

## A.A. in Criminal Justice

### Description of the Criminal Justice Program:

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Hostos Community College offers an Associate in Arts (A.A) degree in Criminal Justice as a jointly registered, dual admission program with the existing Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (B.A.) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. The program will provide HCC students with the first two years of the program required at John Jay. Upon successful completion of the lower division at HCC, students will have a seamless transition to the upper division of the Baccalaureate program at John Jay. The dual/ joint program will offer increased educational opportunities for Hostos students. Students entering the program will be granted dual admission to HCC and John Jay. John Jay guarantees admission and 60 credits in transfer to HCC students who complete the A.A. degree in Criminal Justice.

**For more information, see link below**

<http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/Office-of-Academic-Affairs/Academic-Advisement/Criminal-Justice-AA.pdf>

### Skills:

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**Communication Skills:** People who work in criminal justice come face-to-face with people from diverse backgrounds. The ability to communicate with (and earn the trust of) a wide range of people serves them well.

**Attention to Detail:** Police officers, prosecutors and other law enforcement workers must pay great attention to detail.

**Analytical:** Ability to identify and analyze social problems and develop solutions. Ability to quickly analyze situations and apply problem-solving skills to diffuse stressful and potentially dangerous situations.

**Critical Thinking:** For example, detectives performing an accident reconstruction must build a clear and logical narrative from small and sometimes

contradictory pieces of evidence, such as tire tracks, witness statements, road conditions and so forth.

**Physical Skills:** Criminal justice can be fast-paced and dangerous work, particularly for police officers and correctional officers. They must use physical skills to perform their jobs (such as a foot pursuit of a suspect) and protect themselves (from an inmate uprising or attack from a suspect). This includes skill with firearms, non-lethal weapons and hand-to-hand self-defense techniques

**Research:** Virtually all sectors of criminal justice require some level of investigation, and a great deal of investigation involves records research. Investigators must often use databases and digital archives of police reports and other documents

### Employment Opportunities:

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Law Enforcement, Investigator, Legal Assistant, Corrections Officer, Parole Officer, Cyber Crime, Bailiff, Police Officer, Computer Forensics, Body Guards, Airport Security, Private Security

### Employment Outlook:

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Employment of police and detectives is projected to grow 4 percent from 2014 to 2024, slower than the average for all occupations. The continued desire for public safety is expected to lead to new openings for officers, although demand may vary by location.

**Career Path:** <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/protective-service/police-and-detectives.htm>

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The median wages for police and detective occupations in May 2016 were as follows:

- \$78,120 for detectives and criminal investigators
- \$59,680 for police and sheriff's patrol officers
- \$66,610 for transit and railroad police

**Career Coach** – Search career information and current local wage data

<https://hostos-cuny.emsicc.com/careers/police-patrol-officer>