

# Criminal Justice

## Which employers have hired Montana State University Billings Criminal Justice graduates?

Billings Police Department	Alternatives, Inc.	Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office
MT Division of Criminal Investigation	Montana Women's Prison	Yellowstone County Detention
Montana Department of Corrections	Transportation Security Administration	Yellowstone County Attorney's Office

## What is the average annual wage/potential lifetime earnings for professionals working in the Criminal Justice field?

Occupation	Annual wage range in MT*	Potential lifetime earnings**
Police & Sheriff Officer	\$48,390 - \$66,020	\$64,610 x 39 yrs = \$2,519,790
Correctional Officer	\$37,620 - \$47,440	\$47,290 x 39 yrs = \$1,844,310
Probation Officer	\$37,200 - \$59,360	\$60,250 x 39 yrs = \$2,349,750
Fish & Game Warden	\$51,580—\$59,660	\$60,730 x 39 yrs = 2,368,470

\*Based on wage data in the Montana Career Information System

\*\*Potential lifetime earnings are based on national median wage of occupations in accordance to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## What percentage of Criminal Justice graduates report having a job after graduating?

Out of the 38% of 2022 Criminal Justice graduates that we received grad data on, **100% reported being employed\* after graduation.**

\* Employment includes employment in major, employment not in major, continuing education, and military service.

## Employment opportunities with advanced degrees or experience:

- Detective / Investigator
- FBI Agent
- Criminologist
- Attorney at Law

## Not sure if Criminology is for you?

**1.** Take an introductory class in the program such as Introduction to Sociology. Keep mental notes or a journal to track what you like and dislike!

**2.** Get a part-time job in the field. Check out CareerLink by scanning the QR Code for the latest job openings!



### Career & Employment Services

E-mail: [careers@msubillings.edu](mailto:careers@msubillings.edu) Phone: (406) 657-2168

Web: [www.msubillings.edu/careers](http://www.msubillings.edu/careers)

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# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## Overview of the Criminal Justice program:

Do you have an interest in criminal behavior and the justice system? Criminal justice students delve into the sociology behind criminal behavior for an understanding of why people break laws and how it influences society. Our program includes instruction in law enforcement, corrections, the legal system, criminology, inequality, violence, and victimization.

Students develop the problem-solving skills to be professional and ethical while learning how to appropriately handle a variety of challenging situations. With a degree in criminal justice, you will use research methods and scientific evidence to understand and control crime.

We incorporate internships into our curriculum to provide practical hands-on learning and a chance for our students to assess their career options. The Billings area is surrounded by an abundance of internship and career opportunities from the police force, court system, government services, addiction treatment centers, and correctional facilities.

## What makes your program unique?

Students showcase their original research projects in a supportive and professional setting at MSU Billings' annual Research and Creativity Conference. This gives students a chance to work with their faculty, to take the knowledge gained in classrooms, and share insights with the world around them.

## What students like most about the Criminal Justice program?

Students appreciate the well-rounded curriculum of the criminal justice program that has a strong sociological foundation. They also like the opportunity to gain real world experience at an internship in their field of study.



Department Webpage:

<https://www.msubillings.edu/class/nams/index.htm>

