



SOCIAL SCIENCE / HUMAN SERVICES

Corrections and Police Science

Careers

Correctional officers are charged with overseeing individuals who have been arrested, are awaiting trial or other hearing, or who have been convicted of a crime and sentenced to serve time in jail, reformatory or penitentiary. Police officers, detectives and special agents are responsible for enforcing statutes, laws and regulations designed to protect life and property.

Correctional officers maintain and observe inmate conduct and behavior to prevent disturbances and escapes. Many correctional officers work in small county and municipal jails or as deputy sheriffs or police officers with wide-ranging responsibilities. Others are assigned to large state and federal prisons where job duties are more specialized. Regardless of the setting, correctional officers maintain order within the institution, enforce rules and regulations and may supplement whatever counseling inmates receive from psychologists, social workers or other mental health professionals.

Many law enforcement officers spend much of their time interviewing witnesses and suspects, apprehending fugitives and criminals, collecting evidence and providing testimony in court. Others spend most of their time patrolling a designated area to preserve the peace and to prevent crime. They resolve problems within the community and enforce laws governing motor vehicle operations. Sheriffs and deputy sheriffs generally enforce the law in rural areas or places where there is no local police department. Detectives and special agents work as plainclothes investigators, gathering facts and collecting evidence for criminal cases. They conduct interviews, examine records, observe the activities of suspects and participate in raids or arrests.

Job Outlook

Employment of correctional officers is expected to grow 16 percent between 2006 and 2016, faster than average. Job opportunities in most local police departments will be excellent for qualified individuals, while competition is expected for jobs in State and Federal agencies. Average employment growth is expected.

Increasing demand for correctional officers will stem from population growth and rising rates of incarceration. Mandatory sentencing guidelines calling for longer sentences and reduced parole for inmates are a primary reason for historically increasing incarceration rates. Some States are reconsidering mandatory sentencing guidelines because of budgetary constraints, court decisions, and doubts about their effectiveness.

Earnings

Median annual earnings of correctional officers and jailers were \$35,760 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$28,320 and \$46,500. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$23,600, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$58,580. Median annual earnings in the public sector were \$47,750 in the Federal Government, \$36,140 in State government, and \$34,820 in local government. In the facilities support services industry, where the relatively small number of officers employed by privately operated prisons is classified, median annual earnings were \$25,050.

Median annual earnings of first-line supervisors/managers of correctional officers were \$52,580 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$38,920 and \$67,820. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$33,270, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$81,230. Median annual earnings were \$51,500 in State government and \$52,940 in local government.

Related Careers

- Correctional Treatment Specialist
- Detective
- Gaming Surveillance Officer
- Probation Officer
- Security Guard

Corrections and Police Science Careers

Educational Opportunities in Corrections and Police Science at LCCC

Certificate of Proficiency in Police Science

The objective of the Certificate Program is to supply current information and knowledge to the police science fields to individuals already employed as criminal justice officers or persons who are preparing themselves for full or part-time employment in a local police agency. The program is structured that the general needs of the student are met as far as practicable in a certificate program. All coursework listed below can be used to satisfy the requirements of the Associate Degree in Police Science. Lorain County Community College has articulation agreements with colleges and universities including programs offered by Lorain County Community College's University Partnership.

Associate of Applied Science in Justice Systems – Police Science

A police science graduate could expect to seek and gain employment in either public or private agencies and organizations requiring employment of those with law enforcement, investigative and related backgrounds. Lorain County Community College has articulation agreements with colleges and universities including programs offered by Lorain County Community College's University Partnership.

Associate of Applied Science in Justice Systems – Corrections

The Justice Systems-Correction program leads to employment or advancement in local, state and federal public and privately-managed corrections facilities and community-based corrections programs. Corrections graduates also find employment in the expanding areas of crisis intervention, post-incident care, personal and group counseling services, in substance abuse response, and with local, juvenile justice systems. Lorain County Community College has articulation agreements with colleges and universities including programs offered by Lorain County Community College's University Partnership.

Other Related Educational Opportunities at LCCC

LCCC Police Academy

This course of training consists of approximately 640 hours of instruction, which exceeds the minimum OPOTC requirement of 558 curriculum hours. Classes will generally be scheduled Monday through Friday from 8 am – 5pm. However, the LCCC Police Training Academy reserves the right to schedule limited evening and Saturday sessions for specialized training.

