

BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Penn State Berks Criminal Justice baccalaureate degree program provides strong preparation for the growing market in corrections, parole and probation, law enforcement, and the court system. The program provides a strong foundation for students interested in a criminal justice career. Graduates of the Criminal Justice degree program will be well prepared to work in all phases of the criminal justice system or to continue their studies in graduate or law school.

Penn State Berks offers both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Criminal Justice. The Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice is an expanded liberal arts program and includes skill in a foreign language. This is an excellent choice for those students whose career direction requires a more broad-based understanding of American and international culture. The Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice allows students to focus their degree by developing a structured skill set designed to meet their specific career goals.

Gain Marketable Experience in College

Students will have access to several career development opportunities, including undergraduate research with faculty members and an opportunity to complete an internship.

Graduate Education

Graduates of the Criminal Justice degree program will be well prepared to continue their studies in law school or pursue master's and Ph.D. degrees.

Academic Minors

Enhance your degree with one of the college's academic minors; the following are recommended for Criminal Justice majors.

- Business
- Information Science & Technology
- Psychology
- Security & Risk Analysis
- Spanish



Job Titles and Salaries

The following is a list of job titles and salaries, which was compiled from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. This is only a partial list to provide you examples of the kinds of jobs available to graduates with a B.A./B.S. in Criminal Justice. Some positions require additional experience.

Title	2018 Median Pay
Correction Officer	\$44,400
Criminologist	\$82,050
Deputy U.S. Marshal	\$63,380
Law Librarian	\$59,050
Legal Stenographer	\$57,150
Paralegal Assistant	\$50,940
Police and Detective	\$63,380
Social Worker	\$49,470



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Career Opportunities

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that industry job growth in the field of criminal justice is growing faster than the average of all occupations. Bachelor's degrees are required for most federal jobs.

Jobs in this field include three major categories of positions that encompass careers in both governmental and private settings. These opportunities include protective services, law and corrections, and crime-related prevention and support. Potential career paths include but are not limited to:

- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Inspector
- Substance Abuse and Behavioral Counselor
- Police and Detective
- Border Patrol Agent
- Deputy U.S. Marshal
- Special Agent—DEA, FBI, ATF, IRS, and Secret Service
- Local, County, and State Police
- Criminologist
- Police Dispatcher
- Court Clerk
- Law Librarian
- Legal Secretary
- Legal Stenographer
- Paralegal Assistant
- Polygraph Examiner
- Arbitrator, Mediator, and Conciliator
- Security Guard
- Correction Officer
- Jail Officer
- Social Group Worker
- Warden

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Admission Process

Applying for degree admission to Penn State Berks is simple. Applications are available on the web at berks.psu.edu. Penn State reviews applications throughout the year. Students can expect a decision within four to six weeks after completing the process. Contact the Berks Admissions Office with your questions at 610-396-6060.

Transfer Students

Penn State Berks welcomes students who began their education at other institutions. Contact the Berks Admissions Office with your transfer questions at 610-396-6060.

Financial Aid

Eligibility for all financial aid is determined by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form available on the web at fafsa.ed.gov. Contact the financial aid coordinator at Berks or visit psu.edu/studentaid for a complete description of the types of available student aid and the application process at 610-396-6070.

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