

Is a Criminal Justice Degree the Right Choice?



There are situations in which a Criminal Justice degree may not be the right degree for you. For example, if you are pursuing a career in early childhood education or the culinary arts, then a Criminal Justice Degree may not be appropriate. A Criminal Justice Degree will serve you well especially if you have a desire to work in the criminal justice field as well as a good credit history and a clean criminal record.

Factors that will negatively impact a career in Criminal Justice:

- If you have a **criminal record** that's filled to the brim with domestic violence and felony convictions
- If you have **DUIs** that are recent or repetitive. In most law enforcement agencies a DUI is an instant disqualifier.
- If you have a history of extensive **drug use**. Law enforcement agencies vary on their tolerance on a past history of drug use.
- If you have **poor credit record** (collections, judgments, bankruptcies). Those individuals with recovering credit, showing significant improvement may still be considered.
- If you're nearing the national average cut off **age** of 36. Many law enforcement jobs have age requirements and restrictions.
- If you have **little interest** in the field earn a degree in another area.
- If you only want a **desk job** / office job – other degrees are more suitable. Most Criminal justice jobs are dynamic and require officers/agents to be in the field.