

Legal Assistants Section of the State Bar of Michigan

The purpose of the amendment is to change the name of the section to include the term “paralegal.”

ARTICLE I NAME AND PURPOSES

SECTION 1. NAME. This Section shall be known as the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE. The purposes of this Section shall be to encourage a high order of ethical and professional attainment; to further education among members of the Section; to support and carry out the programs, purposes, aims, and goals of the State Bar of Michigan; and to establish good fellowship among Section members, the State Bar of Michigan, and the members of the legal community at large.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS FOR SECTION MEMBERSHIP. A person shall be deemed to be qualified for Section membership if the person is currently employed or retained by a lawyer, law office, governmental agency or other entity engaged in the practice of law, in a capacity or function which involves the performance under the direction and supervision of an attorney of specifically delegated substantive legal work, which work, for the most part, requires a sufficient knowledge of legal concepts such that, absent that paralegal/legal assistant, the attorney would perform the task, and which work is not primarily clerical or secretarial in nature, and:

- a. who has graduated from an ABA approved program of study for paralegals/legal assistants and has a baccalaureate degree; or
- b. has received a baccalaureate degree in any field, plus not less than two years of in house training as a paralegal/legal assistant; or
- c. who has received an associate degree in the paralegal/legal assistant field, plus not less than two years of in house training as a paralegal/legal assistant;
- d. who has received an associate degree in any field and who has graduated from an ABA approved program of study for paralegals/legal assistants, plus not less than two years of in-house training as a paralegal/legal assistant; or

- e. who has a minimum of four (4) years of in house training as a paralegal/legal assistant.

Any affiliate member of the State Bar of Michigan, upon request to the Executive Director of the State Bar of Michigan and upon payment of dues for the current fiscal year (October 1 September 30), shall be enrolled as a member of the Section.

SECTION 2. DUES.

- a. **Affiliate Members of the State Bar of Michigan.** Each affiliate member of the State Bar of Michigan who applies for and is accepted as an affiliate member of the Section, and who meets the criteria of Article II, Section 1 shall pay annual dues of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per fiscal year, which fiscal year is October 1st through September 30th. However, if a person applies for and is accepted as an affiliate member of the Section after April 1st, the State Bar dues for the remainder of the fiscal year shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00). Additionally, each affiliate member of the State Bar of Michigan joining the Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section shall pay annual section dues of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per fiscal year, regardless of the date of application and acceptance.