

The Law and Public Service career cluster focuses on planning, managing, and providing legal services, public safety, protective services, and homeland security, including professional and technical support services. This career cluster includes occupations ranging from police officer and firefighter to political scientist and lawyer.

## Law Enforcement Statewide Program of Study

The Law Enforcement program of study focuses on occupational and educational opportunities associated with the development and enforcement of laws by various branches of law enforcement. This program of study includes the history, organization, and functions of local, state, and federal law enforcement. Students will understand the role of constitutional law at local, state, and federal levels; the U.S. legal system; criminal law; and law enforcement terminology and the classification and elements of crime.



### Secondary Courses for High School Credit

Level 1	T489	Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security (1/YL)
Level 2	T485	Law Enforcement I (1/YL)
Level 3	T487	Law Enforcement II (1/YL)
	T480	Or Correctional Services (1/YL)
Level 4	T495	Practicum of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security-Law Enforcement (2/YL)
	T491	Or Forensic Science (1/YL)



### Example Postsecondary Opportunities

#### Apprenticeships

- Security Specialist

#### Associate Degrees

- Criminal Justice
- Law Enforcement

#### Bachelor's Degrees

- Forensic Science
- Criminal Justice

#### Master's, Doctoral, and Professional Degrees

- Criminal Justice
- Criminology and Criminal Justice

#### Additional Stackable IBCs/Licensures

- Jailer – Basic County Corrections
- Basic Telecommunicator



### Aligned Advanced Academic Courses

**Dual Credit** Dual credit offerings will vary by local education agency.

Students should be advised to consider these course opportunities to enrich their preparation. AP or IB courses not listed under the Secondary Courses for High School Credit section of this framework document do not count towards concentrator/completer status for this program of study.



### Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

#### Work-Based Learning Activities

- Shadow a detective to learn about investigations and the role of detectives in law enforcement
- Intern in dispatch at a local law enforcement agency to learn about first responder roles and processes

#### Expanded Learning Opportunities

- Visit a police department
- Participate in TSA or SkillsUSA

### Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

Non-Commissioned Security Officer Level II License



### Example Aligned Occupations

#### Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers

Median Wage: \$64,373  
Annual Openings: 5,424  
10-Year Growth: 13%

#### Detectives and Criminal Investigators

Median Wage: \$82,090  
Annual Openings: 1,536  
10-Year Growth: 8%

#### First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives

Median Wage: \$97,571  
Annual Openings: 5,461  
10-Year Growth: 12%

Data Source: TexasWages, Texas Workforce Commission. Retrieved 3/8/2024.



For more information visit:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/programs-of-study-additional-resources>