

The Paralegal CORE Competency Exam® is the FIRST Step on the Career Path of a Professional Paralegal!

Once you have completed the education pathway to become a paralegal, you will find many employers still require a candidate to possess a paralegal credential. Why?

- Many courts will seek evidence of a paralegal's competency when their fees are included in a fee award petition and require either evidence of a paralegal credential in good standing, or extensive documentation which must then be verified.
- Many employers rely on a national standard recognized by courts and many administrative agencies, that is simple to verify.

Holding the CRP® credential will make your application stand out from others with similar skillsets and experience.

Being a paralegal is an exciting and rewarding profession. Read on for more information about this exciting new opportunity!



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For more information, visit www.paralegals.org, or email the NFPA® Certification Team at Certifications@paralegals.org



The Paralegal CORE Competency Exam® (PCCE®) is Available at Prometric Test Centers Throughout the United States and Canada.

How do you:

- Stand above the crowd?
- Demonstrate your knowledge?
- Grab an employer's attention?

Take the Paralegal CORE Competency Exam® — become a CORE Registered Paralegal (CRP®) and prove you are:

Competent • Organized • Responsible • Ethical

Don't delay. Distinguish yourself in the job market and direct the course of your paralegal career by obtaining the CORE Registered Paralegal® credential.



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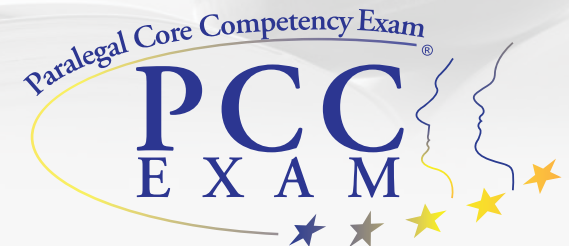
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Paralegal CORE Competency Exam (PCCE®)

Become a CORE Registered Paralegal (CRP®) and be Recognized as:

- Competent
- Organized
- Responsible
- Ethical



Overview of the Paralegal CORE Competency Exam

The Paralegal CORE Competency Exam (PCCE®) is a nationally recognized certification exam. Paralegals who take and pass the PCCE® will be well on the road to an exciting, rewarding, fun-filled career in the paralegal profession and proud that they have proven to the legal community that they possess the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the legal field.

Key Points About PCCE®

- PCCE® is two and one half hours in length.
- PCCE® consists of 125 multiple choice questions.
- PCCE® is computer administered with instant preliminary results.
- PCCE® is widely available at many testing centers with examinations given Monday - Friday, and in some locations, weekends and evenings, as well as virtually from anywhere in the world.
- PCCE® consists of two domains:
 - Paralegal Practice – 52%
 - Substantive Areas of Law – 48%
- PCCE® is based on information from coursework in various paralegal programs and basic knowledge all paralegals should possess as well as actual skills considered essential to basic paralegal competency.
- PCCE® also tests of paralegal ethics, legal technology and key terminology.

Study Aids

PCCE® study materials include the NFPA PCCE® Study Manual, reference materials and an online review course through the Advanced Paralegal Institute.

Recertification

Candidates who successfully complete the PCCE® and earn the CORE Registered Paralegal (CRP®) credential will be required to recertify every 2 years.

Recertification requires CRPs® to obtain 8 hours of continuing legal education, including at least 1 hour in ethics and 1 hour in diversity, equity & inclusion (DEI).

For Professionals By Professionals

Using the same statistically defensible, scientific, psychometrically sound exam development methodology as that used to develop the Paralegal Advanced Competency Exam (PACE®), the PCC Exam (PCCE®) was developed in partnership with Professional Examination Services (PES), a testing organization with more than 60 years of experience in the development and administration of licensing and certification exams.

The PCC Exam (PCCE®) is designed to test the core competencies in early career and entry level paralegals and takes into account coursework in paralegal programs as well as actual skills considered essential to basic competency in the profession. The exam also covers law office technology and ethics. The PCC Exam (PCCE®) validates the competency of those who successfully complete the exam and distinguishes them from other paralegals who do not possess the CRP® credential.

Purposes of the PCC Exam (PCCE®)

- To provide the groundwork for expanding paralegal roles and responsibilities.
- To provide the public and legal community with a mechanism to gauge the core competencies of paralegals.
- To be used in states considering the regulation of paralegals.
- To be used by paralegal programs as an exit exam or Assurance of Learning (AoL) tool.

Benefits of Paralegal Certification

The paralegal profession receives two major benefits from the PCC Exam (PCCE®):

- A fair evaluation of the competencies of paralegals across practice areas.
- Creation of a professional level of expertise by which all paralegals can be evaluated.

Eligibility Requirements for the PCCE® Exam

To qualify for the PCCE® exam, you MUST meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Associate's degree or higher in any subject*, plus a paralegal certificate***; no experience or CLE required; OR
- Associate's degree or higher in paralegal studies*; no experience or CLE required; OR
- Bachelor's degree or higher in any subject**, 6 months experience and 1 hour of ethics taken in the year preceding the exam application date; OR
- Associate's degree in any subject*, 1 year experience and 6 hours of CLE, including 1 hour of ethics taken in the year preceding the exam application date; OR
- Paralegal certificate***, 1 year experience and 6 hours of CLE, including 1 hour of ethics, taken in the year preceding the exam application date; OR
- Active, duty, retired or former military personnel qualified in a military operation specialty as a paralegal and 1 hour of ethics CLE within the year preceding the exam application; OR
- High school diploma or GED, 5 years experience and 12 hours of CLE, including 1 hour of ethics, taken within 2 years preceding the exam application date.

• *Paralegal Studies degrees or paralegal certificate programs must be from an institutionally accredited school, and/or ABA approved paralegal education program.*

** *Any degree not specifically Paralegal Studies must be from an institutionally accredited school.*

*** *Paralegal Certificates must be from ABA approved programs and/or a member program of the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE).*



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