

CAREER BRIEF



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BAKERSFIELD

Department of English

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A DEGREE IN ENGLISH?

NATIONAL AVERAGE SALARY:

- \$66,500 per year

DEGREES:

- **Bachelor's Degree** in English, Criminal Justice, Political Science, Business Administration or Accounting
- **Post-baccalaureate Certificate** in Paralegal Studies
- **Master's Degree** in Legal Studies

SUGGESTED CLASSES:

- Research Courses
- Advanced Composition
- Logic
- Political Science
- Criminal Justice
- Sociology
- Psychology
- History
- Public Speaking

RELATED MINOR(S):

- Criminal Justice Minor
- Pre-law Special Minor

Paralegal

Paralegals are legal professionals who assist lawyers in a variety of ways. They often conduct legal research to help lawyers construct arguments and prepare for court cases. This can include interviewing witnesses and clients, looking for relevant legal statutes, and researching previous cases to determine precedent. Paralegals often draft legal documents including wills, briefs, motions, and subpoenas and may handle administrative tasks such as organizing and filing documents. They also require an extensive knowledge of the law and the ability to monitor any changes in local or federal law.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- **National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA)** – <https://nala.org/>
- **National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA)** – <https://www.paralegals.org/>
- **American Bar Association (ABA) Paralegal Division** – <https://www.certifiedarchivists.org/>
- **California Alliance of Paralegal Associations (CAPA)** – <https://www.caparalegal.org/>

CREDENTIALS/CERTIFICATIONS/CERTIFICATES:

- **Certified Paralegal** – CSUB Extended Education – <https://careertraining.extended.csub.edu/training-programs/certified-paralegal/>
- **NALA Certified Paralegal Program** – <https://nala.org/certification/>