

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Program Number: 10-504-2

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Campus: Fond du Lac

This program is eligible for financial aid (<http://www.morainepark.edu/financial-aid/>)

Prepare for a variety of public safety and human service positions and begin a rewarding career with the Criminal Justice associate degree program at Moraine Park.

About the Program

The Criminal Justice program prepares students to take on a variety of roles in the criminal justice field. This accredited, two-year program prepares students to work within community-based programming, less restrictive settings, such as group homes, to highly-restrictive maximum-security prisons and careers in law enforcement.

To be successful in this program, students must have strong ethical standards, supportive attitudes and positive values. They must also be effective listeners and negotiators.

What You'll Learn

To prepare for work in the criminal justice field, students must learn to manage emergencies, conduct investigations, interpret legal standards and think critically. Students gain the communication, social and people skills needed to succeed in the field. Criminal justice students also learn valuable counseling skills.

Graduates of Moraine Park's program qualify for various roles at correctional facilities and can expect to earn \$19.89 per hour in various positions.

Students may begin criminal justice employment immediately upon graduation, transfer into a bachelor's degree program in criminal justice, or work to get the combination of experience and education required for specific positions such as probation and parole agent. Many current professionals enroll in the program to advance their career.

Transfer Opportunities

Your academic journey can continue at a four-year college or university. Earn your associate degree at Moraine Park and then apply those credits toward a bachelor's degree. Starting at MPTC makes completing a bachelor's degree **affordable, accessible and convenient**. You can go anywhere as MPTC has transfer agreements with colleges and universities both in Wisconsin and throughout the country.

Visit the Transfer to a Four-Year College (<https://www.morainepark.edu/transfer-to-a-four-year-college/>) page for more information on credit transfer agreements between Moraine Park and four-year colleges, both public and private.

Admission Process

Standard Admissions (<http://www.morainepark.edu/admissions/new-student/how-to-apply-for-admissions/>) steps details

This program also requires:

- Criminal Background Check

Credit for Prior Learning

Transform the skills and abilities developed through previous experience into college credit through MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning process.

- Transfer credit from other colleges/universities
- Earn college credit for your military training and experience
- Earn college credit via Advance Placement, CLEP, DANTES/DSST or MPTC Challenge Exams
- Earn college credit from previous/current work and life experiences

Visit MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning (<https://www.morainepark.edu/academics/credit-for-prior-learning/>) page for more information.

Approximate Costs

NOTE: The fees below are 2025-2026 fees. They will be updated when 2026-2027 fees are approved.

Tuition

Occupational

- \$152.85 per credit (resident)
- \$229.28 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Associate of Arts/Associate of Science

- \$192.20 per credit (resident)
- \$288.30 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Online students are not charged out-of-state fees.

Student Fees

- \$5.00 minimum per course Material Fee
- \$13.76 per-credit Supplemental Fee for Undergraduate courses
- \$4.50 per term mandatory Student Accident Insurance Fee

Please refer to Tuition & Fee Information (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/admissions-registration/tuition-fee-information/>) for additional enrollment fee information.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available for associate degree and technical diploma programs (those that are 2 semesters in length and typically with 28 credits or more). Processing can take 4-5 weeks after a student's completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>)) is received.

Several factors influence the total cost of your degree, including enrollment fees, the number of credits required, textbooks and equipment. [Financial aid \(https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/\)](https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/) can assist with those costs.

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Semester 1		
103-159	Computer Literacy - Microsoft Office	1
504-108	Foundations in Policing	3
504-110	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
504-155	Stress Management	3
504-181	Culture Competence in Criminal Justice	3
801-136	English Composition 1	3

890-101	College 101	2
	Credits	18
Semester 2		
504-112	Corrections and Incarceration	3
504-114	Fundamentals of Communication	3
504-115	Telecommunications	3
504-117	Documentation in Criminal Justice	3
809-198	Introduction To Psychology	3
	Credits	15
Semester 3		
504-113	Criminal Investigation	3
504-143	Community Supervision	3
	Communication Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/communications/)	3
	Social Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)	3
	Behavioral Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)	3
	Credits	15
Semester 4		
504-116	Alcohol and Drug Awareness in Criminal Justice	3
504-136	Paraprofessional Counseling	3
504-158	Criminal Justice Internship	3
504-165	Law and Code	3
504-167	Emergency Response and Operations	3
	Mathematics Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/mathematics/) or Natural Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/natural-science/)	3
	Credits	18
	Total Credits	66

Statewide Median Salary for Recent Graduates

\$49,916

Program Outcomes

- Think critically.
- Manage emergencies.
- Communicate effectively.
- Demonstrate professionalism.
- Conduct investigations.
- Interact with others.

Pathways

- Criminal Justice Associate Degree (p. 1)
 - Emergency Dispatch Certificate (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/emergency-dispatch-certificate/>)

Earn a certificate and an associate degree along this pathway. Start with some courses for entry-level employment, and continue with additional courses for higher wages and job advancement.

Career Opportunities

- Correctional Officer
- Psychiatric Care Technician
- Shelter Care/Group Home Worker
- Home Detention Specialist
- Youth Counselor
- County Social Service Specialist
- Teacher Assistant
- Probation and Parole Agent