



## **NEWS FROM ESAPA**

The Empire State Alliance of Paralegal Associations (ESAPA) is proud to announce the New York State Certified Paralegal Program, a voluntary certification program developed and managed by ESAPA. ESAPA has enacted the New York State Certified Paralegal Program to recognize paralegals who have met superior qualifications which include defined levels of education and experience.

ESAPA acknowledges that there is a need for cost-effective legal services. ESAPA recognizes that the use of qualified paralegals by lawyers, law firms, judicial, educational, commercial and governmental entities is the best way to provide the community with such cost-effective legal services.

Paralegals certified by ESAPA are authorized to use the credential “New York State Certified Paralegal” or “NYSCP”. Continuing legal education is required to maintain the NYSCP credential.

The Program recognizes paralegals whose education, training, and work experience have equipped them with the knowledge, skills and proficiencies to perform substantive legal work in a professional and ethical manner. These individuals are employed or retained by a lawyer, law office, corporation, governmental agency, or other entity to work under the direction of a lawyer or pursuant to state statute, administrative regulation, or court authority in a capacity that, in most instances, would be performed by a lawyer in the absence of a paralegal. The NYSCP credential distinguishes qualified paralegals and offers employers a standard for hiring and promoting paralegals.

**To learn more about the program or to apply to become a New York State Certified Paralegal visit the ESAPA website at [www.empirestateparalegals.org](http://www.empirestateparalegals.org).**

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