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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



# the Loop

A NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE LEGAL PARAPROFESSIONAL (LP) PROGRAM



## University of Arizona College of Law Legal Paraprofessional Program awarded Marshall Foundation Grant to fund student scholarships

The University of Arizona College of Law is excited to announce the future creation of the Marshall Foundation Legal Paraprofessional Scholarship Program. As the proud recipient of a generous Marshall Foundation Grant, the College of Law will soon be able to offer scholarships to eligible students designed to encourage the pursuit of this new career pathway.

Scholarships will be offered to help fund testing and licensing fees charged by the Arizona Supreme Court as well as to provide partial

funding for students' courses of study at the University of Arizona. We couldn't be happier about this opportunity to help our students who in turn will be helping our community bridge the access to justice gap.

We anticipate awarding the first Marshall Foundation Legal Paraprofessional Scholarships in January of 2023. Keep an eye on the [UArizona LP website](#) for application materials and deadlines.



**MARSHALL**  
FOUNDATION



## **MLS Graduates earn their LP Certificates**

The James E. Rogers College of Law is proud to announce the award of the first-ever Legal Paraprofessional Graduate Certificate. Three students will earn their Master of Legal Studies (MLS) degree and the first LP

Certificates ever issued this summer.

Michelle Byrd is one of the students looking forward to becoming an LP. She was a BA in Law student who applied for and enrolled in the **Accelerated Masters Program (AMP)**, which enabled her to complete her BA and MLS simultaneously. She learned of the LP Program and decided to pursue her LP license.

“I believe that the ‘justice gap’ is frequently overlooked and that it warrants greater attention. The development of the LP program will be a tremendous resource in combating growing legal expenses and providing an alternative to individuals who need assistance but may not be able to afford typical attorney fees.”

Michelle plans to complete the necessary coursework required for two endorsement areas, namely Family and Criminal Law.

When asked if she has any advice for people considering becoming an LP, Michelle stated, “My recommendation to anybody considering this path of study is to not be intimidated! The course material is intriguing, and the experience you get is invaluable. If you want to work in the legal sector in a higher capacity than a paralegal but cannot attend law school right now, I would strongly suggest this pathway. Also, take advantage of as many clinics or internships as you can! Gaining real-life experience is unlike anything else; it demonstrates what you are really capable of.”

We are so proud of our graduates and the positive change they represent in our community.

If you are interested in learning more about the **MLS program** and our **LP Certificate**, please reach out to Kristy Clairmont at **kaclairmont@arizona.edu**.

**APPLY TO MLS PROGRAM**

## **Administrative Law Exam Close to Completion**

As of May 23, there are 18 active, licensed Legal Paraprofessionals in the state of Arizona. Eleven more are eligible and working through the licensure process. The vast majority of LPs have opted for a family law endorsement with a few LPs in the civil and criminal areas as well.

The much-anticipated Administrative law exam will soon be offered. The first opportunity may be as soon as August. With the addition of this exam, LPs are able to receive endorsements in Family, Civil, Criminal, and now Administrative Law.

Each endorsement area has a specific scope of practice per the [Arizona Judicial Code of Administration 7-210](#). LPs who earn the Administrative Law endorsement "may engage in authorized services before any Arizona administrative agency that allows it.

LPs who earn the Administrative Law endorsement "may engage in authorized services before any Arizona administrative agency that allows it. Legal paraprofessionals are not authorized to represent any party in an appeal of the administrative agency's decision to a superior court, the court of appeals, or the supreme court, except that the legal paraprofessional may file an application or notice of appeal. LPs are not authorized to represent any lawyer or LP before the court, presiding disciplinary judge, or hearing panel."

Although it remains unclear exactly which Administrative Agencies will permit LPs to appear before them, the AOC plans to engage in outreach and hopes to have a preliminary list soon.

Be sure to check the [court website](#) for continued updates about this emerging area. The tests mentioned above are offered several times a month and specific dates are listed below for your convenience.

## DATES + DEADLINES

JUN  
01

**LP License Exam\***  
morning session only

JUN 08	<b>LP License Exam*</b> morning session only
JUN 15	<b>LP License Exam*</b> morning + afternoon sessions
JUL 06	<b>LP License Exam*</b> afternoon session only
JUL 13	<b>LP License Exam*</b> morning session only
JUL 20	<b>LP License Exam*</b> afternoon session only
AUG 01	<b>Arizona Law MLS Application Deadline</b> for fall 2022 start
AUG 03	<b>LP License Exam*</b> morning session only
SEP 00	<b>LP Info Session</b> more information to come!

## IN THE NEWS

**[The "Double Bazelon" Edition \(mention at 50:55\)](#)**  
**Political Gabfest Podcast**

## Stay in the Loop

Visit the University of Arizona **[Legal Paraprofessional website](#)** for more information about our educational programming to prepare future LPs!

If you have a colleague who is interested in receiving the Loop, please forward this message along so that they may subscribe below.

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### **Land Acknowledgment**

*We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.*