

Academic Plan as of fall 2015

Program Description:

Leverage your medical education and experience to become a nurse paralegal for law firms practicing in medical malpractice, personal injury, health insurance claims and defense, workers' compensation claims, and other areas of law that require medical knowledge. The UNLV Nurse Paralegal Certificate Program will prepare those with a nursing background to transition to the legal world. Nurse Paralegals draw from their medical expertise to interpret medical terminology and industry jargon, and provide their professional opinion regarding legal matters involving health and medical issues. This program teaches the fundamental skills needed by paralegals, augmented by special issues pertaining to the high-demand field of medical law. This course is a hybrid course. Students will complete Tort Law and Health Care Law for Paralegals in an online platform. This program includes substantial Internet work as well as in-class time.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Develop foundational and essential skills to enter the paralegal profession, including terminology, court structure and legal ethics.
- Learn litigation practices and procedures including citation and legal research, legal writing, court structure, interview skills, law office investigation, citation form, e-discovery, pleadings, discovery document preparation while using Westlaw online legal research and Lexis online legal research, authority identification and utilization, and more.
- Develop working knowledge of Tort Law as it relates to paralegals.
- Develop working knowledge of Health Care Law as it relates to paralegals.

Program Requirements:

Students are required to complete the Nurse Paralegal Course to earn 25 CEUs.

Required Courses:

- Nurse Paralegal Certificate Application (PL9999)
- Nurse Paralegal Certificate Program (PL6183)
(Essential Skills for Paralegals, Tort Law, and Health Care Law for Paralegals)

Prerequisites and Admissions Requirements:

Must be a RN. Email copy of license to continuing.education@unlv.edu. Students must have daily access to a computer, printer and the internet. This program requires substantial online coursework.

Recommended Skills at Time of Registration:

- Students must have a minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- Students must have daily access to a computer and internet
- This course requires extensive reading and writing
- Students will be expected to perform research in the Law Library and online using legal research platforms
- Proficiency in a word processing software to draft legal documents
- Proficiency using the internet both for online research and working within an online learning environment
- Students must have strong communication skills (written, verbal, interpersonal) and have high attention to detail and accuracy

- Students must possess analytical and critical thinking skills
- Students must be self-starters and be able to work independently and with groups