

## Reasons to Attend Prairie State College

- Fully accredited
- Credits that transfer
- Small classes
- Great career programs
- Dedicated professors
- Convenient scheduling
- Free tutoring and open computer labs

## Admissions

Prairie State College offers “open admission” that encourages diversity and admits all high school graduates or the equivalent.

Here’s how to start your college career at PSC:

- Provide a high school diploma or GED.
- Take the COMPASS Placement Test or submit a copy of ACT scores.
- Meet with an advisor from Counseling and Advising to select courses. For questions, contact an academic advisor at (708) 709-3506.



## Financial Aid

Prairie State College’s tuition is affordable, and financial aid is available through a variety of sources. More than 50 percent of our students receive financial aid.

The first and most important step in applying for financial aid is filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A FAFSA is required whether you receive federal or state financial aid, loans, grants, or scholarships.

### Forms of financial assistance include:

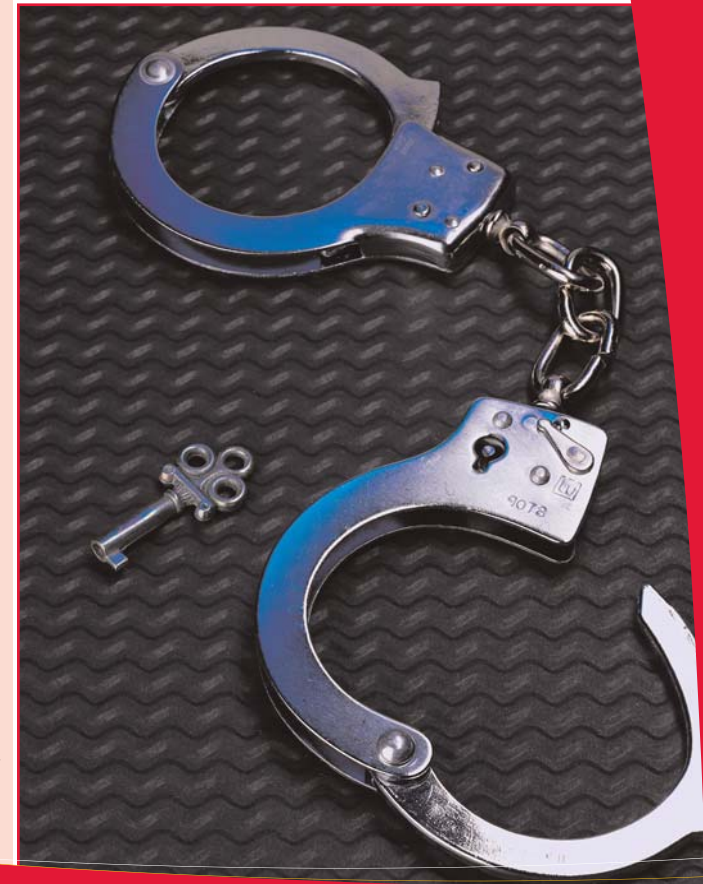
- Pell Grant
- MAP Grant
- Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant
- Subsidized Stafford Student Loans
- PLUS Loans
- Work Study
- Scholarships
- Veterans Benefits

### PSC Financial Aid Opportunities:

- PSC Board of Trustees Scholarships cover tuition and fees for two years.
- The PSC Foundation awards more than \$75,000 in scholarships annually to students who are not fully funded through any other source. Find out more at [prairiestate.edu](http://prairiestate.edu), go to choose a link, and click on scholarships.

For more information about how to obtain financial aid, call (708) 709-3562 or e-mail Alice Garcia at [agarcia@prairiestate.edu](mailto:agarcia@prairiestate.edu).

## Criminal Justice



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 **Prairie State College**

202 South Halsted Street | Chicago Heights, IL 60411  
(708) 709-3500 | [prairiestate.edu](http://prairiestate.edu)

Start *near*. Go *far*.

 **Prairie State College**  
[prairiestate.edu](http://prairiestate.edu)

# Criminal Justice

## The Program

In today's security conscious world, the need for skilled criminal justice personnel is greater than ever. Prairie State College's (PSC) criminal justice program prepares students for employment in the criminal justice system. It also prepares those currently employed by law enforcement agencies for advancement. In addition, it provides a background in criminal justice for those preparing to study pre-law or pursuing advanced study in law enforcement and security management.

## Degrees & Certificates

- Criminal Justice– A.A. Transfer Degree
- Criminal Justice Services – A.A.S. Degree
- Criminal Justice Services – Certificate

## Proficiency Credit Available

Proficiency credits are available for actively working full-time police officers and corrections officers who are certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board as a law enforcement officer or corrections officer. Consult the program coordinator or an advisor for details.

## For More Information

Contact Kenneth O'Keefe, coordinator of criminal justice, at (708) 709-3763, or e-mail [kokeefe@prairiestate.edu](mailto:kokeefe@prairiestate.edu).

## Career Opportunities

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, a more security conscious society and population growth will contribute to the increasing demand for police and security services. Opportunities in local police departments will be excellent for individuals who meet the psychological, personal, and physical qualifications. In addition, employment growth openings will be created to replace workers who retire.

### Career opportunities include:

- Correctional officer
- Conservation officer (fish and game)
- Crime scene investigator (CSI)
- Crime lab analyst
- Criminologist
- Immigration and Customs enforcement
- Emergency telecommunicator (911)
- Homeland security specialist
- Police officer
- Police investigator
- Federal agent (FBI, DEA, IRS, ATF, Marshals)
- Military police officer or investigator
- Parole agent
- Probation officer
- Private investigator
- Security officer
- Transportation security
- Youth officer

## About the Curriculum

PSC's program provides a foundation in criminal justice services for those who are planning careers in the social and criminal justice fields. Students learn to think critically, use complex problem-solving skills, and manage information. Students also learn how to apply the principles of communication and human behavior to their jobs. Field trips to correctional institutions and other facilities supplement the curriculum. PSC's classrooms and labs provide a hands-on environment for the high-quality training employers look for in potential employees. Classes are conveniently scheduled with evening courses available.

To view the curriculum for this program, visit [prairiestate.edu/worksheetmain.html](http://prairiestate.edu/worksheetmain.html).

