



# 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: Legal Studies

The Legal Studies program of study focuses on topics such as legal research, legal writing, rules of procedure, case management, law office technology, and legal ethics. Areas of the legal system studied include aspects of family law, criminal law, and contract law.

### Secondary Courses for High School Credit

#### Level 1 • Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security (1 credit)

- 9400CT; 9-12 grade
- 1 semester

#### Level 2 • Business Law (1 credit)

- 1215CT; 10-12 grade
- 1 credit at Ben Barber
- **Court Systems and Practices I (1 credit)**
  - 9415CT; 1 credit
  - 1 semester at Ben Barber
  - *Prerequisite: Principles of Law*

#### Level 3 • Court Systems and Practices II (1 credit)

- 9416CT; 11-12 grade
- 1 semester at Ben Barber
- *Prerequisite: Court Systems and Practices I*

#### 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 semesters)**
  - 9422CA/CB; 11-12 grade
  - 2 semesters at Ben Barber
  - *Prerequisite: Complete Level 1 or 2 AND Level 3 or 4 course AND Selection Process*



### Example Postsecondary Opportunities

#### Apprenticeships

- Law Apprenticeship

#### Associate Degrees

- Paralegal Studies
- Court Reporting and Captioning

#### Bachelor's Degrees

- Legal Research
- Legal Studies

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

- Juris Doctorate
- International and Comparative Law

#### Additional Stackable IBCs/Licensures

- Paralegal



### Example Aligned Occupations

#### Court Reporters

Median Wage: \$51,177  
Annual Openings: 174  
10-Year Growth: 11%

#### Paralegals and Legal Assistants

Median Wage: \$56,310  
Annual Openings: 4,046  
10-Year Growth: 23%

#### Lawyers

Median Wage: \$134,158  
Annual Openings: 3,915  
10-Year Growth: 19%

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>