LCCC will award 12 hours of equivalent Criminal Justice class credit to those candi-

dates that successfully complete the Police Training Academy. This credit will be available to those students that enroll in a regular academic program at LCCC at a later date. Those candidates with previous college credits for equivalent criminal justice classes will be considered as non-credit students. The course of instruction offered at the Lorain County Community College (LCCC) Police Training Academy will qualify the student to take the required Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) certification test for the position of Police Officer.

Educational Offerings through LCCC's University Partnership Youngstown State University

Bachelor of Science in Applied Science in Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice degree program is designed for those students who have completed an associate degree in criminal justice. The goal of the BSAS program is to provide advanced educational opportunities beyond the technical scope of the student's associate degree. The program provides students with additional knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will enhance their career mobility in the criminal justice field.

In addition, the degree program allows students to pursue further education at the graduate level. The program is based on a two-plus-two concept where the associate degree courses provide the technical education for the first two years of the baccalaureate degree program. The plus-two component consists of additional criminal justice core courses, a selection of multi-disciplinary courses, and general University requirements. The general education courses can all be LCCC courses.

Faculty interests include criminology, juvenile delinquency, juvenile violence, police management, correctional counseling, judicial processes, legal research, criminal law and procedure, crime prevention, victimology, research methods and statistics, and computer applications in criminal justice.

Cleveland State University

Bachelor of Arts in Public Safety Management

The bachelor of arts in public safety management degree is designed to equip public safety officials with additional management and communication skills to address the needs of their urban constituents; allow for in-depth study of community safety needs and problems, as well as providing; analytical tools for addressing injustice for those living and working in urban settings; provide access to faculty members with governmental and public management expertise; and prepare students for future career challenges in public safety services.

About Lorain County Community College

Lorain County Community College is one of Ohio's leading colleges delivering distance learning education via the Internet. The College has expanded its delivery of its programs and services through the opening of the Learning Center in Lorain, Brunswick and the Wellington Center. Partnerships with Lorain County's K-12 school districts have also led to important developments for the community. More than 1300 high school students participate in the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Program by enrolling in LCCC classes, making LCCC the state's largest community college provider of PSEO. More than 30 percent of Lorain County's top high school graduates choose to attend LCCC.

LCCC is one of Ohio's fastest growing colleges because of the variety of learning opportunities it provides. Students can choose from more than 80 educational programs. Students can complete the first half — and sometimes more — of a bachelor's degree. The University Partnership brings eight universities to the LCCC campus offering 40 bachelor's and master's degree programs. With the University Partnership at LCCC, the College partners with the state's finest universities to bring the best in bachelor's and master's degree programs right to the LCCC campus. Students can earn degrees that get them jobs immediately. Students can upgrade, retrain and improve current life skills. Students can learn in the classroom, at home and over the Internet.

LCCC offers a complete college experience. We understand that there's more to college life than attending classes. We offer many of the programs, sports, and activities available at large four-year universities and colleges. But, students will not have to stand in line behind juniors and seniors in the classroom, on the playing field, or in leadership positions. Students can immediately act in a play, sing in a musical group, serve as editor for the college newspaper, plan social activities, compete on the playing field, or set policy as a student government member.

In addition to providing a great education for those who enter college with aspirations of a degree, LCCC helps those who have changed their career goals, who want to broaden their horizons, and who want to return to work. LCCC provides learning and training for those who want to move up but find they need new or improved skills for the kind of professional opportunities they seek.

LCCC faculty is recognized locally and nationally for their work as professors and in other areas. They all have advanced degrees and real-world experience and understand their primary responsibility at LCCC is to teach classes. Classes are small. Individual attention is plentiful.

An LCCC education, prepares students for real jobs and real futures. To find out more, call (800) 995-LCCC or visit LCCC's Connections Center, the Lorain Learning Center, the LCCC Learning Center in Wellington and in Brunswick for all of your enrollment service needs, including admissions, registration, advising and counseling.



**Lorain County
Community College**



**The University
Partnership**

of Lorain County Community College

1005 N Abbe Road
Elyria, OH 44035
www.lorainccc.edu