

1 **Rule 15-703. Qualifications for Licensure as a Licensed Paralegal Practitioner.**

2 (a) **Requirements of Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Applicants.** The burden of proof is on  
3 the Applicant to establish by clear and convincing evidence that she or he:

4 (a)(1) has paid the prescribed application fees;

5 (a)(2) has either been granted a Limited Time Waiver under Rule 15-705 or has timely  
6 filed the required Complete Application for a Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Applicant  
7 in accordance with Rule 15-707;

8 (a)(3) is at least 21 years old;

9 (a)(4) has graduated with either:

10 (a)(4)(A) a First Professional Degree in law from an Approved Law School; or,

11 (a)(4)(B) an Associate Degree in paralegal studies from an Accredited School or  
12 Accredited Program; or

13 (a)(4)(C) a Bachelor's Degree in paralegal studies from an Accredited School or  
14 Accredited Program; or

15 (a)(4)(D) a Bachelor's Degree in any field from an Accredited School, plus a  
16 Paralegal Certificate or 15 credit hours of paralegal studies from an Accredited  
17 Program;

18 (a)(5) if the applicant does not have a First Professional Degree from an Approved Law  
19 School, the applicant must have 1500 hours of Substantive Law-Related Experience  
20 within the last 3 years, including 500 hours of Substantive Law-Related Experience in  
21 temporary separation, divorce, parentage, cohabitant abuse, civil stalking, custody and  
22 support, and name change if the Applicant is to be licensed in that area, or 100 hours of  
23 Substantive Law-Related Experience in forcible entry and detainer or debt collection if  
24 the Applicant is to be licensed in those areas.

25 (a)(6) has successfully passed the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Ethics Examination;

26 (a)(7) has successfully passed the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Examination(s) for the  
27 practice area(s) in which the Applicant seeks licensure;

28 (a)(8) is of good moral character and satisfies the requirements of Rule 15-708;

29 (a)(9) has a proven record of ethical, civil and professional behavior; and

30 (a)(10) complies with the provisions of Rule 15-716 concerning licensing and enrollment  
31 fees.

32 (b) If the Applicant has not graduated with a First Professional Degree in law from an approved  
33 law school, the Applicant must:

34 (b)(1) have taken a specialized course of instruction approved by the Board in  
35 professional ethics for Licensed Paralegal Practitioners;

36 (b)(2) have taken a specialized course of instruction approved by the Board in each  
37 specialty area in which the Applicant seeks to be licensed; and

38 (b)(3) have obtained either the Certified Paralegal (CP or CLA) credential from the  
39 National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA); the Professional Paralegal (PP)  
40 credential from the National Association of Legal Professionals (NALS); or the ~~Certified~~  
41 Registered Paralegal (CRP) credential from the National Federation of Paralegal  
42 Associations (NFPA).

43 (c) An individual who has been disbarred or suspended in any jurisdiction may not apply for  
44 licensure as a Paralegal Practitioner.

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46 Effective December 19, 2019