

## **Market Analysis for Paralegal Studies**

*Prepared by the Office of Research  
Teaming to Serve Research Needs of the College  
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## Introduction

There are four local two-year colleges that compete with a Harper College's Paralegal Studies program. Included in this report is a list of competitor colleges that offer a similar program. In addition, local, state, and national employment projections and wage data for related positions are provided. The list of competitor colleges within a 50 mile radius was obtained through the IPEDS – COOL website (<http://www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool>) and college-specific program information was obtained from each identified college's website.

**Table 1: Paralegal Studies Competitor Colleges (within 50 mile radius)**

Major Competitor	Length of Program	Credit hour (\$)
College of DuPage – Glen Ellyn, IL	AAS – Paralegal Studies, 68 credits. <b>Certificate</b> – Paralegal Studies, credits N/A. <b>(Programs Proposed for Fall 2007)</b>	\$96/credit; \$223/credit (out-of-district)
College of Lake County – Grayslake, IL	AAS – Paralegal Studies, 63 credits. <b>Certificate</b> – Paralegal Studies, 21 credits.	\$80/credit; \$205/credit (out-of-district)
Elgin Community College – Elgin, IL	AAS – Paralegal, 65 credits. <b>Basic Certificate</b> – Paralegal, 24 credits. <b>Basic Certificate</b> – Nurse-Legal Consultant, 18 credits.	\$84/credit; \$276.93/credit (out-of-district)
South Suburban College – South Holland, IL	AAS – Paralegal/Legal Assistant, 72 credits. <b>Certificate</b> – Paralegal/Legal Assistant, 42 credits.	\$87/credit; \$265/credit (out-of-district)

**Table 2: Paralegal Studies Employment Projections**

<b>Chicago PMSA*</b>		<b>Employment</b>		<b>Employment Change</b>		<b>Average Yearly Job Openings</b>		
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>2002 Number</b>	<b>2012 Number</b>	<b>2002 – 2012 Number</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Due to New</b>	<b>Due to Replacements</b>	<b>Average Yearly Total</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	3,703	4,599	897	24.21	90	30	120
23-2092	Law Clerks	1,541	1,602	61	3.95	6	17	23
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	1,135	1,059	-76	-6.66	-8	12	4
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	1,596	1,682	86	5.39	9	17	26
<b>Cook County*</b>		<b>Employment</b>		<b>Employment Change</b>		<b>Average Yearly Job Openings</b>		
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>2002 Number</b>	<b>2012 Number</b>	<b>2002 – 2012 Number</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Due to New</b>	<b>Due to Replacements</b>	<b>Average Yearly Total</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	3,151	3,895	744	23.59	74	25	99
23-2092	Law Clerks	1,314	1,363	49	3.74	5	14	19
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	932	869	-63	-6.77	-6	10	4
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	1,380	1,441	60	4.38	6	15	21
<b>DuPage County*</b>		<b>Employment</b>		<b>Employment Change</b>		<b>Average Yearly Job Openings</b>		
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>2002 Number</b>	<b>2012 Number</b>	<b>2002 – 2012 Number</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Due to New</b>	<b>Due to Replacements</b>	<b>Average Yearly Total</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	315	418	103	32.67	10	3	13
23-2092	Law Clerks	111	122	11	9.89	1	1	2
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	140	132	-8	-5.53	-1	2	1
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	120	139	19	15.94	2	1	3

\*Employment projections are from <http://www.ilworkinfo.com>

**Table 2: Continued**

<b>Lake County*</b>		<b>Employment</b>		<b>Employment Change</b>		<b>Average Yearly Job Openings</b>		
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>2002 Number</b>	<b>2012 Number</b>	<b>2002 – 2012 Number</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Due to New</b>	<b>Due to Replacements</b>	<b>Average Yearly Total</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	158	195	37	23.70	4	1	5
23-2092	Law Clerks	79	80	1	0.87	0	1	1
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	62	57	-5	-8.28	-1	1	0
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	196	202	7	3.42	1	2	3
<b>McHenry County*</b>		<b>Employment</b>		<b>Employment Change</b>		<b>Average Yearly Job Openings</b>		
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>2002 Number</b>	<b>2012 Number</b>	<b>2002 – 2012 Number</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Due to New</b>	<b>Due to Replacements</b>	<b>Average Yearly Total</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	93	104	11	12.04	1	0	1
23-2092	Law Clerks	25	25	0	0.00	0	0	0
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	14	13	-1	-5.26	0	0	0
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	11	12	1	12.71	0	0	0
<b>Statewide*</b>		<b>Employment</b>		<b>Employment Change</b>		<b>Average Yearly Job Openings</b>		
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupation Title</b>	<b>2002 Number</b>	<b>2012 Number</b>	<b>2002 – 2012 Number</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Due to New</b>	<b>Due to Replacements</b>	<b>Average Yearly Total</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	4,935	6,085	1,150	23.30	115	40	155
23-2092	Law Clerks	2,197	2,269	72	3.28	7	24	31
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	1,545	1,451	-94	-6.08	0	17	17
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	2,769	2,922	153	5.53	15	30	46

