

P2 Useful Online Resources for Paralegals

P3 What to Expect on the Paralegal Licensing Exam

P4 A 5-Step Reading Strategy to Master This Fall

# PARALEGAL COMPASS



## Words of Wisdom

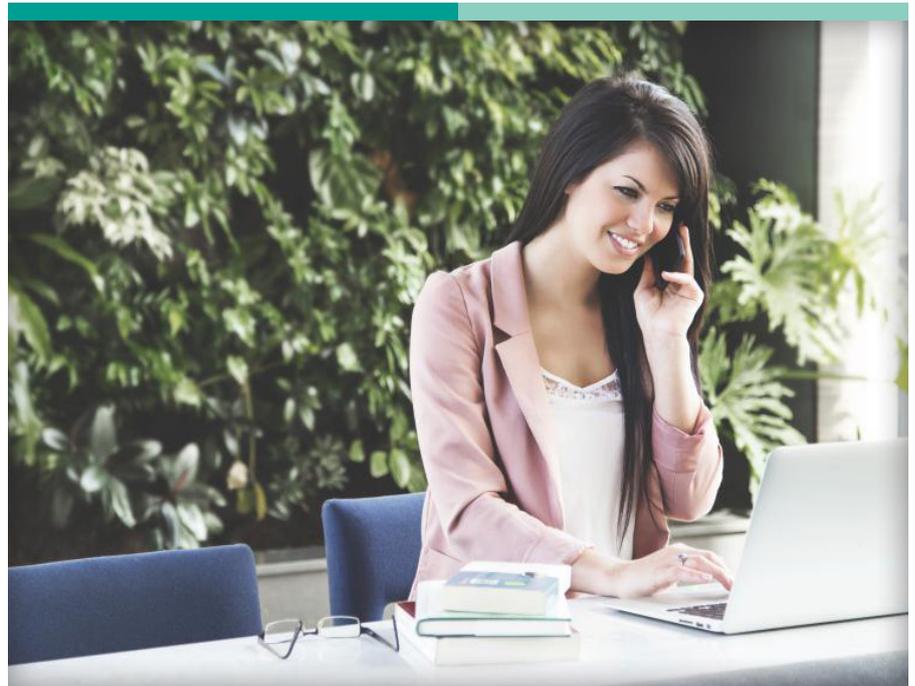
### PARALEGAL GRADUATES WEIGH IN WITH THEIR ADVICE ABOUT THE PARALEGAL PROGRAM

*"Ask questions. The teachers are extremely knowledgeable and will explain the answer. If you don't ask now, you may regret it later."*

*"Make time for yourself. Do what you need to do to get your work done, but make sure you have a social life outside of school and homework."*

*"Start a project as soon as it is assigned to you, even if it's just looking up resources or writing the introductory paragraph. That small bit of progress makes it easier to delve into later on."*

*"A week or so before your exams, re-write your notes. This will refresh and reinforce the information in your memory."*



## 4 Steps to Success in Your Paralegal Program

BY DANIKA WHITE, PARALEGAL COORDINATOR

There will be an adjustment period for every student entering a paralegal program. For some, it will be a relatively smooth transition from high school. For others returning to school after years in the workforce, the transition will require re-learning good study habits and balancing school with personal obligations. But every student who makes a commitment to persevere, overcome challenges, read the required books, and attend (nearly) every class, will succeed in school. [\[continued on pg. 3\]](#)



2 How to Save Money on Your Paralegal Textbooks



3 4 Steps to Success in Your Paralegal Program



4 Comics and Quotes For Inspiration



## Advice From a Former Student

BY ASYA GILES

Start by taking a deep breath. You are embarking on a challenging but rewarding year. There will be lots of reading, note-taking, highlighting, and lectures. At times, you will feel overwhelmed and wonder how you are going to get through it all—but you will. The teachers are very knowledgeable, and the books explain the steps in laymen's terms. Seeking other students' input is a key part of learning. There will be times when discussions evolve into debates, but that is when you grow and develop into your future role as a paralegal. Even after years of experience working as a legal assistant and law clerk, I was amazed by how quickly the year flew by, and the knowledge I walked away with. Get involved and soak it all in!



## Online Resources for Paralegals

### PARALEGAL NEWS AND GUIDANCE

[emondexamprep.ca/topics/blog](http://emondexamprep.ca/topics/blog)  
[lsuc.on.ca/licensingprocessparalegal](http://lsuc.on.ca/licensingprocessparalegal)  
[ontarioparalegalassociation.com](http://ontarioparalegalassociation.com)  
[paralegalscope.com](http://paralegalscope.com)

### GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

CanLII: [canlii.org/en](http://canlii.org/en)  
e-Laws: [ontario.ca/laws](http://ontario.ca/laws)  
Financial Aid: [ontario.ca/page/student-loans-grants-scholarships-and-bursaries](http://ontario.ca/page/student-loans-grants-scholarships-and-bursaries)

