

Criminal Justice / Public Safety FAQs

Does my student need any previous experience before taking this class?

No previous experience is needed before taking this course.

If my student attends this course, should they go to college or straight to the workforce?

Most law enforcement agencies require applicants to be at least 20 to 21 years of age to apply. Therefore, students will have several years after high school before they can apply. Most law enforcement agencies require a high school diploma and either 60 hours of college credit (this is the equivalent to an associate degree at most colleges), military, or some type of related work experience following high school to apply.

How much homework can a student expect from this course?

There is some homework, but students have class time to get most work done in class.

What expenses will I incur? Fees, book rental or purchase, tool costs, etc?

Most years the students are required to purchase a class uniform consisting of a class t-shirt and one of three types of pants. The cost of the uniform varies from about \$35.00 to \$45.00 depending on which pair of pants the student selects. Some financial assistance is available if the cost of the uniform creates a burden for a family.

If I want a career in one of the public safety fields, what should my major be in college?

There are several colleges in the Tri State area that offer a criminal justice program. Taking a foreign language class would also be beneficial. While seeking employment after high school and before turning 20 or 21, I would recommend any type of job that you have to deal with the public, write reports and do conflict resolution. This type of employment can assist you in the interview process for a criminal justice job. Examples would be security jobs, residential assistants (RAs) in college.