

Careers

Criminal justice professionals work in local, state, federal, or private agencies. Criminal justice social workers make recommendations to courts, prepare presentencing assessments, and provide services to prison inmates, parolees, probationers, and their families. They are also employed as probation officers and correctional treatment specialists.

Law enforcement officers (criminal investigators, police, and detectives) maintain law and order, collect evidence and information, and conduct investigations and surveillance.

Workers in related occupations include correctional officers, private detectives and investigators, security guards, and gaming surveillance officers.

Salary

Students with two-year criminal justice degrees qualify for most entry-level positions (security officers, law enforcement officers, correctional officers) with starting salaries of \$26,560 to \$33,600. Median annual earnings of correctional officers and jailers were \$44,700 in 2004. According to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the starting annual salary for federal correctional officers was about \$26,747 in 2005. First-line supervisors/managers of correctional officers were \$44,720 in 2004. Probation officers and correctional treatment specialists earned an average annual salary of \$39,600 in 2004. Child, family, and school social workers' median annual earnings were \$34,820 in 2004; police and patrol officers were \$45,210 in 2004; supervisors were \$64,430 in 2004; detectives and criminal investigators were \$53,990 in 2004.

Total earnings can vary with payments for overtime, usually significantly. Online career sites show police patrol officer positions with one year of experience and an associate's degree in salary ranges from \$34,800 to \$49,000. Detective positions with an associate's degree and two to four years experience show offers of \$28,000 to \$42,000 annual salary. FBI special agent positions are listed with salaries in the \$42,548 to \$64,478 range.

Job Outlook

At the local and state levels, growth is likely to continue as long as crime remains a serious concern. A more security-conscious society and concern about drug-related crimes and acts of terrorism should contribute to the increasing demand for police and security services. The level of government spending determines the level of employment for police officers, detectives and special agents, causing job opportunities to vary from year to year.

Education & Training Options

Montgomery College offers an associate of applied science degree (A.A.S.) in criminal justice. (*See reverse for criminal justice curriculum.*)

■ Degree

A strong academic core forms the basis of the program, and, combined with specialized career courses, offers the graduate the alternatives of entering the field or continuing in an institution of higher learning.

■ Workforce Training

The A.A.S. curriculum prepares students for employment in the criminal justice profession.

Contact @ MC

Rockville Campus240-567-7477
www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/soancj

Criminal Justice Curriculum

Degrees, Certificates, and Letters of Recognition

Montgomery College is authorized by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) to offer four degrees (associate of arts, associate of science, associate of applied science, and associate of arts in teaching) and certificates. In addition, the College recognizes students who satisfactorily complete certain course sequences with letters of recognition.

Some curricula are offered at all campuses, whereas others are limited to one or two. When a curriculum is offered at a specific campus, it is indicated by G for Germantown, R for Rockville, or TP for Takoma Park/Silver Spring.

Admission to Montgomery College is open to all.

Math, English, and reading assessment tests are required prior to registering. (Some students may be exempt from assessment. Consult the *Montgomery College Catalog* for criteria.) Financial aid and scholarships are available to qualified candidates.

Take the next step.

Complete an Application for Admission form (online @ www.montgomerycollege.edu/admissions/mcadmiss.htm) or call 240-567-5000 for information.

Criminal Justice A.A.S. (R): 314

First Semester

CJ 110	Administration of Justice	3
EN 101	Techniques of Reading and Writing I	3
	Health foundation	1 (3)
	Mathematics foundation	3
SO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3
	Arts or humanities distribution	3

Second Semester

CJ 111	Introduction to Law Enforcement or	
CJ 230	Introduction to Corrections	3
CJ 221	Criminal Law	3
	English foundation	3
PS 101	American Government	3
PY 102	General Psychology	3

Third Semester

CJ 215	Organization and Administration	3
	CJ electives	6
	Speech foundation	3
	Natural sciences lab distribution	4

Fourth Semester

	CA or CS elective	3
CJ 242	Theory and Practice	3
CJ 244	Contemporary Issues	3
	CJ or behavioral/social science elective	3
	Elective	3

Total credit hours 62 (64)