



# Law and Public Service Career Cluster

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.

## Statewide Program of Study: Law Enforcement

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**
- **Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security (1 credit)**
    - 9400CT; 9-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber

- Level 2**
- **Law Enforcement I (1 credit)**
    - 9410CT; 9-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Principles of Law*
  - **Criminal Investigation (1 credit)**
    - 9411CT; 9-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Principles of Law*
  - **Federal Protective Services (1 credit)**
    - 9450CT; 10-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Principles of Law*

- Level 3**
- **Law Enforcement II (1 credit)**
    - 9420CT; 10-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Law Enforcement I*
    - **Non-Commissioned Security Officer Certification Possible**
  - **Correctional Services (1 credit)**
    - 9440CT; 10-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Principles of Law*
  - **Forensic Psychology (1 credit)**
    - 9431CT; 11-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Principles of Law*
  - **Counseling and Mental Health (1 credit)**
    - 1514A/B; 11-12 grade
    - 2 semesters at Home Campus
    - *Prerequisite: 2 credits from any Level 1 or 2 course in Law Enforcement program of study*

- Level 4**
- **Forensic Science (1 credit)**
    - 9430CT; 11-12 grade
    - 1 semester at Ben Barber
    - **Science Credit**
    - *Prerequisite: Biology AND Chemistry, IPC, or Physics AND any Level 2 course in Law Enforcement program of study*
  - **Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security (2 credits)**
    - 9422CA/CB; 11-12 grade
    - 2 semesters at Ben Barber
    - *Prerequisite: Level 1 or 2 AND Level 3 or 4 course AND Selection Process*



### 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



### 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>