



Re-entry Specialist Career Brief

BACJ-related certificates and concentrations: N/A

BACJ-related courses:

- CRJU 4042 - Corrections (3 credit hours)
- CRJU 3285 - Trauma in the Criminal Justice System (3 credit hours)
- CRJU 3280 - Trauma Among Correctional Populations (3 credit hours)
- CRJU 3250 - Violence in Society (3 credit hours)
- CRJU 3220 - Community Corrections (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3410 - Probation and Parole (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3420 - Pleas, Trials and Sentences (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3510 - Drugs, Alcohol, and Crime (3 Credits)
- CRJU 3575 - Offenders with Mental Health Disorders (3 Credits)
- CRJU 4150 - Sex Offender and Offenses (3 credit hours)
- PSYC 3611 - Psychology of Women (3 credit hours)
- HDFR 4004 - Family and Comm. Prog. II Grant Writing/Fundraising (3 credit hours)
- HDFR 4090 - Helping Profession Skills in HDFR (3 credit hours)
- HDFR 4260 - Family Systems and Social Justice (3 credit hours)
- HDFR 4860 - Trauma Informed Care for Diverse Populations and Co-occurring Disorders (3 credit hours)

Complementary/recommended minors: Spanish, Psychology, Sociology, English Writing, 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, volunteering in the community, or other experiences that expose you to communities and cultivate a service-minded perspective.

Internship: Colorado Department of Corrections (DOC) offers internships in parole and community corrections, clinical services, and behavioral services. Community corrections divisions also offer deputy probation officer internships (6+ month commitment).

Duties and Responsibilities: As a re-entry specialist you'll have the important job of assisting offenders in reentering society successfully to aid in preventing re-offending. Adapted from the state of Colorado DOC: you may be responsible for assessing offender re-entry needs, barriers and strengths using formal and informal assessment tools; coaching offenders in the development of individualized transition plans based on assessed criminogenic needs and risks; delivering individualized case management and instruction in areas such as housing, employment, repairing family support systems, identifying thinking

errors, and developing decision making skills for pro-social change; facilitating group modules using evidence based curriculum, technology and interactive; providing transitional services including group facilitation, one-on one transition planning and open lab sessions in the Career and Community Resource Center to an assigned CDOC facility and/or Parole office; working with professionals to plan, develop, and implement Pre-Release/Community Re-Entry goals and objectives for offender-focused services; developing partnerships and collaborate with community organizations and other agencies to connect offenders with resources and services specific to their re-entry needs; increasing offender participation in transition and enhance their motivation to make positive change; maintain and analyze data, collect feedback and evaluate transitional service delivery and utilize information systems to maintain chronological records for re-entry planning.

Work Environment and Schedule: This may vary from standard 8am-5pm office hours to nontraditional hours during the day or night, graveyard shifts, etc. and may be in-office or out-of-office. Travel may be required. Corrections positions assume some level of risk, and injury or illness is possible. This career may be stressful. Shifts may be indoors or outdoors during all seasons.

Career Path/Promotion: Advancement to lead, supervisory or administrative roles are possible depending on education and experience.

Education, Training and Certification: Bachelor's degree or Master's degree plus two years of experience working with offenders typically required.

Special Considerations: Any government/criminal justice job will likely require an extensive background check, drug testing or other. Additionally, you may be required to complete Department of Corrections Basic Training in which you will need to have the physical ability to complete pressure point control tactics (PCCT), withstand impact, swing a baton, use arms, hands and feet to deliver strikes, and other defense tactics. Candidate may also be exposed to Oleoresin Capsicum (pepper spray).

Skills and Competencies: interpersonal/customer service skills; strong written and oral communication skills; highly effective critical thinking/decision making/problem solving skills; demonstrated ability to organize, plan and prioritize; keen ability to multi-task and demonstrate flexibility; attention to detail.

Colorado Salary Averages:

Bottom 10%: \$48,336

Top 10%: \$70,752

Median: \$59,544

Median Salary in U.S. as of 2021: varies widely depending on state or federal duties and guidelines for each position.

*Note that there are various re-entry related positions in the U.S. and the requirements, duties and salaries may vary considerably. This is only a general example of a re-entry specialist in Colorado.