### PARALEGAL FACEBOOK GROUPS

[facebook.com/groups/ParalegalsConnect](https://facebook.com/groups/ParalegalsConnect)  
[facebook.com/groups/paralegalcorner](https://facebook.com/groups/paralegalcorner)  
[facebook.com/groups/ParalegalNetwork](https://facebook.com/groups/ParalegalNetwork)

### LINKEDIN GROUPS

Ontario Paralegal Network: [goo.gl/CBww3z](https://goo.gl/CBww3z)  
Ontario Paralegal Association: [goo.gl/qZvfmy](https://goo.gl/qZvfmy)

## Free Legal Glossary

**Compendium:** Summary of material to be referred to at a hearing, designed for easy access by judge.

**Deponent:** Person who makes an affidavit.

**Estoppel:** Term indicating that a witness is bound by his or her original position or evidence and cannot later take a contrary position.

**Garnishor:** Any creditor who is trying to enforce an order for payment of money by way of a garnishment.

**Impecunious:** Insolvent.

**Res Judicata:** Latin for "the thing has been decided"; once a claim is heard and decided by a court or tribunal, it cannot be heard again.

**Undertaking:** A promise or agreement to do something.

VISIT [EMOND.CA/LEGALGLOSSARY](http://EMOND.CA/LEGALGLOSSARY) FOR THE FULL LEGAL GLOSSARY



## Save \$\$ on Your Paralegal Textbooks This September

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## 4 Steps to Success in Your Paralegal Program (cont.)

However, being present in class doesn't mean keeping a seat warm and spending hours on social media. Being present means being mentally engaged and having a good attitude. Here are four tips for success in school:

1. Pay attention to general concepts. If you don't understand the general concepts, the details will not make sense.
2. If you don't understand something, ask your instructor. You are probably not the only one who is confused. Your instructors don't mind questions: questions show that you are paying attention.
3. If you don't read the required textbook and try to answer the questions at the back of each chapter, you are cheating yourself. This is your opportunity to learn as much as you can, and to clarify questions with your instructors.
4. Sharing a textbook may seem like a good way to save money, but when it comes time to review for an exam, who gets the book to study with? Joint custody causes disagreements and leads to poor exam marks. You paid a lot to go school; don't throw it away to save some money on a book.

Your attitude and commitment are everything. You have the power to succeed and join a profession you can be proud of. You also have the power to do the opposite, if you don't stay focused. The choice is yours, so choose wisely.

### SCHOOL FIRST



Congratulations! You have started down the path to becoming a licensed paralegal.

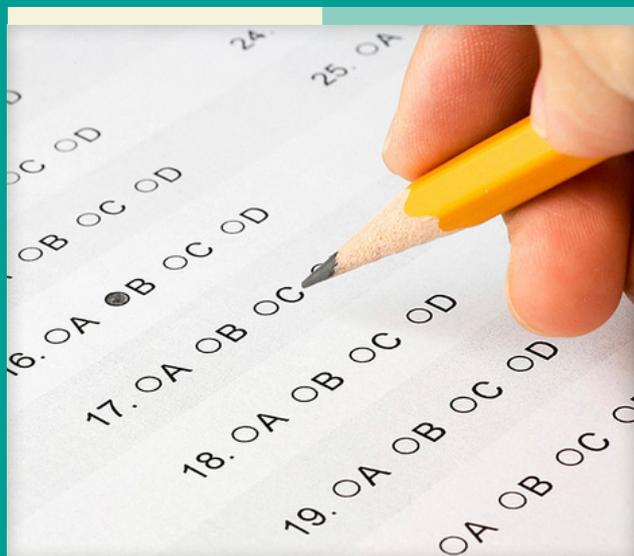
This is an exciting time in the legal field. Paralegals are gaining autonomy and breaking into new areas of practice. For articles about paralegal education, licensing, and practice, visit: [emondexamprep.ca/topics/blog](http://emondexamprep.ca/topics/blog)

### LICENSING NEXT



Once you finish your program, you must pass the LSUC's P1 Paralegal Licensing Exam.

The P1 Licensing Exam is an open-book, 7-hour exam consisting of 240 substantive multiple-choice questions. To prepare, you must study 750 pages of material. View details on the LSUC website: [www.lsuc.on.ca](http://www.lsuc.on.ca)



