Paralegals assist lawyers by researching legal precedent, investigating facts, or preparing legal documents. They conduct research to support a legal proceeding, to formulate a defense, or to initiate legal action.

Employers are usually looking for candidates with minimum of an Associate’s degree. Many professional organizations offer certificates which may be useful in seeking employment but are not necessary.

**Salary Information**
The median wage in 2015 in California was $51,644 annually (www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov). The median is the point at which half of the workers earn more and half earn less.

**Recommended Websites**
- American Alliance of Paralegals: www.aapipara.org
- American Bar Association: www.americanbar.org/groups/paralegals.html
- National Association of Legal Professionals: www.nals.org
- National Federation of Paralegal Associations: www.paralegals.org

**Select Paralegal Program School Websites**
- CSU Los Angeles: www.calstatela.edu/page/paralegal-studies-certificate
- El Camino College: www.elcamino.edu/academics/business/paralegal
- Los Angeles City College: www.lacitycollege.edu/academic/departments/law/introparalegalstudies.html
- Los Angeles Mission College: www.lamission.edu/law
- National University: www.nu.edu/info/paralegal
- West Los Angeles College: http://www.wlac.edu/Business/Paralegal.aspx

**Note:** Information is subject to change without notice. Check with the individual campus for the most up-to-date information.