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**New Online Paralegal Certificates Offered Through Ramapo College**

(Mahwah, NJ) - Working adults and time-challenged college students seeking to advance or begin a career in an in-demand field are prime candidates for Ramapo College's new online Paralegal Certificate Programs: the Paralegal Certificate and the Advanced Paralegal Certificate.

The Paralegal Certificate is the prerequisite for the Advanced Paralegal Certificate. Upon successful completion of both non-credit certificates, graduates hold the credentials to seek paralegal employment in any state and those graduates with a bachelor's degree in any subject may choose to take the voluntary NALA CLA exam, the National Association of Legal Assistants exam, to receive the title of Certified Legal Assistant.

Ramapo College's Center for Innovative and Professional Learning has partnered with a third party provider, The Center for Legal Studies (CLS), to deliver the online instruction for the programs.

"CLS brings decades of experience in the delivery of online coursework with a focus on curriculum for the legal profession," said Assistant Vice President for the Center for Innovative and Professional Learning Rosa Diaz-Mulryan. "Students receive administrative support for working in an online environment and have continual online access to their instructors for the duration of the program."

According to Diaz-Mulryan, the online Paralegal programs are designed to appeal to adult learners as affordable and convenient credentialing options that meet their academic and job-seeking goals in a short span of time. The programs are also ideal for current college students who need to fit this additional credentialing coursework into their regular credit-bearing course schedule during any academic semester. Completion of the certificates creates the opportunity for students to seek work in the legal profession even while pursuing graduate or law school.

Each online course is seven weeks long and students may begin any course at the start of any online session. Online sessions are offered six times each calendar year. The next two sessions begin March 5 and April 30.

To learn more, sign up for an upcoming Information Session at: [www.ramapo.edu/cipl/paralegal](http://www.ramapo.edu/cipl/paralegal).

Thurs., Feb. 9, 7-8 p.m. in ASB-522

Wed., March 7, 7-8 p.m. in Pav. 1

Tues., April 17, 7-8 p.m. in ASB-522

The U.S. Department of Labor projects that the paralegal profession will continue to show faster-than-average employment growth. Per the Bureau of Labor Statistics, persons entering the field will find that employment of paralegals is expected to grow 28% between 2008 and 2018.

In addition to the new Paralegal Certificates, Ramapo College offers certificate programs in Project Management, Business Essentials, Middle School Certification, Web Development, Yoga Studies and Yoga Teacher Certification. Certifications in Personal Training and in Pilates are also planned.

For additional information, please contact the Center for Innovative and Professional Learning at Ramapo College at 201.684.7370 or visit: [www.ramapo.edu/cipl](http://www.ramapo.edu/cipl).

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers six graduate programs as well as articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.