

Membership in this Association is based on requirements approved by Association members. There are three membership categories which include Active Member, Student Member and Associate Member. Only Active members may vote and hold office in this Association.

Membership Type:

Active Member (VOTING): This membership comes with full voting rights. Active membership is open to any individual who meets at least one of the following requirements (*please check one*):

- i. Any individual who has successfully completed the Certified Paralegal (“CP”) examination of NALA and is currently in good standing as a CP with NALA (**Copy of Certificate required**), or
- ii. Any individual who has graduated from an American Bar Association (“ABA”) approved program of study for paralegals, (**Copy of Degree/Diploma**) or
- iii. Any individual who has graduated from a course of study for paralegals, which is institutionally accredited but not ABA approved, and which requires no less than the equivalent of sixty (60) semester hours of classroom study, (**Copy of Diploma**) or
- iv. Any individual who has graduated from a course of study for paralegals other than those set forth in ii and iii above, plus not less than six (6) months of in-house training as a paralegal, whose attorney-employer attests that such person is qualified as a paralegal, (**Completed Attorney Attestation**) or
- v. Any individual who has received a baccalaureate degree in any field, plus not less than six (6) months in-house training as a paralegal, whose attorney-employer attests that such person is qualified as a paralegal, (**Completed Attorney Attestation**) or
- vi. Any individual who has a minimum of two (2) years of law related experience under the supervision of an attorney, including at least six (6) months of in-house training as a paralegal, whose attorney-employer attests that such person is qualified as a paralegal, (**Completed Attorney Attestation**) or
- vii. Any individual who has a minimum of one (1) year of in-house training as a paralegal, whose attorney-employer attests that such person is qualified as a paralegal (**Completed Attorney Attestation**).

Student Member (NON-VOTING):

Student membership is open to any individual who is a full-time or part-time student in good standing in any college, junior college, community college, or other school pursuing a course of study as a paralegal. A student that has graduated from the above outlined paralegal educational programs may retain their membership status as a student member for one year after the date of their graduation or until such time as they qualify as an Active member. This classification of membership has no voting rights and those members of this classification cannot serve as an officer, director, committee chairperson, or member of the Executive Committee.

Associate Member (NON-VOTING):

Associate membership is open to any individual new to the paralegal industry who do not qualify for membership under MALA's Active or Student membership types listed above, or those individuals who are members of the Bar Associations endorsing the paralegal concept or involved in the promotion of the paralegal profession; those individuals who are members of the educational field endorsing the paralegal concept or involved in the promotion of the paralegal profession; and those persons involved in the supervision of paralegals and not actively working as a paralegal. This classification of membership has no voting rights and those members of this classification cannot serve as an officer, director, committee chairperson, or member of the Executive Committee. This classification of membership may be a member of any committee, except Executive committee, and may have a vote on the committee, but cannot serve as the committee Chairperson. Once the Associate Member has acquired more experience and/or education, the Associate Member may be converted to an Active MALA membership type with all the rights of an active MALA membership.

ATTORNEY-EMPLOYER ATTESTATION

I, _____, am an attorney in good standing in the State of _____. I attest that _____ meets the qualifications for active voting membership to the Montana Association of Legal Assistants as outlined in requirement nos. 1, 7 or 8 of the Application for Membership attached.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Attesting Attorney

Print name of attesting attorney

Address of attesting attorney

STUDENT ATTESTATION

I hereby attest that _____ is currently enrolled in the Paralegal Studies program at _____ with an anticipated graduation date of _____.

Dated this ___ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Attesting Instructor/Program Director

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

Telephone: _____