



2019 Patricia Murphy Coleman Memorial Scholarship

Since 1972, the Illinois Paralegal Association has been a leading voice for paralegals in Illinois. The IPA exists because of the efforts of both our founders and the many IPA members who have given their time and talents to make this fine organization what it is today.

In February of 2017, the paralegal field lost one of its champions, Patricia Murphy Coleman. Pat was the first paralegal at Vedder Price where she retired in 2010. She served as President of the IPA from 1986-1988, held many other offices in the organization, and created the IPA's quarterly publication Outlook. She received the Local Leader of the Year Award from the National Federation of Paralegal Associations and the IPA Lifetime Achievement Award. Those who knew her best will tell you she was a model of professionalism and dedication to the paralegal field. The Board of Directors has been exploring the idea of offering a scholarship for paralegal students over the last few years, and we feel that naming this scholarship after one of the IPA's most significant leaders is a fitting tribute.

Through its fundraising efforts with the help of our generous sponsor, Barkley Court Reporters, the IPA is excited to offer a \$500 scholarship this year. To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must be enrolled in a paralegal program from an accredited paralegal program or college level program with an emphasis in paralegal studies in the state of Illinois for the Fall 2019/Spring 2020 term and have a current GPA of 3.0. (High school GPA of 3.0 will be accepted only if the applicant has not completed a college semester at the time of applying).

Illinois Paralegal Association Board Members, Chairpersons and their families are not eligible for this scholarship.

Proudly Sponsored By:



Elizabeth B. Nawick – (800)222-1231 – elizabethn@barkley.com

Please submit two (2) copies of your application and two (2) copies of each of the following documents (unless otherwise noted):

1. A letter of recommendation from the director of your paralegal program, an instructor from your paralegal program or other educator in the college where you are attending classes. (Letters from high school educators or a current employer will be accepted **only** if you have not completed a college semester at the time of applying for this scholarship).
2. A letter of recommendation from another individual of your choosing. This letter cannot be from a relative unless that individual currently employs or has in the past employed you.
3. A sealed copy of your official transcript from the paralegal program or college at which you are currently enrolled. Unsealed and unofficial copies will not be accepted. A second copy is not required. High school transcripts will be accepted **only** if you have not completed a college semester.
4. A double-spaced essay, not to exceed four pages, 12 point font, with 1 inch margins on the following topic:

What effect can a professional association such as the Illinois Paralegal Association have on the paralegal profession and how can membership in such an association influence your own future career as a paralegal?

This application and all accompanying documentation must be postmarked by July 31, 2019 and sent by a USPS method that provides you with a delivery receipt, such as USPS Certified Mail, USPS Priority Mail or USPS Overnight. Incomplete submissions will not be eligible for consideration.

Please send your application and all accompanying documents to:

Illinois Paralegal Association
Attn: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 452
New Lenox, IL 60451

The essay submission included with your application becomes the property of the Illinois Paralegal Association and may be reproduced without permission for publication and publicity purposes along with applicant's name and photograph.

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Winner(s) will be contacted by October 31, 2019 with an invitation to join us for lunch at our 2019 Fall Education Conference. Details will be forwarded at that time.