

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

- Level 2**
 - Law Enforcement I
 - Criminal Investigation
 - Federal Law Enforcement and Protective Services

- Level 3**
 - Law Enforcement II
 - Correctional Services
 - Forensic Psychology
 - Counseling and Mental Health
 - Crisis Care (TBD)

- Level 4**
 - Forensic Science
 - Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security
 - Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security + Extended Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security
 - Career Preparation for Programs of Study
 - Career Preparation for Programs of Study + Extended Career Preparation

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

- IAED Emergency Telecommunicator
- Non-Commissioned Security Officer Level II License



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: 5461
0-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>



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Course Information

	Course	Prerequisites Corequisites	Career Clusters
Level 1	Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security* 13029200 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: None Recommended Corequisites: None	
Level 2	Law Enforcement I 13029300 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Criminal Investigation 13029550 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Federal Law Enforcement and Protective Services* 13029800 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Recommended Corequisites: None	
Level 3	Law Enforcement II 13029400 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Law Enforcement I Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Correctional Services 13029700 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Forensic Psychology N1303012 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Law Enforcement I and Psychology Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Counseling and Mental Health 13024600 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: Principles of Human Services Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Crisis Care* TBD (TBD credit)	Prerequisites: TBD Corequisites: TBD Recommended Prerequisite: TBD Recommended Corequisites: TBD	
Level 4	Forensic Science 13029500 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: one credit in Biology, one credit in Chemistry, Integrated Physics and Chemistry, or Physics Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisite: None Recommended Corequisites: None	

* Indicates course is included in more than one program of study.

For additional information on the Law and Public Service career cluster, contact cte@tea.texas.gov or visit <https://tea.texas.gov/cte>

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Course Information

Level 4

Course	Prerequisites Corequisites	Career Clusters
Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security* First Time Taken: 13030100 (2 credits) Second Time Taken: 13030110 (2 credits)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: None Recommended Corequisites: None	
Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security + Extended Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security* First Time Taken: 13030105 (3 credits) Second Time Taken: 13030115 (3 credits)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: None Recommended Corequisites: None	
Career Preparation for Programs of Study* First Time Taken: 12701121 (2 credits)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: None Recommended Corequisites: None	
Career Preparation for Programs of Study + Extended Career Preparation* First Time Taken: 12701141 (3 credits)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: None Recommended Corequisites: None	

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