

PARALEGAL STUDIES, ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (PLG)

Effective: Fall 2021
Closed: Spring 2026

Note: This program is no longer accepting applications. Please browse the Legal Studies and Paralegal (<https://catalog.dccc.edu/academic-programs/programs-study/legal-paralegal-studies-aal>) program.

Paralegal Studies is an associate degree program intended to train a generalist paralegal. Graduates from the associate degree program will have a strong foundation in the areas of legal research and writing, contracts, torts, criminal law and property law. Associate degree program graduates are likely to find employment as paralegals under the direction of attorneys (to do otherwise would be practicing law without a license) in law firms, legal departments of large corporations, insurance companies, title companies, legal service companies and federal, state or local courts and governmental agencies.

Students who wish to pursue additional education in law or in other disciplines as part of their future plans should consult with an advisor before selecting courses.

No person shall engage or assist a person who is not a member of the bar in the performance of activities that constitutes the unauthorized practice of law.

Program Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Conduct legal research to identify the appropriate laws, judicial decisions, regulations and other legal literature to specific legal problems and use critical thinking to analyze results of such research.
- Draft memoranda, briefs and other legal documents applicable to the field of law being studied.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the paralegal's role in trial preparation, trial proceedings and settlement negotiations.
- Investigate and develop the facts of a case, maintain relevant case files and maintain and organize relevant case file documents, such as correspondence, pleadings, reports and briefs.
- Identify and analyze the ethical issues that arise for the Paralegal Professional.
- Apply modern technology to the performance of legal work and tasks.

Full-Time Academic Plan

First Semester	Hours
ENG 100 English Composition I	3
PLG 100	3
PLG 110	3
PLG 130	3
Mathematics Elective: Any Quantitative Reasoning designated MAT course ¹	3
Hours	15
Second Semester	Hours
COMM 100 Interpersonal Communication	3
PLG 120	3

PLG 140	3
PLG 240	3
Philosophy Elective: Any Global Understanding designated PHI course	3
Hours	15
Third Semester	Hours
ACC 100 Applied Accounting or ACC 111 or Financial Accounting	3
ENG 112 English Composition II: Writing About Literature	3
PLG 220	3
PLG 210	3
Science Elective: Any Scientific Inquiry designated Science course	4
Hours	16
Fourth Semester	Hours
PLG 211	3
PLG 199 or PLG 197 or	3-4
Two PLG Electives	6
Social Science/Humanities Elective: Any Diversity and Social Justice designated Social Science or Humanities course	3
Hours	15-16
Total Hours	61-62

Notes

Quantitative Reasoning designated courses (https://catalog.dccc.edu/academic-programs/college-academic-learning-goals/#QR_Course_List).

MAT 120 Modern College Mathematics or higher, excluding MAT 125 Mathematics for Teachers of Children I

Global Understanding designated courses (https://catalog.dccc.edu/academic-programs/college-academic-learning-goals/#GU_Course_List).

Scientific Inquiry designated courses (https://catalog.dccc.edu/academic-programs/college-academic-learning-goals/#SR_Course_List).

Diversity and Social Justice designated courses (https://catalog.dccc.edu/academic-programs/college-academic-learning-goals/#DJ_Course_List).

PLG Elective:

Code	Title	Hours
Select six (6) credits from:		
PLG 200		
PLG 230		
PLG 241		
PLG 242		
PLG 243		
PLG 244		
PLG 246		

A maximum of twelve (12) PLG (legal specialty) credits may be transferred in from an ABA accredited college or university.

No more than nine (9) specialty credits may be awarded for Credit for Prior Learning assessment by portfolio or exam.

Students must take at least nine (9) semester credits or the equivalent of legal specialty courses through synchronous instruction at Delaware County Community College.

Career