



PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OHIO (“PACO”)

**P.O. Box 15182
Columbus, Ohio 43215-0182**

TWO \$750 SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR PARALEGAL STUDIES STUDENTS IN THE CENTRAL OHIO AREA

Scholarship application packets are now available online at PACO’s website located at: <http://www.pacoparalegals.org/>, or from your paralegal studies program director.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicants must hold a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA at the end of the quarter or semester in which the scholarship application is submitted.
2. Applicants must be currently enrolled full-time or part-time in one of Central Ohio’s paralegal studies programs in a Bachelor Degree program, Associate Degree program, Paralegal Certificate program, or Paralegal Nurse Certificate program.
3. At the end of the quarter or semester in which the scholarship application is submitted, applicants must have completed at least twelve (12) quarter or (9) semester hours (exclusive of general courses) in the paralegal studies program currently attending.
4. Application is to include basic personal information, education information, employment history, and extracurricular activities along with any other pertinent information.
5. Completed scholarship applications must be postmarked to the PACO Student Liaison Committee by May 1, 2008, and mailed to: P.O. Box 15182, Columbus, Ohio 43215-0182.

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection of the scholarship recipient(s) will be made by the PACO Student Liaison Committee.

- Scholarship applications will be reviewed on the basis of:
 - 1) grades;
 - 2) the applicant's narrative statement;
 - 3) letters of recommendation;
 - 4) education and employment history;
 - 5) community involvement; and
 - 6) the applicant's demonstration of commitment to the paralegal profession.
- If needed, the PACO Student Liaison Committee will schedule personal interviews to finalize the selection of the scholarship recipient(s).
- The student scholarship applicant will be awarded a one time \$750 scholarship award along with a one year membership to PACO (3-in-1 membership to include membership to PACO, Columbus Bar Association and National Federation of Paralegal Associations).
- The Student Liaison Committee will notify all applicants in writing of the outcome of the selection of the scholarship process by July 31, 2008.
- The student recipient(s) awarded this scholarship will be ineligible to re-apply for this scholarship at any other time.
- Scholarships awarded will be made payable to the successful recipient(s) and will be funded within 30 days after the announcement of the recipient(s).



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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The following must be postmarked to the PACO Student Liaison Committee by May 1, 2008, and mailed to: P.O. Box 15182, Columbus, Ohio 43215-0182:

- Completed PACO Scholarship application.
- Include your \$10 check or money order payable to Paralegal Association of Central Ohio (PACO).
- Completed PACO Authorization for Release of School Records form.
- Obtain two professional written recommendations. At least one must be from one of your paralegal studies program instructors (although both may be) and the other from a professional in the legal field
- Essay with of a minimum of 300 words and a maximum of 500 words typewritten and double-spaced on one of the topics below

Essay question options:

1. Paralegals are required to maintain a minimum level of professional ethics. Define professional ethics, discussing the primary ethical objectives of competency and the unauthorized practice of law (UPL) in connection with the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct.
2. Discuss the issues involved with client confidentiality in light of today's technology. What can be done to avoid breaches of confidentiality?
3. Your lifelong friend is in a precarious financial position. Due to a heavy debt load, the loss of her job, and her inability to secure employment, she decides to file for bankruptcy. Knowing that you are a probate paralegal now, but previously worked as a bankruptcy paralegal, she asks for your assistance with preparing the bankruptcy forms, which you do. Your friend then insists that she pay you one-half of what she would have paid an attorney. Should you be concerned about the unauthorized practice of law (UPL)? Discuss what you should do.



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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Personal Information

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Last	First	Middle
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Telephone Number: _____

Street	City	State	Zip
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Social Security Number: _____

Education:

Colleges Attended:

Major Field of Study: _____

Degree Received: _____

Anticipated date of completion of your paralegal studies program: _____

What do you plan to do after you have completed the paralegal studies program?

Employment: List employment history for the past 5 years or attach a resume.

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Nature of Work</u>
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Community Involvement and Extracurricular Activities: List any community involvement and extracurricular activities in which you have participated in the past 5 years.

Give some examples that would demonstrate your commitment to the paralegal profession.

What else do you want the PACO Student Liaison Committee to know about you?

Explain to the PACO Student Liaison Committee how receiving the scholarship would benefit you.

Date: _____

Applicant's signature _____



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AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF SCHOOL RECORDS

TO: Paralegal studies program director

I, _____, date of birth _____,
and Social Security number _____, hereby authorize
_____ (name of institution) to release copies of
my school records, including but not limited to, certified copies of my
transcripts, to a member of the Paralegal Association of Central Ohio ("PACO")
Student Liaison Committee, for review and consideration for the upcoming
scholarship award. The information obtained shall not be used for any purpose
other than the PACO scholarship.

By signing this authorization, I consent to the disclosure of information
described above. A photocopy shall have the same effect as the original and
shall be mailed directly from the school requested to: PACO Student Liaison
Committee, P.O. Box 15182, Columbus, Ohio 43215-0182.

This authorization is valid for the school year ending 200__.

Date _____

Applicant's Signature