

Madison Area Paralegal Association
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Serving paralegals in Madison
and in surrounding areas
since 1992.



Membership Benefits

Members receive a quarterly newsletter with announcements about MAPA and its members, news about upcoming educational events, recaps of previous educational events, articles about the legal profession, NALA news and events, Madison College continuing education programs, legal and career development resources, and much more. Member benefits also include access to MAPA's "Members Only" section of its website, which includes our Job Bank, legal resources, and newsletter archives.

Membership Requirements

MAPA offers four categories of membership to allow various types of people to join: active voting members, student members, associate members, and sustaining members. Please visit the membership section of MAPA's website for complete details.

Active Members must be at least 18 years old, live or work within a 100-mile radius of Dane County, Wisconsin, and meet at least one of three additional qualifications.

Student Members must be at least 18 years old and currently be enrolled in a formal course of study for paralegals/legal assistants.

Associate Members must be at least 18 years old and interested in supporting the paralegal/legal assistant profession and not otherwise qualify for Active or Student membership.

Sustaining Members are those individuals, law firms, corporations, and paralegal/legal assistant program representatives who endorse the paralegal/legal assistant concept or are involved in the promotion of the profession and who contribute dues as set forth in the Standing Rules.

History

In 1992, a group of like-minded paralegals and legal assistants founded the Madison Area Legal Assistant Association, which soon evolved into the Madison Area Paralegal Association. The founding goals were to provide educational opportunities specific to the delivery of legal services and to create a forum for communication for local legal professionals. Our founders determined that association affiliation with the well-established National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) would provide the ideal framework for such an organization. NALA's focus on professional development through its educational programs resonated strongly with the group.

MAPA's success was apparent within the first year, evidenced by an increase in membership from 10 to 50 members. In 2017, MAPA will celebrate its 25th year and boasts a membership of more than 100 members representing diverse legal practices.

Why Join MAPA?

As a seasoned professional association, MAPA continues to provide substantive legal educational programs for its members and invaluable networking opportunities with numerous legal professionals in Dane County and the surrounding area.

Diverse Membership

MAPA has an ever-increasing membership that boasts a broad base of members working in many disciplines of law including: criminal, environmental, labor and employment, litigation, intellectual property, government, probate, family, bankruptcy, real estate, lending, corporate, securities, insurance defense, personal injury, medical malpractice, estates and trusts, and more. This diverse membership provides plenty of networking opportunities within your practice area, as well as the ability to consult members when a question arises outside of your own expertise.

MAPA's membership also includes students who are currently enrolled in paralegal programs, such as those offered at Madison College. Recognizing that the needs of paralegal students and new graduates differ from those of the established paralegal, MAPA has hosted several events to benefit student members. These events included résumé and interviewing workshops, as well as panel discussions with paralegals and attorneys. Additionally, MAPA offers an ongoing mentoring program for students, newly-graduated students, and paralegals new to the area.

**There has never been a
better time to join MAPA.**

Education

MAPA provides a variety of educational opportunities to its membership, including a minimum of four Lunch & Learns (luncheons with guest speakers) and a Half-Day Seminar each year. The Education Committee continually secures informative, relevant, and topical speakers for these events. Speakers have included judges, attorneys, paralegals, private investigators, law librarians, Westlaw and Lexis-Nexis representatives, mediators, and other specialists – just to name a few. The events vary from introductory to advanced topics covering multiple practice areas, including emphasis on legal ethics and technology.

MAPA obtains CLE approval from NALA for applicable events. Paralegals who have attained the CP/CLA or other certification designation(s) from NALA will receive CLE credits for attending these educational events; certificates of attendance are provided as proof of attendance.

Networking and Social Programs

MAPA members regularly host and organize social activities to promote networking and mentoring opportunities. MAPA takes advantage of the many unique and diverse downtown resources that Madison has to offer.

MAPA also supports local charities through member donations and participation.

MAPA's Mission

Madison Area Paralegal Association (MAPA) seeks to:

- Maintain paralegal ethics and professional development;
- Offers CLE opportunities;
- Encourage and develop leadership skills and mentoring;
- Provide networking opportunities among members, as well as with the paralegal students and other legal professionals; and
- Promote MAPA within the community through volunteer activities.

Find Us On:



Join MAPA Today!

Meet other legal professionals; attend educational and social networking events; be a mentor/ mentee; develop leadership skills; enjoy "Member Only" benefits such as a quarterly newsletter, job postings, the annual meeting, and website access; Promote the paralegal profession and have fun.