



Law Enforcement Career Guide

Created by USF Department of Criminology

POLICE OFFICER

Provide public service through routine patrols, response to motor vehicle accidents and medical emergencies, enforcing local, state, and federal laws, investigating crimes, assisting in apprehension of violators



EDUCATION

B.A. Criminology/B.S. Criminal Justice

Second Major or Minor: Foreign Language, Psychology



Salary

\$56,980*



Skills & Qualifications

Willingness to listen and ask questions
Integrity & respect for authority
Effective oral & written communicator
Empathy towards others
Possess sound judgement
Physically fit & 21 yrs old (minimum age)
Fluent in foreign language



Job Outlook

5% growth*
2012-2022

SHERIFF

Elected position that oversees county correctional facilities, supervise patrol officers/departments, small investigative units, fulfill responsibilities according to community's needs



EDUCATION

B.A. Criminology/B.S. Criminal Justice + Extensive experience in law enforcement

Second Major or Minor: Foreign Language, Political Science



Salary

\$56,810*



Skills & Qualifications

Active listening skills
Ability to make sound decisions quickly
Negotiation skills in hostile situations
Experience as a police officer or corrections officer
21 yrs old (minimum age)
Legally eligible to carry a firearm



Job Outlook

Varies upon need

STATE TROOPER

Enforce vehicle safety laws on highways, interstates, respond to accident scenes, conduct accident investigations, prepare court reports, testify in court



EDUCATION

AA/AS, or B.A. Criminology/B.S. Criminal Justice (preferred)

Second Major or Minor: Foreign Language



Salary

\$58,720*



Skills & Qualifications

Physically fit
Self-motivated
Ability to work in all types of weather conditions
Able to work independently or in a group
Strong basic math skills
Effective written & oral communicator
Sound judgement and self-control
Ability to perform in stressful situations
Successfully complete training academy



Job Outlook

5% growth*
2012-2022

VICTIMS ADVOCATE

Provide expert care to victims of crime by managing psychological, physical, financial, and/or emotional stress



EDUCATION

Bachelor's Criminology, Psychology, Social Work, Education

Second Major or Minor: Foreign Language, Psychology, Criminology



Salary

\$59,100*



Skills & Qualifications

Excellent listening, problem-solving, teamwork skills
Experience in law enforcement or social work
Empathy and desire to help others
Fluent in second/foreign language
Previous experience internship/volunteer work with victims



Job Outlook

10% growth*
2014-2024

Sources:
<http://www.criminaljusticedegreeschools.com/criminal-justice-careers/>
http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm
<http://www.fbiagentedu.org/salaries/>
<http://www.usmarshals.gov/careers/faq.html>

* Indicates national median salary and job outlook statistic according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Please note statistics may vary by state.