State of Public Safety Pathway at Bakersfield College

Public Safety Learning and Career Pathway is to provide career guidance, education, and direction to all pathway students. The Public Safety pathway has been growing and plans to continue to grow. The newly established Police Academy enrollment (Criminal Justice related) is expected to increase by more than 40% in 2019. In order to increase the number of students obtaining the Guided Pathways momentum points, the Public Safety Completion Coaching Team is working on ways to increase student contact through counseling, mentoring, and coaching by BC faculty and support staff.

Five Year Trend, Disaggregated by Demographics

First-time student headcount in the Public Safety pathway has steadily grown over the last 5 years by 43% (see graph below).

The majority of the Public Safety first-time students are Hispanic/Latinx, which is reflective of BC’s overall population.
Similarly, trends in age are reflective of BC's overall population, with the majority of first-time Public Safety students 19 or younger in age.

Momentum Points

The percent of first-time students attempting 15+ units in the first term has almost doubled in the last 5 years, from 9% in Fall 2014 to 16% in Fall 2018.
The percent of first-time Public Safety pathway students attempting 30+ units in their first semester has slightly decreased from Fall 2017 to Fall 2018 (i.e., from 14% to 11%).

Similarly, the percent of first-time students completing transfer-level English and math in the first year has slightly decreased. It is important to note that some certificates may not require transfer-level English and/or math for completion, which may attribute to the lower percentage.

### Actions Taken to Advance the Momentum Points

The following has been done in the Public Safety Learning and Career Pathway to advance the Guided Pathways momentum points:
• Establishment of a California Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) account for Bakersfield College
• Assist Bakersfield Police Department in the development of a new BPD training facility in partnership with BC
• Planning an expansion of Fire, Police, Paramedic academy training within the BC sphere of influence
• Planned and executed a Kern County Public Safety expo in October 2018 – more than 60 organizations (e.g., agencies from the Federal, State, County, and Municipal levels of government) participated in this event on the BC Campus
• Expansion of Criminal Justice Courses to the Delano Campus
• Constructed and implemented simulated ambulance in a BC classroom

Looking Ahead at the Next 3 Years

Goals for the Public Safety pathway include the following:
• Establishment of certified BC POST Police Academy
• Increase Fire Academies from one to two academies per year
• Increase enrollment in the Paramedic program
• In reviewing curriculum mapping, ensure access, course completion, basic skills, degrees and certificate completion, and transfer criteria are met for all students

Currently, the Public Safety pathway is working hard to expand its offerings. The Public Safety pathway is planning the following:
• Expanding public safety pathway training to the Delano and Southwest campuses
• Involvement in dual enrollment and summer bridge programs
• Increase the number of local high school students into public safety career pathway programs
• Increased assessment and training of faculty instructors to ensure true rigor, support, and academic success
• Provide classroom best practices recommendations to all faculty, full-time and part-time
• Establish pre-academy workshops for all career paths, Police-Fire-Paramedic
• Develop certificate of achievement for Police Academy program students
• More in-depth review and alignment of the ILO, PLO, and CLSOs to ensure student success
• Increase student numbers for the underrepresented segment of our student population into the Public Safety Career Pathways
• Host a training symposium for “Women Leaders in Public Safety Training Programs