

# PARALEGAL Program Outlook



Employment of paralegals and legal assistants is projected to grow 15 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. Formally trained paralegals with strong computer and database management skills should have the best job prospects. Most paralegals and legal assistants have at least an associate’s degree or a certificate in paralegal studies. In some cases, employers may hire college graduates with a bachelor’s degree but no legal experience or specialized education and train them on the job.

| <b>Employment Information</b> |   |                        |                 |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|-----------------|
|                               | <b>Greater Kansas City Area</b><br><small>(15 counties in KC Metropolitan Statistical Area)</small> | <b>State of Kansas</b> | <b>National</b> |
| 2019                          | 2,852   | 2,329                  | 320,630         |
| 2024 Projected                | 3,000   | 2,446                  | 342,010         |
| % Change                      | 5.2%  | 5.0%                   | 6.7%            |

| <b>Salary Information</b><br><small>(Median Hourly Wage)</small> |   |                        |                 |
|--|---|------------------------|-----------------|
|  | <b>Greater Kansas City Area</b><br><small>(15 counties in KC Metropolitan Statistical area)</small> | <b>State of Kansas</b> | <b>National</b> |
| 2019   | \$26.14   | \$18.85                | \$24.49         |

| <b>JCCC Completer Information</b><br><small>(2017-2018 Academic Year)</small> |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| <b>% Employed in Related Field</b>  | <b>Median Hourly Wage</b> |
| 63%   | \$21.35                   |

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion.

Note: Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2018 fourth quarter data. (Release 2019.3)  
JCCC information for career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers. Other sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics