

# HN Qualifications in Legal Services



## HN Qualifications in Legal Services

- Interested in becoming a paralegal in a Scottish law firm, a commercial organisation, or a local authority?
- Already working as a paralegal and looking for a broad-based qualification?

An HNC or HND Legal Services could be the ideal qualification for you.

### What are the benefits?

SQA jointly awards the HNC and HND with the Scottish Paralegal Association (SPA), which is formally recognised by the Law Society of Scotland as the body that represents the interests and promotes the development of paralegals in Scotland.

When you register for the HNC/HND you can enrol with SPA as a student member or at a higher level depending on relevant work experience. You will be able to:

- **join the Members' Rewards Scheme**
- **attend the SPA Annual Conference**
- **be part of a national network of paralegals**

Once you achieve the HNC or HND and start working as a paralegal, you can progress to trainee membership. And as you gain more experience in the workplace, you can progress through the recognised paralegal grading system.

Alternatively, if you wish to use your HNC/HND in Legal Services as an entry qualification to a BA Law or LLB degree, there are several universities in Scotland you can choose from.





## Looking Ahead

The Law Society of Scotland and the Scottish Paralegal Association are currently working together towards regulation of paralegals in Scotland and the implementation of the new 'Law Society of Scotland Registered Paralegal' status. This regulation is likely to come into effect in spring 2009. Registration will require a formal paralegal qualification, such as the HNC/ HND Legal Services.

## The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)

SQA is Scotland's national body for qualifications. We are responsible for developing, accrediting, assessing and certificating all Scottish qualifications (other than university degrees and some professional qualifications).

## Scottish Paralegal Association

c/o The Law Society of Scotland  
26 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, EH3 7YR



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