USD Office of Financial Aid and the Paralegal Program

Financing options for USD Paralegal Program students without a Bachelor’s Degree

PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL LOANS

What kind of financial aid is available?
If you do not have a Bachelor’s degree, you may access information regarding private educational loans by visiting the USD Office of Financial Aid (OFA) website at [http://www.sandiego.edu/financialaid/loans/private-educational-loans.php](http://www.sandiego.edu/financialaid/loans/private-educational-loans.php) and clicking on the link for the Private Loan Program Instructions and Request Form. You will be able to view the terms and conditions of a number of private loan programs and submit your application online. Read all of the information carefully to determine which of the programs is best suited to your needs.

FastChoice ([https://choice.fastproducts.org/FastChoice/home/1039500/1](https://choice.fastproducts.org/FastChoice/home/1039500/1)) The FastChoice Electronic list links to a website where you can review possible lenders, their benefits, and application processes.

California Private Loan Marketplace ([http://california.privateloanmarketplace.com/](http://california.privateloanmarketplace.com/)) The Marketplace is a website that presents, side-by-side, the specific loan rates and terms you would see if you applied with each lender directly.

Registration
If your lender has approved your application for a non-federal loan, but your loan funds will not arrive by the start of classes, please contact Kellie Nehring, Financial Aid Counselor for the Paralegal Program, at (619) 260-2255 or send an email to knehring@sandiego.edu and she will be able to verify your loan status.

Veterans Benefits/Tuition Assistance
Your first step in obtaining VA Benefits (including Post 9/11 benefits) for use in the Paralegal Program is to contact the VA Department at 1 (888) 442-4551 or online at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) to determine your eligibility. If you find that you are eligible, you must notify the Paralegal Office and provide a Certificate of Eligibility. You will be asked to sign a deferment and/or installment contract prior to the start of classes depending on the type of assistance you receive.

Bring a copy of your Tuition Assistance Authorization to the Paralegal Program Office. A financial aid record will be created for you; and the amount of your benefits will be credited to your account. Note that although USD is not involved in disbursing this money to you, it is still considered a resource, and, therefore, your eligibility for other types of financial assistance (such as non-federal loans) may be limited. You will be asked to sign a deferment and/or installment contract prior to the start of classes depending on the type of assistance you receive.
Vocational Rehabilitation
Submit any documentation you have from the agency administering your benefits directly to the Paralegal Office. The documentation must indicate the authorized amount you will receive for tuition, books, fees, and living expenses. Note that although the University of San Diego is not involved in disbursing this money to you, it is still considered a resource, and so your eligibility of other types of financial assistance (such as federal or non-federal loans) may be limited. You will be asked to sign a deferment and/or installment contract prior to the start of classes depending on the type of assistance you receive.

Contact the Office of Financial Aid
Specific questions regarding your financial aid or the application process should be directed to Kellie Nehring, Financial Aid Counselor for the Paralegal Program, in the Office of Financial Aid. Business hours are Monday - Friday 9:00a.m. to 4:30p.m. Telephone: (619) 260-2255 or send an email to knehring@sandiego.edu.

Please always identify yourself as a student in the Paralegal Program and provide your ID# if you have already been assigned one.