

Complete And Mail To:
BATON ROUGE PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION
Post Office Box 306, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0306
Website: www.brparalegals.org

Application for Membership

Dues, Resume, Membership Fee, and Other Accompanying Documents Must Be Submitted With Application
(See reverse side for additional information)

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Home Address:

Employer:

Work Address:

Work Phone: _____ Work Fax: _____

Preferred Mailing Address: Residence Office

E-Mail Address: _____

How did you hear about BRPA?

Please state qualifications and attach written verification of qualifications (copies of letters, transcripts, certificates, diplomas, etc.) to this application when submitted: _____

Please indicate membership category based upon criteria outlined here:

- Voting Member (\$35/year); if paid after January 1, but before May 1—\$17.50
- Associate Member (\$20/year); if paid after January 1, but before May 1—\$10
- Student Member (\$15/year); if paid after January 1, but before May 1—\$7.50
- Sustaining Member (\$55/year); if paid after January 1, but before May 1—\$27.50

Pro-ration of Dues: Any individual accepted as a member of the Association after January 1st of any year will pay a sum equal to one-half (1/2) of the annual dues. The dues paid by any member accepted into the association in the month of May of any year will be credited as dues for the upcoming fiscal year.

Please indicate below if you would like to work on one of the following Association committees or projects:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Bank | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominations/Elections | <input type="checkbox"/> BR Bar Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Paralegal Week | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Legal Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Webmaster | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Day | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paralegal of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paralegal Studies Liaison | <input type="checkbox"/> Social | |

Membership Classifications

Voting Members: Any individual who meets at least one of the following requirements may become a voting member:

- (1) Completion of an ABA approved paralegal program, and/or a paralegal program at an institutionally accredited school and currently employed as a paralegal; or
- (2) Nationally certified and currently employed as a paralegal; or
- (3) Bachelor's degree and one year of paralegal experience and currently employed as a paralegal, along with a verifying letter from an immediate supervisor which attests to the qualifications for and duties of the paralegal position; or
- (4) An individual who may or may not be currently employed as a paralegal and/or who has been employed as a paralegal within the five years preceding the date of his/her application for membership in the Association with verifying letter from the supervising attorney in the present or previous employment as a paralegal; or
- (5) An individual who is not currently employed as a paralegal but who has (a) completed an ABA approved paralegal program and/or a paralegal program at an institutionally accredited school, or (b) is nationally certified AND (c) has continuously been an affiliate (student), associate, or voting member of BRPA for a minimum of one year following completion of (a) or (b) above; or
- (6) Voting members accepted into the Association prior to June 1, 2005, are grandfathered in with voting member status, having met the criteria outlined in Addendum A to the Constitution and Bylaws, dated 5/10/05.

A **Voting member** shall be entitled to one vote on all matters which require the vote of the members of the Association and shall have the right to make motions, hold office and serve on the Executive Board.

Associate Members: Any individual who is currently or has in the past been employed as a paralegal but does not meet one of the requirements to become a voting member may become an associate member. Associate members shall not be entitled to vote on matters which require the vote of the members of the Association and shall not have the right to make motions, hold office or serve on the Executive Board.

Student Members: Any individual who is currently enrolled in a formal course of paralegal studies may become a student member. Student members shall not be entitled to vote on matters which require the vote of the members of the Association and shall not have the right to make motions, hold office or serve on the Executive Board.

Sustaining Members: Any individual, corporation, partnership, organization or other entity interested in supporting the Association, or those members of bar associations endorsing the paralegal/legal assistant concept or involved in the promotion of the paralegal/legal assistant profession, or those members of the paralegal education field endorsing the paralegal/legal assistant profession or involved in the promotion of the paralegal/legal assistant profession or those persons directly involved in the supervision of legal assistants. Sustaining members shall not be entitled to vote on matters which require the vote of the members of the Association and shall not have the right to make motions, hold office or serve on the Executive Board.

BATON ROUGE PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

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OPTIONAL INFORMATION

If you choose to answer the questions below, this information will be used to include with a list of similarly situated members of the Association. This list will be included on our website, along with the roster of all members.

Name: _____ Birth month and day: _____

My area of specialty is (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | <input type="checkbox"/> Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Probate | <input type="checkbox"/> Collections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ | |

I currently hold the following credentials (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notary Public | <input type="checkbox"/> CLA | <input type="checkbox"/> CLAS | <input type="checkbox"/> LCP |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|

I currently hold memberships with the following professional or business associations/organizations:

I currently work with the following computer software/applications designed for case management, document retrieval, or trial presentation:

I currently own, operate, or work with the following business (other than my regular job):

AMONG ITS MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE BRPA'S INCEPTION IN 1984 ARE:

- (a) the creation and funding of a scholarship program,
- (b) operation of a job bank for the members in conjunction with LSU Paralegal Studies Program
- (c) participation in graduation programs with LSU-PSP,
- (d) two paralegal utilization surveys,
- (e) participation in Law Day activities sponsored by the Baton Rouge Bar Association,
- (f) publication of a monthly newsletter, *The Herald*,
- (g) regular monitoring of proposed legislation, and
- (h) sponsoring social activities for members and other interested people.

THE STATED OBJECTIVES OF BRPA ARE:

- (1) to promote the paralegal profession in Baton Rouge and Louisiana;
- (2) to provide a forum for the consideration of programs generally encountered in the paralegal profession in Louisiana, and for the discussion of solutions to such problems and to explore ways of improving the employer-employee relations of its members;
- (3) to represent and promote the interests of its members before governmental bodies;
- (4) to define and establish ethical standards of conduct for its members and to encourage voluntary adherence to such standards;
- (5) to cooperate with other state and regional associations in development and strengthening of a national paralegal association;
- (6) to provide continuing legal education of its members and others in a legal community; and
- (7) when authorized by its members, in accordance with the By-Laws, to perform, through its officers or members, any lawful act in furtherance of the objectives of the Association.

REASONS TO JOIN BRPA:

- **PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT:** An opportunity to network with other paralegals
- **JOB BANK:** BRPA provides information on paralegal positions and applicants available for employment
- **NEWSLETTER:** BRPA's monthly newsletter, *The Herald*, contains articles of interest to paralegals, along with information on upcoming seminars and events
- **CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION:** BRPA sponsors continuing legal education seminars in order to assist practicing paralegals, attorneys, and students
- **SCHOLARSHIP:** BRPA sponsors a scholarship to students enrolled in ABA approved paralegal programs

-----FOR OFFICE USE ONLY – DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE-----

▶ Application Verified By: _____ Date: _____

▶ Vote Taken On: _____

▶ Membership: Accepted Rejected

▶ Letter Sent: _____