

*Not only did I receive an excellent education from practicing lawyers, but I found that USD's stellar reputation placed me at the head of the line when interviewing with local firms. Once I got my foot in the door, it was then up to me to use the skills and knowledge I acquired in the program to not only succeed, but to excel in a field that is fast paced and competitive. I can't thank the program enough for providing a solid foundation which has allowed me to work in a field I love, provide for my family, and which provides me with a sense of accomplishment and pride.*

~ Cathleen F., Paralegal

*I considered law school, but as a single father, I needed to enter the legal field in a matter of months - not years. Although there are other ABA approved paralegal programs, I felt that none of them had the prestige, high caliber of instructors, and internship options that USD offered. USD gave me the proper legal background, training, and credibility I needed to secure a rewarding career as a Legal Assistant with one of the largest law firms in the world. Further, graduating from the USD Paralegal Program with Honors gives me a well-earned advantage upon entering law school.*

~ James B., Paralegal

*I absolutely loved this program. Not only was I going to have a career finally, but I achieved it at USD, a very well-known university. During the program I made friendships that will last forever. The evening program made it very convenient for me to attend all of the classes while working full time. The teachers were fantastic.*

*I went from records clerk to records supervisor to paralegal, and the firm paid for my school! Working in the field of civil litigation and bankruptcy, I draft discovery, prepare pleadings, do research and am involved in all aspects of trial preparation.*

*Thank you to the staff in the Paralegal Program Office for accepting me and giving me the chance to make such a difference in my life, I appreciate all of your hard work and help throughout the year.*

~ Sara W., Paralegal

*USD's reputation was a factor I considered when enrolling in the program and undoubtedly a factor considered by prospective employers. Even before finishing the program I received a promotion, followed by another upon program completion. I absorbed a wealth of information about various areas of law... Resources continue to be available, and the networking potential is invaluable. For me completing the program at USD was a "win, win" situation.*

~ Sally C., Paralegal

*Although law school was an option for me, at this point in my career this seemed a bit overwhelming. I decided to enroll in the University of San Diego Paralegal Program instead so I could learn more about law while contemplating law school and have the ability and training to take on additional responsibilities and more challenging assignments at work.*

*The education and training I received at the University of San Diego was incredible and provided me with all of the practical and legal basis I needed to take my career where it is today.*

~ Denise M., Freelance Paralegal

*As a graduate of the University of San Diego Paralegal Program, I have been afforded a great deal of respect from the legal community, particularly the California criminal court system. The USD Paralegal Office referred me to the position of Court-appointed Paralegal for indigent felony cases. Although I was a civil litigation specialist, I realized just how thorough my training at USD was as I made the transition to criminal law with relative ease. The fundamentals of legal research, client interview, trial preparation, discovery and pre-trial motions were invaluable tools taught to me by highly qualified USD paralegal faculty. Moreover, the confidence and pride instilled in me as a graduate of the USD Paralegal Program should be underscored. It has been my experience that when asked by a Superior Court Judge or other official where I received my instruction, the mention of the USD program has garnered praise and even opened doors. I am grateful for my excellent training at USD and look forward to continuing education in the USD Paralegal Program.*

~ Patricia J., Paralegal

*Over 30 years ago, I chose to attend the Paralegal Program at USD because of its outstanding reputation for practical legal training. At the time, I wanted to learn about the legal profession, but wasn't sure whether I was interested in law school. I loved my experience in the program and subsequently continued my legal education, becoming a law student, a lawyer, and now a full-time law professor. I've been a teacher in the program now for the past 25 years. As a lawyer, the Paralegal Program provides students with both legal theory and practical experience. Our faculty consists of working professionals who can give students a perspective on what's happening in the practical legal world.*

~ Rob D., Professor

*I chose the USD Paralegal Program as a form of insurance for my choice of going to law school - and it paid off big (saving me \$75,000 in loans to pay for law school), as being a paralegal has taught me that being a lawyer is not the career for me. If I hadn't gone through the USD Paralegal Program, I never would have found employment in a large firm that I had been pining for since my days as an undergraduate at San Diego State University.*

*The Paralegal Program gave me a taste of many different areas of the law, thus increasing my marketability. Competing with the best is tough - but it's even tougher without the aid of a paralegal program like USD's!*

~ Joshua J., Paralegal

*I enrolled in the USD Paralegal Program because I was looking for a way to make my B.A. in English Literature more marketable. During my undergraduate studies I worked as a waitress and a lifeguard. So, when I graduated, I didn't have any experience that specifically applied to working in an office. What most appealed to me about the USD Paralegal Program was the legal internship and the employment assistance. I loved my internship assignment, and I am still friends with my paralegal mentor. The internship gave me the confidence I needed to succeed in a new career field. USD is the most recognized paralegal program and law school in the San Diego area. Within a month of my graduation from the program, I was hired by an Intellectual Property law firm that had contacted USD seeking qualified candidates. Now, as an office manager/paralegal in charge of hiring, I always call USD for resumes when we are hiring for new paralegals. I trust USD to provide us with well-prepared paralegals who are versed in the law and appropriate office conduct.*

~ Rhianna B., Paralegal

*After graduating from San Diego State University, I was unsure about what I wanted to do. I knew that I needed marketable skills and a good reputation to back them up. The USD Paralegal Program offered both opportunities. I was able to enroll in the intensive day program and earn my Paralegal Certificate within four months. The skills and general information I received at USD have prepared me well for my career as a paralegal. I owe much gratitude to the USD Paralegal Program and staff.*

~ Kristen T., Paralegal

*After researching many paralegal programs, ABA approval is what sold me on USD. Financial Aid was a snap. The professors taught from true experience in their field of instruction. I must give credit to the high caliber of my fellow students and the invaluable time spent in study groups.*

~ Paul M., Paralegal

*Like many others, I was the victim of a corporate downsizing. Since my career to this point had been in finance, I was surprised when my aptitude test showed my highest interest was in the legal field. As a result, I researched career opportunities and the search led me to the USD Paralegal Program. In addition to a career change, I also needed to transition as quickly as possible to minimize the length of time I would be without income. The intensive day program at USD fit the bill. The time from registration to certificate was about 3 ½ months.*

*My new position, Legal Coordinator, is perfect for me. It combines my experience with a corporation and my newly acquired paralegal education. I thank USD for providing me the education to successfully complete this transition to the legal field.*

~ John B., Legal Coordinator

*I chose the USD Paralegal Program because it is an American Bar Association approved, well-respected program offering a broad curriculum in a condensed format. The program greatly increased my confidence and proficiency in interviewing, writing, and research, as well as computer and analytical skills. The curriculum was challenging, and the instructors were helpful and knowledgeable. On a personal level, I've gained a network of friends who enjoy the legal field as much as I do. I continue to benefit from the USD Program through its Alumni Association and specialized continuing study courses.*

*I attended the evening program while working full-time. In less than a year of condensed study, I gained a solid foundation on which to base my career as a paralegal. Currently, I am employed as a corporate paralegal. Each day I build upon what I learned in the program. I am grateful for the excellent training I received.*

~ Nicki S., Paralegal

*Knowing USD's excellent reputation in the legal community, that I can return as an alumnus for additional paralegal courses, including MCLE, and the ongoing employment assistance for alumni has kept me involved with the program. USD has a top-notch program. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in paralegal training.*

~ Joan P., Freelance Paralegal