

Public Service

Making a positive impact

If you're interested in making a positive impact in your community, a **public service career** is a viable option. These careers offer work in a variety of environments from back office to forward-facing. Many times, these roles come with visibility in your community. All come with public accountability.

Some believe a career in public service is exclusive to government work or positions that have limited pay. But, you'll see from the Career Pathway chart on this report that there are a multiple of ways to serve the public while reaching personal financial goals and career satisfaction.

A significant aspect of public service involves working in public safety. **Public safety** provides a proactive as well as reactive approach to protecting individuals as part of local, state, and national jurisdictions. Jobs in this sector are typically extensions of government entities who are tasked with keeping the public safe from harm, including anything from widespread disasters to individual crimes. According to Wikipedia, "**public safety organizations include law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services.**"

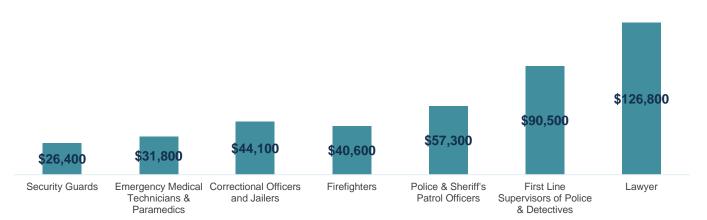
A multitude of jobs exist in this sector, from crime prevention to response and aid. Occupations in this field include police officers, EMS personnel, probation officers, and lawyers, for example. Some positions may be funded through government specific grants to address specific local crime issues, while others are obtained through public election.

FAST FACTS	NEARLY 32,000 EMPLOYED IN THE SECTOR IN THE REGION
EMPLOYERS RANGE FROM POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO PARAMEDIC, FIRE & RESCUE TO FISH & WILDLIFE.	\$67,123 AVERAGE WAGE FOR JUSTICE, ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY OCCUPATIONS

TOP INDUSTRY EMPLOYERS (2021)

Company	Number of Employees
City of Jacksonville	5,236
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office	3,832
St. Johns County Sheriff's Office	737
Clay County	532
Baker Correctional Institution	400

AVERAGE WAGES & EMPLOYMENT



Public Service Pathway

TALENT PIPELINE

3.000

Military vets these jobs

Regional colleges & degree or certificate programs with **Public Service** (or related) concentrations

- Edward Waters College
- Florida State College at Jacksonville
- Jacksonville University
- Neiser University
- St. Johns River State College
- University of North Florida
- Flagler College

Graduate Level

- Criminal Justice, Master of Arts (MA)
- Homeland Security, MA
- Public Policy, MA
- Criminology and Criminal Justice, MS (

ADVANCED DEGREE

Lawyers

(Avg. Annual Wage: \$120,300)

Manager, Public Administration (\$74,987)

Bachelor Level

- Organization Management
- Criminal Justice, BA
- Forensic Investigations, BS
- Criminology/Criminal Justice BA
- Political Science
- Pre-Law
- Sociology
- Psychology

4-YEAR **DFGRFF**

Emergency Management Directors

(Avg. Annual Wage: \$81,300)

- **First Line Supervisors of** Police & Detectives (\$90,500)
- **Forensic Science Technician** (\$50,600)

Associate Level

- Paralegal Studies, Associate of Arts
- Paralegal Studies, Associate of Science (AS)
- Emergency Medical Service, AS
- Emergency Admin. & Mgmt. AS
- Criminal Justice Technology, AS Computer-Related Crime
- Investigations, AS
- Fire Science Cadet Academy, AS
- Crime Scene Technology, Homeland Security and Criminal Justice

2-YEAR **CERTIFICATE**

- **Paralegals and Legal** Assistants (Avg. Annual Wage: \$48,000)
- **Detectives and Criminal** Investigators (\$77,200)

*Completing the Fire Science Academy also qualifies graduates for positions below.

(Avg. Annual Wage: \$48,900)

Paramedics (\$31,800)

Attendants (\$22,400)

Ambulance Drivers and

Emergency Medical Technicians &

Correctional Officers and Jailers

Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers

Certificate Level

- Florida Private Investigator I, II
- Florida Corrections Officer Academy
- Paramedic •
- **Emergency Medical Technician**

CERTIFICATE

1-YEAR (OR LESS)

- Firefighter I, II
- Florida Law Enforcement Academy
- Criminal Justice Technology Specialist, Technical Certificate
- (EMT) •

Entry Point

Criminal Justice, Firefighting (and relevant CTE courses)

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Security Guards

Firefighters

(\$44,100)

(\$57,300)

(Avg. Annual Wage: \$26,400)

Police, Fire and Ambulance Dispatchers (\$38,200)

Academic Career Planning Awareness & Support, Workforce Advising, Faculty Mentoring On-the-job Training Hours, Internships, Related Work Experience

Regional Job Opportunities in **Public Service**

Correctional Officers

Title Examiners

Lawyers Paralegals

Detectives & Investigators

Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers

Parole Officers

Bailiff

Social Service Specialists

Project Management Specialist

Firefighters

Court, Municipal & License Clerks

First Line Supervisors of Support Workers

Compliance Officers

Secretaries & Administrative Assistants

File Clerks

Bookkeeper

Paramedic

Emergency Medical Technician

Residential Advisors

Social & Community Service Managers

Public Service—a community endeavor

Many choose positions in public safety because they have a strong interest in and commitment to keeping people safe. The way in which people are kept safe has evolved over time. Rather than appearing strictly punitive, those in public safety may be spearheading neighborhood walks, crime watches, and neighborhood engagement teams. Public safety is more often viewed as a community endeavor facilitated by those in positions of authority.



Earn Up is powered by JAXUSA Partnership, the private, nonprofit division of JAX Chamber that is Jacksonville's regional economic development initiative overseeing the efforts of the seven counties of Northeast Florida. Earn Up also works closely with CareerSource Northeast Florida to ensure that employers have the best assistance or any pertinent workforce needs. For more information, please contact:

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