

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 fun ctions 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

Aligned Advanced Academic Courses

Students should be advised to consider these course opportunities to enrich their preparation. AP or

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Visit a police department

Participate in TSA or SkillsUSA

Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

role of detectives in law enforcement

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.

Dual credit offerings will vary by local education agency.

Shadow a detective to learn about investigations and the

Intern in dispatch at a local law enforcement agency to

learn about first responder roles and processes

Level 1	•	Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security	

Level 2 •	Law Enforcement I
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Level 3 Law Enforcement II

Level 4 Forensic Science

Dual Credit

Work-Based

Opportunities

• IAED Emergency Telecommunicator

Learning Activities

Expanded Learning

Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security



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: Texas Wages, Texas Workforce Commission, Retrieved 3/8/2024.

