



## Attorney

**BACJ- related certificates and concentrations:** Either Law Enforcement or Victimology certificates/concentrations may benefit this career

**BACJ- related courses:**

- CRJU 3270 - Case Studies in Criminal Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3280 - Trauma Among Correctional Populations (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3285 - Trauma in the Criminal Justice System (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3290 - Capital Punishment (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3410 - Probation and Parole (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3420 - Pleas, Trials and Sentences (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3520 - Juvenile Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3575 - Offenders With Mental Health Disorders (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4044 - Courts and Judicial Process (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4100 - Administration of Criminal Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4120 - Race, Class, and Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4121 - Ethics in Criminal Justice (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4171 - Homicide Studies (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4200 - Wrongful Convictions (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4210 - Prisoner Reentry (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4410 - Criminal Law and Constitutional Procedures (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4430 - Law and Society (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4440 - Courts and Social Policy (3 Credits)

**Complementary/recommended minors:** Law Studies, English Writing, Philosophy, Ethics, Spanish, Psychology, Sociology, Human Development & Family Relations, Communication

**Recommended extracurricular activities and experiences:** Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society, study abroad, other community involvement and equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) experiences such as a student association or club (Auraria Pre-Law Society), volunteering in the community, or other experiences that expose you to communities and cultivate a service-minded perspective.

**Internship:** An internship within a law office, court or the state judicial offices may be beneficial

**Duties and Responsibilities:** There are many areas of law that an attorney may direct their focus. In the criminal justice system, these roles might primarily look like prosecution and defense attorneys and in these

cases an attorney would work to compile evidence and argue for their respective client. However, there are many other areas of law such as family law which may involve a criminal or victimization component, immigration law in which one may provide legal advisement or assistance with applications or legal matters involving immigration status and treatment, victim's rights law where one may provide legal advice to a victim or represent them against their offender.

**Work Environment:** Attorneys primarily work in offices but may have to commute to courts or meetings with clients or others.

**Work Schedule:** One thing many say about working as an attorney is the hours tend to be very long, there is no general cap on hours, but you can expect to be working more than 40-50 in most situations, particularly if working for a private firm.

**Career Path/Promotion:** The career path for attorneys varies. If working for a firm the career path may involve advancing based on case success. If working for the government, your career aspirations may involve running for a public office such as district attorney.

**Education, Training and Certification:** A bachelor's degree is required in order to attend law school. A BACJ is extremely helpful in providing a foundation for law school. A practicing attorney must attend law school for approximately 3 years then be licensed by the state in which they intend to practice law by passing the BAR exam.

**Skills and Competencies:** Problem solving, attention to detail, listening skills, observation, writing, service mindset, emotional intelligence, rhetoric, and analytical skills.

**Colorado Salary Averages:**

Bottom 10%: \$75,144

Top 10%: \$135,961

Median: \$104,627

**Median Salary in U.S.:** \$116,860