\*Employment projections are from <http://www.ilworkinfo.com>

**Table 2: Continued**

National**		Employment		Employment Change		Average Yearly Job Openings		
SOC CODE	Occupational Title	2004 Number	2014 Number	2004 – 2014 Change	% Change	Due to New	Due to Replacements	Average Yearly Total***
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	223,994	290,627	66,633	29.7	N/A	N/A	8,000
23-2092	Law Clerks	50,930	54,843	3,913	7.7	N/A	N/A	1,000
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	61,469	62,039	570	0.9	N/A	N/A	1,000
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	82,621	88,508	5,887	7.1	N/A	N/A	1,000

\*\*Employment projections are from <http://www.bls.gov>

\*\*\*Estimate of average yearly job openings due to new jobs and net replacement needs.

**Table 3: Paralegal Studies Wage Data**

<b>Chicago PMSA*</b>							
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Entry Wage</b>		<b>Median Wage</b>		<b>Experienced Wage</b>	
		<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$14.21	\$29,561	\$19.26	\$40,072	\$24.31	\$50,561
23-2092	Law Clerks	\$12.13	\$25,231	\$17.20	\$35,774	\$23.35	\$48,559
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	\$12.52	\$26,043	\$17.61	\$36,626	\$22.42	\$46,629
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	\$16.39	\$34,089	\$23.37	\$48,598	\$27.04	\$56,250
<b>Cook County*</b>							
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Entry Wage</b>		<b>Median Wage</b>		<b>Experienced Wage</b>	
		<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$14.40	\$29,937	\$16.43	\$34,175	\$21.21	\$44,107
23-2092	Law Clerks	\$13.18	\$27,419	\$17.10	\$35,563	\$23.83	\$49,560
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	\$13.37	\$27,823	\$16.96	\$35,271	\$23.84	\$49,596
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>DuPage County*</b>							
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Entry Wage</b>		<b>Median Wage</b>		<b>Experienced Wage</b>	
		<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$14.26	\$29,659	\$19.78	\$41,144	\$22.83	\$47,495
23-2092	Law Clerks	\$9.12	\$18,956	\$11.88	\$24,715	\$17.24	\$35,860
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	\$11.50	\$23,922	\$18.96	\$39,436	\$26.20	\$54,487

\*State wage information from <http://www.ilworkinfo.com> (as of 1st quarter of 2005 for Chicago and Illinois and 2nd quarter of 2004 for collar counties)

**Table 3: Continued**

<b>Lake County*</b>							
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Entry Wage</b>		<b>Median Wage</b>		<b>Experienced Wage</b>	
		<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$18.30	\$38,063	\$23.48	\$48,853	\$25.96	\$54,007
23-2092	Law Clerks	\$13.69	\$28,474	\$17.43	\$36,262	\$22.11	\$46,002
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>McHenry County*</b>							
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Entry Wage</b>		<b>Median Wage</b>		<b>Experienced Wage</b>	
		<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23-2092	Law Clerks	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Statewide*</b>							
<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Entry Wage</b>		<b>Median Wage</b>		<b>Experienced Wage</b>	
		<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Hourly</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Hourly</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$13.43	\$27,942	\$18.51	\$38,490	\$23.57	\$49,026
23-2092	Law Clerks	\$11.29	\$23,478	\$17.08	\$35,532	\$23.42	\$48,720
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	\$11.26	\$23,421	\$15.13	\$31,463	\$19.68	\$40,948
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	\$15.50	\$32,230	\$22.14	\$46,055	\$26.02	\$54,115

\*State wage information from <http://www.ilworkinfo.com> (as of 1st quarter of 2005 for Chicago and Illinois and 2nd quarter of 2004 for collar counties)

**Table 3: Continued**

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**National\*\***

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<b>SOC CODE</b>	<b>Occupational Title</b>	<b>Median Hourly</b>	<b>Mean Hourly</b>	<b>Mean Annual</b>	<b>Mean RSE***</b>
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$19.79	\$20.92	\$43,510	0.5%
23-2092	Law Clerks	\$17.12	\$17.78	\$36,980	1.1%
23-2093	Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	\$16.88	\$19.26	\$40,070	1.5%
23-2099	Legal Support Workers, All Other	\$21.06	\$22.54	\$46,890	0.6%

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\*\*National wage information from <http://www.bls.gov> (as of May 2005)

\*\*\*RSE – Relative Standard Error