## EmondExamPrep.ca

### ARTICLES, PRACTICE EXAMS, AND PREP COURSES

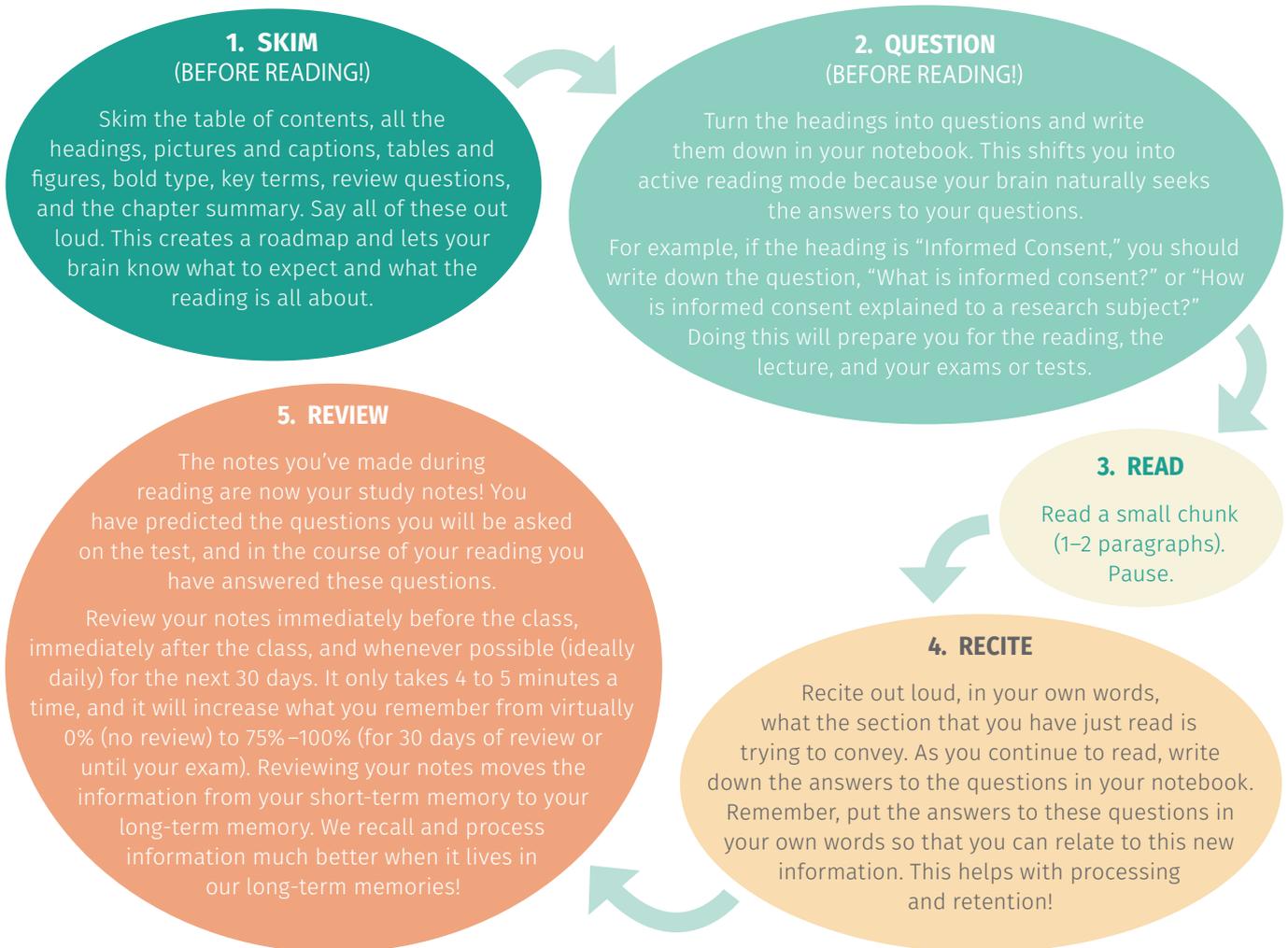
To prepare for the LSUC Licensing Exam, you must study 750 pages of material and be ready to answer challenging substantive and ethical questions. Emond Exam Prep offers materials and programs to help you prepare for and pass your licensing exam, including:

- **Exam preparation blog** with articles about studying, writing exams, and preparing for legal practice.
- **90-question practice exam** with subject performance analytics, correct answers, and detailed explanations.
- **16-hour online preparation course** with substantive lectures on paralegal competencies.

- S • Skim
- Q • Question
- R • Read
- R • Recite
- R • Review

# SQ3R Strategies for Reading

MUCH OF THE LEARNING THAT YOU DO IN SCHOOL IS THROUGH READING. HOWEVER, MANY STUDENTS STRUGGLE TO UNDERSTAND AND REMEMBER WHAT THEY'VE READ. THE FIVE STEPS BELOW WILL HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU READ AND REMEMBER THE INFORMATION MORE EFFECTIVELY.



Adapted from Francis Pleasant Robinson, *Effective Study*, revised ed. (New York: Harper, 1961)

## EMOND

60 Shaftesbury Ave.  
Toronto, ON M4T 1A3

## EMOND PUBLISHING

e. orders@emond.ca  
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## Inspiration

*"Paralegals do not surrender. They go down in a blaze of glory."*

– Jamie Collins

*"Our industry is based on the law, our ability to interpret the law, and our ability to stand strong and ethical in the face of temptation. Don't back down, for anything or anyone."*

– Jennifer Elliott

*"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it."*

– Thomas Jefferson