

NCTC Advising FAQ for Criminal Justice

[Career and Technical Programs](#)

1. What classes are in these Certificates and Degrees?

While we offer multiple technical pathways, which one you will follow and how closely you stick to it is dependent on the requirements for the program:

- **Criminal Justice AAS Degree:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/curricula-career-technical-education/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-associate-of-applied-science-degree.html>
- **Criminal Justice Certificate:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/curricula-career-technical-education/criminal-justice/criminal-justice-level-1-workforce-certificate.html>
- **AA Criminal Justice Pathway:** <http://www.nctc.edu/catalog/degree-transfer-pathways/association-of-arts/criminal-justice.pdf>

2. Are these majors and programs transferable?

Yes! The Associate of Applied Science degree, while tailored for career and employment, will transfer to several universities through AAS to BAAS (Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences) transfer programs. This applies to the AAS degree listed above. For more information and a list of participating institutions, please review the AAS to BAAS Guided Pathways:

http://ntxccc.org/pathways?field_aas_school_tid%5B%5D=7. Certificates do not transfer directly to a university, but they do all feed directly into the correlating AAS degree program. Then, once you have completed the AAS, you may transfer into a BAAS or other relevant bachelor's degree program at a university.

The AA (Associate of Arts) Criminal Justice Pathway degree is specifically designed for transfer to universities offering Bachelor of Criminal Justice degrees, however both the AAS and AA Criminal Justice degree are transferrable into bachelor's degree programs such as BA (Bachelor of Arts), BS (Bachelor of Science), and the BAAS mentioned above.

Working with both your advisor at NCTC and a transfer advisor at your intended transfer institution is important to make sure the process is as seamless as possible. For example, it may be possible to complete all of your required 42 hours of core curriculum at NCTC along with all your technical curriculum and then only have one year at a university to complete a bachelor's degree.

3. Can I use my Financial Aid for these majors and programs?

Absolutely! As long as you are staying on plan and in a Certificate, AA pathway, or AAS major (Occupational Skills Awards are not aid eligible, however your advisor can help you declared the related Certificate major). You will work with your advisor to create a plan that works best for your graduation and transfer requirements.

4. Do I have to take my classes in sequence?

Not entirely! While the sequence of courses is very important as they build your skills up from foundational to more advanced, some classes can be taken out of sequence if they are offered every semester. Some classes are Fall only or Spring only, so taking classes in the right order means not waiting a year for a class you need to become available again! Your advisor can assist you with determining which courses are offered by specific semesters.

5. How long will it take me to complete one of these majors?

Certificate programs are designed to be completed in one year (3 semesters)-Fall, Spring and Summer.

Associate of Applied Science and Associate of Arts degrees take around 2 years (5-6 semesters). However, this depends on whether or not you need to take pre-requisites or extra courses, how many credit hours you take per year (or semester), and sequencing of courses (as some courses are only offered during certain semesters). While they can certainly be completed within 2 years, it is not uncommon for these degree pathways to take up to 3 years, even as a full-time student. The goal is to make sure you are taking your classes in a way that you can be successful, and for many students that means not rushing through any academic requirements that may be a part of your program such as Math or English.

6. How can I complete this degree? Can it be done online and/or is this degree campus specific?

Most of the Criminal Justice programs can be done completely online, however there may be some in-person requirements such as for internships. Your academic courses in the AA or AAS plans can be taken online, limiting the amount of time spent on campus if needed. However you can choose to take any in-person or hybrid course options you like along with your online classes!

7. Will the credits I have from another college be applied to this degree and how do I apply them?

This will vary, pending on where and when you took them, and whether or not the courses you took apply to your major or pathway. To have your transcripts evaluated to transfer in any applicable credits, you will need to complete a [Transcript Evaluation Request](#). Transfer credits are NOT automatically evaluated and applied. While you are waiting on your transcripts to be evaluated, you are able to work with your advisor to verify pre-requisites and to pick classes you don't possibly have credit for already.

8. Can TCLOSE or other professional law enforcement training can be applied to this degree?

A student can review our [Experiential Credit Portfolio](#) guidelines and submit the required documents to [Dr. Cherly Furdge](#) *Division Chair, Criminal Justice, Public Administration and Management*. Dr. Furdge will review the portfolio and determine if credit can be awarded.

9. Which [NCTC advisor](#) or faculty can I contact for more information?

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Dr. Cherly Furdge

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10. Where can I access the recording of the Social Sciences and Criminal Justice Q&A session with NCTC advisors and faculty?

Just click the image below or visit [NCTC Student Life on YouTube](#) to locate any number of great videos!

