

Criminal Justice

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

This two-year program is open to juniors and seniors. Skills and competencies taught will include an overview of the criminal justice system, law enforcement, community policing, criminal acts and impacts on society, the U.S. Constitution, criminal codes, work-readiness, interpersonal communication, and problem-solving skills. Students will work with personnel in the criminal justice and public service agencies (Vancouver Police Department, Sheriff's Office, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Courts, Juvenile Justice, etc.). Many students will want to further their education at the community or four-year college level to enter this field.

Students in the Criminal Justice Program will learn:

- ◆ Criminal and Civil law
- ◆ Investigative Procedures
- ◆ Career Options
- ◆ Law enforcement ethics
- ◆ How laws are created and can be changed
- ◆ The definition of crime and alternatives to incarceration
- ◆ What constitutes an illegal substance, and actions required
- ◆ How to defuse hostile situations
- ◆ Conflict resolution
- ◆ Record keeping, technical writing and technology
- ◆ Understanding and working with diversity
- ◆ Professional Development/Leadership skills
- ◆ Safety issues as related to Criminal Justice
- ◆ Basic self-defense
- ◆ Crime scene investigation
- ◆ Patrol techniques

PROGRAM BENEFITS:

- ◆ 3 High School credits
- ◆ Competency Certificate
- ◆ Leadership opportunities through Skills USA
- ◆ Preparation for next level of education/training
- ◆ Opportunity for scholarships
- ◆ Internship opportunities
- ◆ Successful completion of the program, with a grade of "B" or higher, may result in college credit

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION:

- ◆ Licensed Security Agent in Oregon state upon passing required tests

PREREQUISITES:

- ◆ Career interest in the criminal justice field
- ◆ Completed Criminal Justice application with criminal background check required prior to enrollment for first and second year students
- ◆ Good attendance – no more than five unexcused absences per year during ninth and tenth grade
- ◆ Ability to work with people
- ◆ Good oral and written communication skills
- ◆ Provide own transportation to training sites
- ◆ Application process for second year students requires successful completion of the first year program and teacher recommendation.

STUDENT COSTS:

- ◆ Family medical insurance **or** student accident insurance is required.
- ◆ Vehicle insurance required if student is driving to class.
- ◆ Class Sweat shirt \$30 - \$40

ORGANIZATIONS:

- ◆ Possible enrollment in Skills USA
- ◆ Possible enrollment in Criminal Justice Explorer programs

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES – Entry Level

- ◆ Local and state law enforcement cadets
- ◆ Records and reception clerk in local, state/federal juvenile & adult correction agencies
- ◆ Private Security

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES – With Further Education

Police and Law Enforcement:

- ◆ Communication/Dispatch
- ◆ Custody Officer
- ◆ Police Officer
- ◆ Corrections Crew Chief
- ◆ State Police
- ◆ Local, State and Federal Prosecutors and Defense Attorneys
- ◆ Positions within Local, State/Federal Juvenile and Adult Courts
- ◆ US Department of Customs
- ◆ Local, State and Federal Private Security and Investigation Agencies
- ◆ Washington State Fish and Game Department
- ◆ Internal Revenue Service
- ◆ Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- ◆ Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- ◆ Secret Service
- ◆ US Marshall
- ◆ Forensic Lab

Courts:

- ◆ Criminal Defense Attorney
- ◆ Prosecutor
- ◆ Judge
- ◆ Court Reporter
- ◆ Court Administrator

Corrections:

- ◆ Correctional Officer – state and federal
- ◆ Correctional Counselor – state and federal
- ◆ Detention Officer – county
- ◆ Probation Officer – state and federal
- ◆ Case Worker – state and federal
- ◆ Parole Officer – state

BACKGROUND CHECK APPROVAL FORM

The nature of work in the Criminal Justice Field requires a higher level of security than many other occupations. Therefore, a background check must be completed prior to selection to the Criminal Justice Program. A state and national background check will be conducted. Any felony conviction, misdemeanor convictions involving theft, assault, drugs and/or alcohol, serious criminal driving offenses and excessive traffic infractions will disqualify you from participation in the Criminal Justice Program. For that reason, we request that you provide the following information:

Student Participant: Name: _____
(Legal Last) (Legal First) (Middle)

Date of Birth: _____ **Social Security #** _____ **Driver's License** _____
(State)

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional pages if necessary.

1. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? _____

If yes, include an explanation.

2. Have you ever been on probation or diversion through juvenile court? _____

If yes, include an explanation.

3. List all traffic citations that you have received.

I understand the need for background information on the participants in this program.

I also understand that there will be no dissemination of any of this information to others. I also understand that if there is a conviction/violation while enrolled in the program, I will be excluded from job shadows and internships and may be removed from the program.

I further understand that I must provide my own transportation to the downtown Vancouver classroom site as well as to job shadows and internship opportunities. On the days that class meets at the Skills Center, I must ride the bus from my high school to the Skills Center (if bus service is provided).

I authorize Clark County Skills Center or its agent to conduct a background check on the student participant listed. I understand that this background check may include information concerning any traffic, misdemeanor or felony charges resulting in convictions.

I hereby authorize, without reservation, any law enforcement agency, institution, information service bureau or school contacted by the Clark County Skills Center or its agent to provide any information regarding the student participant applicant's criminal background.

I acknowledge that a telephone facsimile (fax) or photographic copy shall be valid as the original.

Parent/Guardian Name - Please Print

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date