

ACHIEVE TEXAS

ALIEF ISD COUNSELORS: PROMOTING COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS



Thousands of challenging educational and training opportunities are offered in the highly skilled Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Career Cluster. These opportunities continue to expand in the areas of corporate, industrial, homeland security and public safety.

Sample Occupations:

- ◆ Judge
- ◆ Attorney
- ◆ Paralegal
- ◆ Court reporter
- ◆ Police officer
- ◆ Correctional officer
- ◆ Probation/parole officer
- ◆ Immigration and customs inspector
- ◆ Fire fighter
- ◆ Rescue worker (EMT, paramedic)
- ◆ Emergency dispatcher
- ◆ Loss prevention specialist
- ◆ Information systems security specialist
- ◆ Certified security officer
- ◆ Park ranger

5 Career Pathways within the cluster:

1. Emergency and fire management
2. Security and protective services
3. Law enforcement services
4. Legal services
5. Correction services

Fast-Growing Careers

Occupation	% Growth (2002-2012)	New Jobs (2002-2012)
Security Fire Alarms Systems	33.0%	5,850
Detective and Criminal Investigator	30.0%	17,000
Paralegal	30.0%	22,750
Police/Fire/Dispatchers	23.0%	7,950
Fire Inspector and Investigator	23.0%	1,600
Child, Family, and School Social Worker	22.0%	17,800
Ambulance Driver	2.0%	550
Police and Sheriffs Patrol Officers	21.0%	9,750
Firefighters	21.0%	31,750
Private Detectives and Investigators	18.0%	5,150

This is a projection of 10 fast-growing careers in Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security in Texas from the year 2002 to 2012 and the number of new jobs created in each occupation. Note that whereas the percentage of growth in jobs may be high, the actual number of jobs created may be low. For example, there will be only 50 new jobs for arbitrators, mediators, and conciliators created in Texas during the decade that the data covers. Source: Texas Workforce Commission.





Top-Paying Careers

Occupation	Average Wage	Entry-Level Wage	Experienced Wage
Lawyer	\$59.91	\$28.79	\$75.46
First-Line Supervisor / Manager of Police	\$33.75	\$22.92	\$39.17
Administrative Law Judges	\$33.51	\$11.96	\$44.28
Judge, Magistrate Judge, Magistrate	\$28.17	\$8.03	\$38.24
Detectives and Criminal Investigators	\$26.87	\$17.95	\$31.34
Arbitrators, Mediators and Conciliators	\$25.35	\$14.81	\$30.62
Fire Inspectors and Investigators	\$24.23	\$16.12	\$28.29
Paralegal and Legal Assistant	\$23.46	\$15.61	\$27.39
Police and Sheriff Patrol Officers	\$23.08	\$16.05	\$26.60
Firefighters	\$22.12	\$15.25	\$25.56

This is a chart of hourly wages for 10 of the top-paying careers in the Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security cluster in Texas. Note how entry-level wages are often much lower than pay for the average worker and experienced workers in each profession. Source: Texas Workforce Commission.

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Q & A

- 1. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice employs how many corrections officers?*
- 2. How much extra pay can a state trooper make if he/she has a college degree and speaks a second language?*
- 3. What is the oldest law enforcement organization on the North American continent with statewide jurisdiction?*

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security— Courses in Alief

- Business Law
- Public Speaking or Debate
- Social Studies Research Methods
- Special Topics in Social Studies
- Sociology
- Psychology
- AP Psychology
- JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp: Air Force, Marines, and Navy)

LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY



Required Knowledge and Skills

What's the most important high school class you can take when you want to prepare for a career in Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security?

Talk to the experts and you'll learn that the most important course for aspiring police officers, fire-fighters, or lawyers is English.

Language skills are important across the cluster. Attorneys must write case briefs, and read and comprehend changes in the law. Paramedics must be able to communicate clearly with 911 dispatchers when lives are on the line. Police officers must write detailed, clear, and accurate reports of crime scenes and investigations.

A solid background in core academic courses such as math and science is also important.

To become forensic investigators like the ones on CSI, students have to master high school biology and chemistry and obtain a four year degree in science.

Additional classes include such topics as how to interact with the public, human relations, criminal procedures, and interpersonal skills.

Source: Achieve Texas In Action Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Magazine (www.achievetexas.org).

For more information on courses in the Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security cluster in Alief, go to the Achieve Texas Student Career Planner under the Student tab on the Alief home page.

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

