

Paralegal Pathways Initiative at Columbia Law School



Housed at Columbia Law School, PPI aims to amplify the talents of formerly incarcerated individuals by providing skills-based legal training and connecting them with professional mentorship in preparation for careers in the legal field.

Application Process:

To apply, please fill out the application online:

<https://forms.gle/pdD6w9idHPcdTtsv8>

The application includes:

- a copy of your resume,
- a 750-word response to a writing prompt, and
- a 500-word personal statement.

You have the option to include a 1-2 page writing sample (e.g., a motion or brief you assisted in drafting, a memorandum, legal or nonlegal, or anything that represents your writing skills).

Please email ppi@law.columbia.edu with any questions.

Once we have reviewed your application, we will contact you to set up a time to virtually meet and discuss the program's goals in more detail.

Applications open on October 18, 2021. Seats will be filled on a rolling basis.

We look forward to reading your application! Thank you for your interest.

Time: Tuesdays from 6:20 pm – 8:10 pm

Dates: 12 weeks (January 25, 2022 to April 19, 2022)

All course materials will be provided to participants.

To be eligible, you must:

1. Reside within New York City
2. Have been formerly incarcerated
3. Demonstrate a genuine interest in working in the legal field.
4. Commit to attending a two-hour class one night a week for 12 weeks and additional programming with employers and practitioners.
5. Bring a positive attitude to the classroom and commit to foster relationships with similarly minded individuals.

Familiarity with LexisNexis and/or Westlaw is not required, but preferred.

We are strongly committed to diversity within our programming. We welcome applications from a wide range of people and do not discriminate based on race, sexual orientation, religion, age, gender, or disability status.