



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

Level 3 • Law Enforcement II

Level 4 • Forensic Science
• Career Preparation for Programs of Study + Extended Career Preparation



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

- IAED Emergency Telecommunicator
- 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>



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Statewide Program of Study: Law Enforcement

Course Information

Level	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	
	Law Enforcement I 13029300 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security Recommended Corequisites: None	
Level 3	Law Enforcement II 13029400 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: Law Enforcement I Recommended Corequisites: None	
	Forensic Science* 13029500 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: One credit in Biology, one credit in Chemistry, Integrated Chemistry and Physics (IPC), or Physics Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: None Recommended Corequisites: None	
Level 4	Career Preparation for Programs of Study + Extended Career Preparation* First Time Taken: 12701141 (3 credits)	Prerequisites: At least one Level 2 or higher CTE course Corequisites: None Recommended Prerequisites: 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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