Potential Career Options

Below is a sample of related career options; for some, additional experience and/or further education may be helpful or required.

**Crime Scene Investigation**

Crime Scene Investigators (CSIs) work at crime scenes, collecting and processing evidence then analyzing it and sharing the results in a written report. CSIs complete a variety of tasks, including deciding what evidence should be collected, gathering physical evidence, and securing the evidence for the crime laboratory. In addition, a CSI may photograph evidence, create a drawing of the crime scene, and write down detailed information about the crime scene itself.

**Forensic Science**

This field of study focuses on the application of science and scientific methods to understand all aspects of a crime, including the perpetrator and the causes. Those studying forensic science take courses in physical sciences, such as biology and chemistry, as well as others related to DNA and fingerprint analysis, crime scene procedure, and other types of forensic analysis.

**Government**

Many federal government departments employ agents to ensure the safety of the citizens of the United States and uphold specific areas of federal law. Requirements vary by agency, though all include a training period. Federal agents may work for many different government organizations; three of the largest are the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Border Patrol.

**Law Enforcement**

The central task of a law enforcement agent is to protect the lives and property of those under his or her jurisdiction, as well as ensure the public’s safety. This career can involve a myriad of tasks, including directing traffic, patrolling areas for suspicious activity, and investigating criminal behavior.

**Security**

Security personnel have many different roles, but the primary task is to prevent crime. The presence of security personnel on the premises often serves as a deterrent to potential lawbreakers. Security personnel work in public and private buildings, as well as retail and wholesale establishments.

**Sample Job Titles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Crime Analyst</th>
<th>Detective</th>
<th>FBI Agent</th>
<th>Forensic Expert</th>
<th>Lawyer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airport Security Personnel</td>
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<td>Bailiff</td>
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<td>Bodyguard/Personal Protection Officer</td>
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<td>Border Patrol Agent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corrections Officer</td>
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</table>

**Associations/Societies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aafs.org">www.aafs.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Correctional Association (ACA) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aca.org">www.aca.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Jail Association (AJA) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.americanjail.org">www.americanjail.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.appa-net.org">www.appa-net.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Society of Criminology (ASC) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.asc41.com">www.asc41.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Society of Forensic Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)</td>
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<td>International Association of Women Police (IAWP)</td>
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<td>International Community Corrections Association (ICCA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.iccalive.org/icaa">http://www.iccalive.org/icaa</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jrsa.org">www.jrsa.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>National Black Police Association (NBPA) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.blackpolice.org">www.blackpolice.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ncja.org/home">www.ncja.org/home</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Justice (NIJ) *</td>
<td><a href="http://www.crimesolutions.gov">www.crimesolutions.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.trynova.org">www.trynova.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.southerncj.org">www.southerncj.org</a></td>
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</table>

* Contains employment listings
Career Information Resources

Vault is a comprehensive career resource that includes industry and profession overviews; rankings and profiles for employers and internship programs; a job and internship database; career articles, blogs and videos; sample resumes, cover letters and interview questions, and over 100 career guides. A selection of the Vault Guides is listed below.

Career Launcher:  
Education  
Law  
Law Enforcement and Public Safety  
Vault Career Guide to:  
Criminal Justice Careers  
Law  
U.S. Military Careers  
Vault Guide to…  
Education  
Government Agency Careers  
Law  
Litigation Law Careers

Note: Refer to the CPDC website for a link to Vault as well as the CPDC Tip Sheets and Handshake job postings.

Selected RMU Activities & Organizations

Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
College Democrats  
College Republicans  
Colonial Advocates for Childhood Homelessness and Education  
Community Advisors  
Criminal Justice Society  
Early Success Program (ESP) Mentors  
First Year Student Mentors  
Nonprofit Leadership Association  
Office of Engaged Learning and Community Involvement  
Philosophy Club  
Pre-Law Society  
Psychology Club  
S.A.F.E. (Student Alliance for Equality)  
Society for Human Resource Management  
Student Government Association  
Student Program Board  
Thrive Leaders

Bachelor-Level Practicum Organizations

Allegheny County Juvenile Probation  
Allegheny County Police Department  
Allegheny County Sheriff’s Department  
City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Public Safety  
Fraternal Order of Police, Fort Pitt Lodge #1  
North Fayette Police Department  
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
United States Postal Inspection Service  
Washington County Corrections Facility

Note: A helpful list of general job search websites is available on the Internet Tip Sheet at www.rmu.edu/cpdc.