Limited License Legal Technician (“LLLT”) Program
Frequent Asked Questions

What is a Limited License Legal Technician (“LLLT”)?

A LLLT is a person who is authorized to engage in the limited practice of law in certain “practice areas,” which are determined by the Washington State Supreme Court. LLLTs provide limited legal assistance to a pro se (or unrepresented) client.

What practice areas can I work in as a LLLT?

Currently, LLLTs are authorized to practice and advise clients in the area of family law. The Washington State Supreme Court will later authorize LLLTs to advise clients in other practice areas—this will likely happen within the next year or two. These additional practice areas may include: elder law, expungement of court records, landlord tenant law, and immigration. However, it is currently unknown which practice areas will be added and when.

What can LLLTs help clients do?

Initially (until the Court adds more practice areas) LLLTs will advise clients in the area of family laws. LLLTs can:

• Obtain relevant legally significant facts from clients.
• Advise clients on different implications of the law as applied to their circumstances.
• Advise clients on how best to manage their legal action to obtain their best results.
• Prepare clients to represent themselves in court proceedings.
• Perform legal research to answer client’s legal questions.
• Draft legal documents to be filed with the court.

What is the difference between an LLLT and an attorney?

• Just like the name says, LLLTs have limits on what they can do. The two main limitations on a LLLT’s practice are that unlike an attorney, LLLTs (1) cannot represent a client in court and (2) cannot negotiate on behalf of a client.
• Washington is the first state to authorize LLLTs. Right now, an LLLT’s practice is limited to Washington State. Other states are currently contemplating authorizing LLLTs in their states.

What are the requirements to become a LLLT?

In order to become a LLLT, you must:
1. Have your **Associate's Degree or a higher degree**

2. Complete **45 credit hours of core curriculum** through an ABA approved paralegal program.

3. Complete the “**Practice Area Courses.**” These are currently the LLLT Family Law Courses which are being offered at through the University of Washington School of Law.

4. Complete **3,000 hours of substantive law work.**

5. Take the **LLLT Exam.**

6. Fulfill other **WSBA licensing requirements.**

**What community colleges are ABA approved?**

There are only 4 ABA approved community colleges in Washington state:

1) Tacoma Community College
2) Edmonds Community College
3) Highline Community College
4) Spokane Community College

**Which courses must I take to fulfill the 45 credit hours?**

To become a LLLT, you **must** take the following “**Core Classes**” which total 31 credits. The other 14 credits to fulfill the 45 core credit requirement, can be made up of other paralegal courses at TCC.

The TCC LLLT Core Courses which **must** be completed to become an LLLT are:

- *Introduction to Civil Law – PLST 152 (3 credits)*
- *Civil Procedure 1 – PLST 153 (5 credits)*
- *Civil Procedure 2 – PLST 253 (3 credits)*
- *Legal Research 1 – PLST 151 (5 credits)*
- *Legal Research 2 – PLST 251 (3 credits)*
- *LLLT Fundamentals & Ethics – Course being developed (3 credits)*
- *Interviewing & Investigations – PLST 232 (5 credits)*
- Contracts/Commercial Transactions – PLST 231 (3 credits)
- Law Office Technology/Computer Applications in the Law – PLST 154 (3 credits)

[Note: The courses in with an * must be taken before a student can enroll in the UW Family Law courses. The remaining two courses can be taken at the same]
time as the UW Family Law courses. However, the Core Curriculum Examination must be completed before a student can enroll in the UW Family Law courses.]

If I have already taken some paralegal courses before the LLLT Program started, do those courses count towards my 45 credit hours of core curriculum?

Yes! If you have already taken some of the core classes, those can apply towards fulfilling your core curriculum. Other paralegal courses you have taken can also be counted towards the 45 necessary credits.

What is the LLLT Exam?

There are two components to the LLLT Exam.

1) The Core Curriculum Examination – this exam will cover the materials taught in the LLLT core curriculum and paralegal courses taught in the community colleges.

2) The Practice Area Examination – this exam covers the materials taught at UW on Family Law specifically.

The tests will consist of three components:

(1) A multiple choice section
(2) An essay section and
(3) A Performance Exam (practical application of law to a hypothetical fact pattern)

How do I fulfill my 3,000 hours of practice experience?

The 3,000 hours of substantive law-related work must be work that “requires knowledge of legal concepts” under the supervision of a licensed attorney. TCC highly recommends that students enroll in Internship courses and fulfill internships while completing the LLLT courses. The time students spend working during their internship will apply towards the 3,000 substantive law work hours.

If you have already been working under an attorney’s supervision, that time will also count. However, the hours cannot be acquire more than three years prior to getting your license, and must be acquired no more than three years after passing the examinations.

Where can I find more information on the LLLT Program?

1. Attend the LLLT Informational and Q&A on Wednesday, October 15,
2014 at 11:30 a.m. in Building 16, Room 210. The Informational will be given by representatives from the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA).

2. Contact TCC’s LLLT Liaison, Emily Cardenas with any additional questions at: ecardenas@tacomacc.edu.