

## **Career Community:**

Human Services, Social Services and Public Safety







Do you have a passion to serve others and your community?

Human and public services are filled with professions for those with a strong desire to help improve people's lives, making it safer, easier and more fulfilling for others. You can be part of providing vital services, such as public safety, social support, education, employment, utilities, courts, legislation, law enforcement, community food and housing, and emergency and other relief services.

Consider these and other careers  job title/description	Entry- level annual wage	Canton average annual wage	Akron average annual wage
correctional officer guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit between jail, courtroom, prison, or other point. Includes deputy sheriffs and police who spend the majority of their time guarding prisoners in correctional institutions	34,300	45,900	43,400
paramedic assess injuries, administer emergency medical care, and extricate trapped individuals. Transport injured or sick persons to medical facilities	32,250	36,800	42,500
firefighter control and extinguish fires or respond to emergency situations where life, property, or the environment is at risk. Duties may include fire prevention, emergency medical service, hazardous material response, search and rescue, and disaster assistance	28,300	33,000	50,500
police officer omaintain order and protect life and property by enforcing local, tribal, State, or Federal laws and ordinances. Perform a combination of the following duties: patrol a specific area; direct traffic; issue traffic summonses; investigate accidents; apprehend and arrest suspects or serve legal processes of courts	43,500	55,000	63,800
social and human service assistant Assist in providing client services in a wide variety of fields, such as psychology, rehabilitation, or social work, including support for families. May assist clients in identifying and obtaining available benefits and social and community services. May assist social workers with developing, organizing, and conducting programs to prevent and resolve problems relevant to substance abuse, human relationships, rehabilitation, or dependent care	22,600	34,400	31,800

= high-demand, good-paying occupation: at least 1,000 job openings projected over 10-years (2022-2032) in the northeast 0hio region (9 counties in Akron, Canton and Cleveland MSA's) and jobs pay at least \$15/hour

<sup>\*</sup> may require further education; an advisor will help you determine your pathway source: JobsEQ® 2020

#### Critical skills and abilities

- active listening
- critical thinking
- · deductive reasoning
- problem sensitivity
- social perceptiveness

# Technical skills and knowledge

- customer and personal service
- education and training
- · law and government
- public safety and security
- · spreadsheet software

## **Short-term certificates** in this Career Community

police science

# Some local employers with jobs in this Career Community

American Medical Response Community Caregivers

City of Akron

City of Canton

Haven of Rest

Oriana House

OhioGuidestone

Portage Path Behavioral Health

Securitas

Stark and Summit county jails

### **Majors in this Career Community**

#### **EXPLORATORY MAJOR**

If you know this career community is the right fit for you but you're unsure of your major, choose the **human services, social services and public safety exploratory major** to get started in the right direction. Your first 15 credit hours are applicable to all majors within this career community and you'll get the experience to know which major is right for you.

#### **HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

#### **HUMAN SERVICES**

With a wide range of career opportunities in the field of human services, you'll graduate as a paraprofessional ready to meet the diverse needs of individuals and/or families in ways that help give them a more satisfying, self-sufficient way of life. Through a supervised practicum and classroom instruction, you'll be trained to become a human services worker who's knowledgeable about and sensitive to the unique needs and cultural diversity of people of all ages and socioeconomic circumstances.

**Chemical dependency major** Prepare to work with individuals and families affected by alcohol or other drug use. There's a growing need for qualified individuals to work with this population, and this degree will prepare you to become eligible for your chemical dependency counselor assistant phase I and II, and be ready to enter the field of addictions. After earning your associate degree, a year of supervised chemical dependency work along with passing the licensure exam will qualify you to become a licensed chemical dependency counselor II.

**Gerontology major** Learn and understand the normal but highly variable process of aging and human development. This major prepares you to be more effective in working with older adults and implementing programs and services for the elderly. Gerontology majors are professionals or paraprofessionals currently working in the field of aging, students who anticipate working with older adults and anyone interested in understanding the aging process for personal or professional reasons.

**Community corrections major** Focusing on rehabilitation, the criminal justice field has shifted to an emphasis on community social services for nonviolent offenders rather than incarceration. Administered by agencies or courts with legal authority, community corrections programs oversee offenders outside of jail or prison. With this degree, you'll be trained to work in the community corrections field as a correctional officer or work in a correctional facility, such as a halfway house or rehabilitation facility.

#### **JUSTICE STUDIES**

#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Study the investigation, resolution and punishment of criminal behavior in society through the correctional system. An associate degree in criminal justice will give you a quality, affordable start in transferring to a four-year program in criminal justice or criminology for jobs with federal law enforcement agencies such as the FBI and the U.S. Marshals Service or state agencies such as the Ohio Parole Authority.

#### **GOVERNMENT AND LEGAL STUDIES**

You'll assist government agencies in the preparation of documents, conduct research, provide customer service and perform a variety of other tasks in a government office. Expect civil service job opportunities at the city, county and state level.

#### **POLICE SCIENCE**

You'll be prepared for jobs such as municipal, township or village police officer; deputy sheriff; state wildlife officer; or other law enforcement positions. For current law enforcement officers, you can increase your opportunity for advancement in rank and enhance your leadership skills. Academic credit for the law enforcement academy portion of the program is available to officers who have successfully completed the Ohio Peace Officer Basic Training Academy. The majority of this degree can be completed online.

#### **PUBLIC SERVICES**

#### **EMERGENCY FIRE SERVICES**

You can learn to save lives, protect property, offer humanitarian and special services and safeguard the environment. You'll also become cross-trained to serve as a paramedic. Stark State's associate degree in emergency fire services includes the level I and II firefighter certification courses and EMT and paramedic certification courses.

#### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

The world of emergency medical services (EMS) is dynamic, changing and evolving continually. Paramedics have new challenges in the care of the ill and injured requiring a higher standard of learning, especially in light of national security. Stark State's associate degree in emergency medical services includes the EMT and paramedic certification courses.







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Some careers represented in this viewbook may require further education. The information provided is based on regional data and subject to change. Please see an SSC advisor to make sure you're on the path to success. / Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission / Stark State College is committed to non-discrimination. For the full policy: starkstate.edu/non-discrimination

