



# Career Profile for Police Science

[www.mc.maricopa.edu](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu)

**General Program Description:** The **Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Police Science** prepares students to enter a career in law enforcement. The program emphasizes laws, the criminal justice system, investigations, patrol, and other functions specific to law enforcement. The curriculum combines coursework in police science with General Education components. The optional **Certificates of Completion (CCL) in Victimology, Judicial Studies, and Forensic Investigation** provide a stepping path leading to the AAS degree and/or certificates/certifications.

**Advancement Options:** Police officers usually become eligible for promotion after a probationary period ranging from six months to three years. In large departments, promotion may enable an officer to become a detective or to specialize in one type of police work, such as working with juveniles. Promotions to corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain usually are made according to a candidate's position on a promotion list, as determined by scores on a written examination and on-the-job performance.

**Projected Job Growth:** This occupation has a projected **37% growth rate** over 10 years (between 2003 and 2013) for the Greater Phoenix region. There are an average projected **488 job openings each year**, comprised of 287 new jobs and 201 positions vacated by individuals leaving the field (due to retirement, death, career changes, or other reasons).

Location	Pay Period	Bureau of Labor Statistics - 2006 Salaries*		
		Entry-level	Median	Experienced
United States	Hourly	\$13.13	\$22.82	\$34.83
	Yearly	\$27,300	\$47,500	\$72,400
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$18.13	\$23.97	\$30.49
	Yearly	\$37,700	\$49,900	\$63,400
Arizona	Hourly	\$17.15	\$23.75	\$30.39
	Yearly	\$35,700	\$49,400	\$63,200

For more career information for Police & Sheriff Patrol Officers, Special Agent, and Corrections Officer, visit:  
[www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco), [www.maricopa.edu/workforce](http://www.maricopa.edu/workforce),  
<http://www.acinet.org/>, or  
[www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/)

For MCC program information, contact  
**Ellyn Ness, Department Chair**  
**Administration of Justice Studies or visit**  
<http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept2/legal/>

\*Labor market information provided by AZ Dept of Economic Security in cooperation with the U.S. Dept of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wages will vary depending on the employer, location, hours worked, experience, responsibility and other factors. Career and Re-Entry Services will collaborate with academic and occupational program departments to develop internship and career experience opportunities.

**Sample Job Titles:** Police Officer, Sheriff Patrol Officer, FBI Special Agent, Corrections Officer, Private Investigator, U.S. Marshall, Park Ranger, Animal Control Officer, Border Patrol Agent

**Types of Employers:**  
 Municipalities, Private Organizations, United States Federal Employment

**Local Employers who posted related jobs on the Maricopa Career Network:** City of Mesa Police Dept., U.S. Border Patrol, Arizona Public Service, Ak Chin Indian Community

**Professional Associations**  
**National Sheriff's Association**  
<http://www.sheriffs.org>

**For current job openings, go to**  
**Maricopa Career Network**  
<http://mcmaricopa.jobing.com/>.

**National Law Enforcement**  
**Recruiters Association**  
<http://www.nlera.org>

## Police and Detective Overview At-A-Glance

- Protect lives and property
- Pursue and apprehend individuals who break the law
- Wear a uniform
- Usually scheduled to work 40 hour weeks, but overtime is common
- Work can be dangerous and stressful  
[www.azcis.intocareers.org](http://www.azcis.intocareers.org)

**For additional information on Police Science careers or to watch occupational videos, visit:**

Arizona Career Information Systems (AzCIS)  
[www.azcis.intocareers.org](http://www.azcis.intocareers.org)  
 User name: mesacc; Password: 4azcis02

Career Voyages  
[www.careervoyages.gov](http://www.careervoyages.gov)

**Internships** are supervised practical training in a short-term or temporary position with an emphasis placed on instruction, training, mentoring, networking and gaining applied work experience. These positions may be paid or unpaid. Contact Career and Re-Entry Services for internship information: 480-461-7430.

Internship Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service-Learning** is a teaching and learning method that connects meaningful community service with academic learning through guided reflection. Contact the Center for Service- Learning for more information: 480-461-7393.

Service-Learning Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Transfer Options:** Contact Transfer Services for more transfer information: 480-461-7452.

**Career Assessments Completed:**

Career Assessment / Results	Date Completed	Reviewed by

**Career Readiness Workshops / Activities Completed:**

Workshop Name / Activity	Date Completed	Follow Up Contact (s)
Resume Writing Workshop		
Resume completed and reviewed by:		
Participate in Mock Interview		
How To Prepare for a Career Fair		
Attend Career Fair / Job Expo Location:		
Joined Professional Association:		

**MCC Career and Re-Entry Services**  
**Providing Guidance for Career and Workplace Success**

For more Career Profiles, visit

<http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/students/career/careerprofiles.html>

Meet with a Career Advisor in Bldg #36, Room SS5N - adjacent to the Kirk Student Center, 480-461-7430

