

Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement

Q: How do I apply to a criminal justice program?

Go to the MSTC webpage at www.mstc.edu and click on the “Get Started” button. From there follow the “5 easy steps” for program application.

Q: Do I need to attend a program orientation?

Yes, you need to attend a program orientation as well as a college orientation. The college orientation is called *Smart Start*. The *Smart Start* sessions include important student information relative to student services, financial aid, course registration, etc. The orientation process is as follows:

1. You will receive written communication from the MSTC admissions office with a list of several *Smart Start* sessions.
2. You will receive a separate written communication from the criminal justice department identifying the *Smart Start* dates that will include a criminal program orientation (the criminal justice orientation will offered on the same date.) Note: not all *Smart Start* sessions have a criminal justice program orientation attached to them.
3. The criminal justice program orientation will meet either before or after the *Smart Start* session. The letter you receive from the criminal justice department will identify the date and time of the criminal justice program orientation.
4. Using the contact information located in the *Smart Start* you receive, choose a *Smart Start* session with the same date as the criminal justice program orientation and register for the session.

Q: How do I know what courses to register for?

At the criminal justice program orientation you will receive all the information you will need to register for the appropriate courses.

Q: Are the courses offered online?

Course in the criminal justice program are not currently offered online.

Q: Can I take the program on a part-time basis?

You may enter the program anticipating that you will complete the program on a full-time basis and circumstances may change, requiring only part-time participation. Part-time participation is allowed, if you follow the direction of your program advisor. Your advisor will ensure that your

courses are taken in a rationale sequence. Your program advisor will be assigned to you in the couple of weeks of your first semester in the program.

Q: Will my criminal or driving history affect my opportunities for employability?

Consider the following educational and occupational requirements and expectations before you commit your time and money into a program, which might not be suitable for you. Mid-State Technical College is looking for students who are prepared to meet the academic rigors of the criminal justice programs and who know the time and effort it takes to be successful in the classroom. We are also looking for students who have made wise decisions in their life experiences and who have not had to suffer the consequences of poor decision making. Consider the following **before** making a **commitment** to this program and occupation.

- No criminal felony convictions.
- Clear criminal history.
- No domestic violence convictions.
- No misdemeanor convictions.
- Valid driver's license.
- No serious driving violations.
- Physically fit.
- No history of emotional problems.
- Good verbal communications skills.
- Good written communications skills.
- Ability to work through conflict rationally and calmly.
- No biases toward other genders, races, nationalities or religions.
- No use of illegal narcotics.
- No sexual orientation biases.

Q: If I am a transfer student, how will prior coursework from another school(s) affect my eligibility at MSTC?

To be eligible for the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) criminal justice credentialing you must complete the "core" curriculum (criminal justice courses) at MSTC. Core course transfer from other Wisconsin Technical College System colleges will be acceptable, if you earn a letter grade of "C" or better.

You may complete the criminal justice degree without DOJ credentialing, in which case there is greater flexibility in credit transfer.