employed in legal jobs six months after graduation.

**87%**

of our 2021 graduates were employed in legal jobs six months after graduation.

**83%**

of our 2020 graduates were employed in legal jobs six months after graduation.