



Frequently Asked Questions

Master of Arts Program in Criminal Justice (Sch. 27)

General Questions

Where is the School of Criminal Justice located?

The School of Criminal Justice is located in The Center for Law & Justice building, 123 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102, Suite 578 (5th floor).

Can I start the program for a term other than Fall?

No. The program begins only in early September. We only admit students into our graduate program in the fall term.

Can this program be taken on a Part-Time basis?

Students may take the program on a full-time or a part-time basis. Normally a full-time student can complete the program within 2 years. For International Students enrolling on a student visa they must enroll full-time. A full-time academic load for a graduate student is defined as nine credits per semester.

What is the average profile of students admitted to the M.A. program?

Our class profile:

- Average GRE scores: 153
- Average GPA: 3.5
- Percent International: 10%

**Students came from a variety of academic backgrounds, including arts and humanities, social sciences, business, social work, and law.*

Is on-campus housing available?

Yes. Graduate housing is available at the Rutgers-Newark campus. To find out more information about campus housing including rates, please visit the Housing and Residence Life Office website at <https://studentaffairs.newark.rutgers.edu/campus-life-events/housing-residence-life>.

Curriculum and Course Requirements

How many courses are required to complete the M.A. program?

Students must complete four (4) required courses and six (6) elective courses to create a concentration. For more information about the M.A. curriculum requirements, please refer to the online Master's Program Handbook at <https://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/graduate-program/handbook/>.

Do you offer any field placement course? Yes, masters students have the option to take a 3-credit fieldwork course (27:202:566) after completing three required courses (9 credits). The fieldwork placement course counts as an elective class. Only one fieldwork course may be registered during the M.A. program.

How do I transfer credits?

You must have completed twelve (12) credits of graduate coursework with grades of “B” or better before you can apply for credits to be transferred. You then complete an application for transferring credits. The form is available online on the school’s website (rscj.newark.rutgers.edu).

Note: current students enrolled in the M.A. program at SCJ must seek permission from the M.A. Program Director before enrolling in courses outside the program.

Class Schedule

Where are graduate courses in criminal justice held?

Most of the graduate courses are held in the Center for Law and Justice building, 123 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102 on the fifth floor.

When do classes meet?

- During the Fall and Spring semesters, classes meet one time per week (Monday through Thursday). Classes are scheduled throughout the day, the earliest a graduate course meets is at 10 a.m. Evening classes end around 9 p.m. Most of the graduate courses are scheduled after 1 p.m.
- We do not offer weekend classes.

For detailed information: <http://sis.rutgers.edu/soc/#home>

Application Process

When is the application deadline?

The application deadline is **May 1** for Fall admission (March 1, for international students).

Where do I obtain an application?

Applicants can apply online at: gradstudy.rutgers.edu

What supporting materials are required with my application?

Along with the submitted application and \$70 application fee, we require:

- Copies of official transcripts from all previously attended colleges/universities must be forwarded to the Office of Graduate Admissions directly from the sending institution;
- Test scores from a graduate standardized test such as the GRE, GMAT or LSAT or applicants can answer the program essay question in lieu of submitting test scores. (Rutgers University-Newark score code to send test scores is 2512);
- Three (3) letters of recommendation; and
- Resume and a personal statement.

Special Requirements for International Applicants: Additional requirements may be required if your undergraduate education was completed in a non-English speaking country, such as proof of English language proficiency and translation/evaluation of foreign transcripts. Students requiring an I-20 from for an F-1 student visa must also submit documentation of financial support. Please consult the international students’ admission information at <https://gradstudy.rutgers.edu/apply/overview> for details.

Are GRE’s scores ever waived?

No. However an applicant can answer the program essay question instead of submitting test scores. For more details refer to the program's application requirements online at <https://grad.admissions.rutgers.edu/GraduateProgram/>.

I already have a master's degree. Do I need to retake the GRE?

If your GRE scores are older than five years, you must retake the GRE, regardless if you have a post baccalaureate degree or not.

Should I come for an interview?

No, we do not conduct interviews as part of the application process. However, you can visit the campus to find out more information about the program.

Can I apply to the program as a non-matriculated student?

Yes, we do accept non-matriculated students. A non-matriculated student, also known as a non-degree student is only permitted to take a total of twelve (12) credits of elective courses before they must apply to the program for matriculation. Non-degree students are required to complete an application for admission for non-degree study and submit all supporting materials except the GRE scores by the appropriate application deadline (gradstudy.rutgers.edu).

Note: Taking courses as non-matriculated student does not guarantee your acceptance into the M.A. program.

Is an undergraduate degree in criminal justice required for admission?

No, we accept students from a variety of academic backgrounds.

When are admission decisions made?

Decisions are made after the application deadline (May 1). You should expect to hear a decision within three to four weeks. You can check your application status online at: gradstudy.rutgers.edu

Fees and Financial Aid

What is the cost of tuition?

Please consult the Tuition and Fees link below for a complete fee schedule for the School of Criminal Justice's Master's program (School 27).

<https://finance.rutgers.edu/student-abc/tuition-fees>

What financial aid or assistance is available?

Students in this program are eligible for financial aid and assistance that are currently available to all graduate students (i.e. state and federal loans and grants). To find out more information about financial aid assistance, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at 973-353-5151 or at studentaid.rutgers.edu .

Federal School Code: 002629

Are scholarships available?

We offer a limited number of merit scholarships. These scholarships are awarded upon admission into the program. Please consult our website for additional information regarding scholarships (rscj.newark.rutgers.edu).