Blackstone Career Institute™
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IMMIGRATION LAW PROGRAM OUTLINE

FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INCARCERATED



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Blackstone's immigration law advanced paralegal course provides an overview of immigration and nationality law in the United States, with an emphasis on its practical application in a law firm, non-profit legal service agency or corporate environment. Students will learn about employment, family-based visas, along with the law concerning refugee protection, asylum, policies affecting certain vulnerable populations and the citizenship process.

Students will learn specialized paralegal skills including client interviewing, communication, form completion and file organization with an emphasis on attention to detail and deadlines. Students will develop research skills and discover resources to obtain up-to-date information in immigration law. Students will analyze the factors involved in shaping or changing immigration policies and laws.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

LESSON 1 | Introduction to Immigration Law and Nonimmigrant Visas for Brief Stays, Studies and Cultural Exchange

LESSON 2 | Nonimmigrant Visas for Longer Stays

LESSON 3 | Asylum Humanitarian Relief, Family Sponsored Immigration and Permanent Resident Status

LESSON 4 | Employment-Based and Self-Sponsored Immigration; Immigration Relief for Vulnerable Populations

LESSON 5 | Grounds of Inadmissibility and Deportation; Immigration Court Practice and Relief from Removal

LESSON 6 | Citizenship and Naturalization; Immigration Practice and Professionalism; Immigration Enforcement

Introduction to Immigration Law and Nonimmigrant Visas for Brief Stays, Studies and Cultural Exchange

LESSON 1

This lesson provides an overview of the immigration system; outlines sources of immigration law and policy; discusses the evolution of immigration policy; explains key decision makers and agencies. Reviews and analyzes nonimmigrant visas for business and pleasure visitors, students, and cultural exchange visitors and trainees.

Nonimmigrant Visas for Longer Stays

LESSON 2

This lesson provides details on nonimmigrant visa classifications for foreign national employment in the United States, including intracompany transferees and those in professional specialty occupations. Discusses additional nonimmigrant visas for persons practicing at the top level of their professional field; covers visas for religious workers, international media, and temporary agricultural and non-agricultural workers.

Asylum Humanitarian Relief, Family Sponsored Immigration and Permanent Resident Status

LESSON 3

This lesson presents the asylum application and assessment process; discusses the benefits to those granted asylum; explains alternative relief for refugees not qualified for asylum. Explains how a foreign national may become a lawful permanent resident (LPR) through family sponsorship; differentiates between LPR applications using adjustment of status in the U.S. and consular processing abroad.

Employment-Based and Self-Sponsored Immigration; Immigration Relief for Vulnerable Populations

LESSON 4

This lesson explains how a foreign national may become a lawful permanent resident (LPR) using an employer sponsor; discusses self-sponsored immigration to obtain LPR status; describes the criteria to become an LPR through investment in the U.S. or working in a religious occupation. Reviews immigration options and relief for survivors of domestic violence, crime, and human trafficking among others needing protection; provides details on special protections for juvenile immigrants who are victims of abuse or neglect.

Grounds of Inadmissibility and Deportation; Immigration Court Practice and Relief from Removal

LESSON 5

This lesson distinguishes between the concepts of inadmissibility and deportation; categorizes the grounds of inadmissibility and deportation; discusses waivers available to foreign nationals prevented from entering, or required to leave the U.S. Provides an overview of the removal process once a foreign national is deemed to be in the U.S. unlawfully; explains the formats and purposes of various immigration court hearings; discusses the process for expedited removal and detention; explains the various motions that can be filed in immigration court; summarizes the relief available in removal proceedings.

Citizenship and Naturalization; Immigration Practice and Professionalism; Immigration Enforcement

LESSON 6

This lesson discusses the various paths to citizenship for foreign nationals, including birth, naturalization, or through parents and grandparents; explains how to use information provided by the government to track changes in the law to determine if the applicant is eligible for citizenship based on the time of their birth; provides information on situations when citizenship can be revoked. Chapter 12: Explains the management of immigration cases within a private law firm or a nonprofit organization recognized by the government; discusses case assessment to determine the best outcome for the client; details professional conduct and ethical considerations for immigration law practitioners. Chapter 13: Provides information on immigration enforcement actions, including ones taken by countries abroad to limit immigration to the U.S.; discusses enforcement actions at the border and within the U.S. for non-employment based immigration; explains enforcement actions targeted at employers and their workers.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Understand the role various federal agencies play in an immigration application or case, including the Department of Homeland Security agencies, the Department of State, the Department of Justice and the Department of Labor.
- Learn how to navigate various government immigration websites and select proper forms and procedures for specific immigration applications.
- Distinguish between the legal status of immigrants, nonimmigrants and U.S citizens and develop an understanding of how to analyze key immigration documents.
- Determine the requirements for nonimmigrant (temporary) visas for visiting, work, commerce, study and other purposes.
- Learn the requirements to apply for permanent residency through family, employment-based petitions or humanitarian applications.
- Understand the difference between consular processing and applying for adjustment of status and the relevant forms for each.
- Explain the requirements for humanitarian-based immigration relief such as asylum, withholding of removal or protection under the Convention against torture, and special provisions for children, victims of interpersonal violence, crimes and human trafficking.
- Understand the eligibility requirements for naturalization.
- Determine relevant questions to enable you to conduct a client interview.
- Understand the pathway of an immigration case in immigration and appellate courts
- Explore ethical issues arising in immigration practice.



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