

Paralegal – Associate of Applied Science



Program Overview:	The Pre-Law Strand is for students wanting to explore careers in the courts and government fields: lawyers, paralegals, legal secretaries, court reporters, politics, government operations and foreign affairs. Students have the opportunity to earn an associate degree in Paralegal Studies in a partnership with El Centro College
General Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must score in the 50 percentile or above on recent Standardized Achievement tests in Reading and Math. • Incoming 9th or 10th grade students only. • Apply through Skyward. Select Classical and Career - Law
Program Objectives & Certifications:	In the Paralegal program, you'll learn how to handle routine assignments for attorneys, with opportunities for advancement in many areas. This dual credit program in partnership with El Centro's Paralegal program is an associate degree program designed to prepare you to work as a technically qualified paralegal to attorneys. If your plan is to go to law school, this program provides an excellent legal background.
Sequence of Courses:	<p>9th Grade: Principles of Government (LGLA 1311 & LGLA 1313)</p> <p>10th Grade: Legal Research & Writing (LGLA 1317 & LGLA 1301)</p> <p>11th Grade: Business Law (LGLA 2311 & LGLA 1351) Court Systems & Practices (LGLA 3455 & LGLA 1355)</p> <p>12th Grade: Practicum in Law, Public Safety Corrections & Security (LGLA 2313, LGLA 2303, LGLA 2309 & LGLA 1353)</p>
Student Leadership Organization & Accomplishments:	Our student run YMCA Youth and Government program gives hands on experience with the law. Students compete in trial court, appellate court, state affairs and legislative at the district, state and national levels. Students also participate in the State Model United Nations conference.
Post High School:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Centro College - Paralegal AAS • University of North Texas at Dallas – BAAS in Criminal Justice and Law School • Tarleton State University • Texas A&M Commerce <p>These rates are entry hourly wages for Paralegal jobs in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title Examiner/Abstractor - \$18.13/hour • Legal Support Worker - \$22.11/hour • Paralegal/Legal Assistant - \$22.26/hour
Instructor:	Susan Troutte (SDTroutt@garlandisd.net) – Mrs. Troutte is an attorney licensed to practice in Texas and Federal courts. She graduated with an undergraduate degree and her law degree from Baylor University and practiced in civil and criminal courts with over 30 years of experience. She is currently an adjunct professor at both El Centro and Eastfield Colleges.
Testimonials:	The Paralegal program will graduate its first graduates with the Class of 2020.