Paralegal Program: Kaplan University Online
[By Judith Earley]
Kaplan University is an accredited, online teaching facility that offers its students a real-world philosophy. Kaplan has been an academic pioneer since 1937. It is part of Kaplan Higher Education which offers more than 70 campus-based schools in 22 states around the country. Kaplan is also the world leader in test preparation services and materials and provides high-quality certification training targeted to adult learners.

Kaplan students have access to complete library services through LexisNexis and the UAH Salmon Library at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Alabama. Library books are physically delivered to the borrowers while articles and excerpts can be scanned and delivered electronically. Additionally, Kaplan students have access to 13,000 e-journals.

The nature of online learning allows Kaplan University to hire top-of-the-line faculty consisting of leading educators and practicing business professionals from practically anywhere. Kaplan students are taught by experts with real-world knowledge and experience. Dr. William I. Weston serves as Dean over the School of Legal Studies.

Students who opt for the School of Legal Studies at Kaplan University Online can choose from several degree and certificate programs. By completing the online paralegal education or legal secretary program, graduates are certified to perform vital support roles in a legal setting. Students who complete the Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies (BSLS) online degree program graduate with the necessary background to go on and attend law school to become practicing attorneys with a solid background in the theory and application of the law. Students who have already earned an associate’s or bachelor’s degree can earn a Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies online in less than two years with Kaplan’s online advanced start program.

The online Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies teaches students to communicate effectively within the legal environment. They will learn to synthesize important concepts from specialized legal areas, demonstrate ethical decision-making skills, and develop effective legal research methods. Students will study areas of the law such as civil litigation, contracts, legal research, and criminal law.

Kaplan offers an AAS in Paralegal Studies for students who feel they may later want to attend law school. The Advanced Start BS in Legal Studies is for students who already posses an associate’s or bachelor’s degree and want to earn an online Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies (BSLS) in less than two years. The Advanced Start BS in Paralegal Studies is also for students who already posses an associate’s or bachelor’s degree and want to earn a Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies in as little as 12 months. Kaplan also offers a BS in Legal Studies and a BS in Paralegal Studies for students who want to pursue or advance their career in the paralegal field.

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