



Personal Injury/Torts Program Overview

Tort law is in the arena of law that is primarily responsible for trying to make citizens “whole” after they have been injured by the wrongs (torts) of others. Lawsuits concerning torts are numerous and there are many opportunities for paralegals specializing in this field. The Personal Injury/Torts Paralegal course prepares students for entry-level positions within law firms dealing in torts.

The Personal Injury/Torts course covers the essential topics that students need to know if they plan to work in tort law or the personal injury field. It addresses the skills necessary to become an effective paralegal during the discovery and review of medical records, and during the tort litigation process before and after trial. The e-text that comes with this course will help students gain a deeper understanding of substantive torts topics. The course explores the role students will play as a paralegal on a personal injury case. The e-book contains an expanded coverage of medical malpractice and an enhanced treatment of ethics. It also presents the legal terms of torts and personal injury law, definitions of the various types of torts and the defenses a defendant can raise to each, and receive instruction in drafting documents commonly used in this area of law.

Program Objectives

- To define tort law and list its categories and purposes.
- To explain the role of foreseeability in tort law.
- To explain the difference between battery and assault.
- To define and explain strict liability.
- To identify the elements and defenses of negligence.
- To discuss the role of products liability in the media.
- To define and identify torts against and within the family and torts connected to the land.
- To explain defamation and related terms.

- To discuss misrepresentation, tortious interference, and tort defenses.
- To define workers' compensation and identify covered diseases and injuries.

Program Outline

Lesson 1: Personal Injury/Torts 1

Chapter 1: Introduction to Torts and Negligence

Chapter 2: First Element of Negligence: Duty

Chapter 3: Second Element of Negligence: Breach of Duty

Lesson 2: Personal Injury/Torts 2

Chapter 4: Third Element of Negligence: Causation of Injury

Chapter 5: Fourth Element of Negligence: Damages

Chapter 6: Special Issues Related to Negligence

Lesson 3: Personal Injury/Torts 3

Chapter 7: The Defenses to Negligence

Chapter 8: Medical Malpractice

Lesson 4: Personal Injury/Torts 4

Chapter 9: Intentional Torts to Persons

Chapter 10: Intentional Torts to Property

Chapter 11: The Defenses to Intentional Torts and Immunities

Lesson 5: Personal Injury/Torts 5

Chapter 12: Strict Liability and Products Liability

Chapter 13: Nuisance

Chapter 14: Workers' Compensation

Lesson 6: Personal Injury/Torts 6

Chapter 15: Discovery and Review of Medical Records

Chapter 16: The Tort Litigation Process Before Trial

Chapter 17: The Tort Litigation Process During Trial