

Education, Human & Protective Services**GUIDED PATHWAY: Homeland Security Studies (Certificate, AAS Degree)**For more information, visit www.laredo.edu/ and your academic advisor.

The AAS degree in Homeland Security Studies will create a foundational understanding of DHS and its core mission of protecting the nation while simultaneously ensuring safe and efficient travel and commerce. This program will help prepare students for future employment while creating an understanding of the various occupational elements contained within DHS. Specifically, this course will help prepare students for a career as an employee with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security Investigations, as an Intelligence Analyst, or any of the multiple administrative support positions needed to continue the homeland security mission.

This is an example course sequence for students interested in pursuing Associates of Applied Science in Homeland Security Studies. It does not represent a contract, nor does it guarantee course availability. Following this pathway will help you earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Homeland Security Studies.

For official degree requirements [click here](#). Visit [Career Pathways](#) to view guided pathways created for students who complete an AAS degree and the options for transfer. Speak with an academic advisor at your college to choose courses that will help you to transfer to a specific university

**COLLEGE READINESS REQUIREMENTS (only for the AAS)**

Enrolling in one or more courses may be necessary if assessment activities and previous academic experiences indicate a need for additional knowledge and skills:

READING & WRITING PLACEMENT**MATH PLACEMENT****ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY****TSI MET: YES NO**

IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED

☐ **INRW** _____☐ **OTHER:** _____**TSI MET: YES NO**

IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED

☐ **DEV MATH** _____☐ **OTHER:** _____**TSI MET: YES NO**

IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED

☐ **ESOL** _____☐ **OTHER:** _____

Exemptions/waivers may exist. Speak with an academic advisor regarding placement in college readiness courses and your ability to enroll in core academic coursework.

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER MAP FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

D	CII	CI	SEMESTER 1	ACTION ITEMS
♦	♦	♦	LEAD 1200 - Workforce Development with Critical Thinking	☐ Meet with your advisor to confirm academic and career goals before taking courses and again at the end of the semester. ☐ Meet with a career advisor or instructor to research your career options.
♦	♦	♦	HMSY 1337 - Introduction to Homeland Security	
♦	♦	♦	HMSY 1471 - Border Protection and Transportation Security	
♦	♦	♦	HMSY 1491 - Special Topics Fundamentals of Homeland Security Law	
♦	♦	♦	CJLE 1327 - Interviewing and Report Writing for Criminal Justice Professions	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 16				
D	CII		SEMESTER 2	ACTION ITEMS
♦	♦		HMSY 1340 - Homeland Security Intelligence Operations	☐ Meet with your advisor to file an official degree plan, confirm or update your academic/career path and program of study.
♦	♦		HMSY 2306 - Organized Crime and Terrorism	
♦	♦		ITSY 1300 - Fundamentals of Information Security	
♦	♦		HMSY 1472 - Contemporary Issues in Border Security	
♦	♦		CJSA 1342 - Criminal Investigations	
♦	♦		HMSY 1340 - Homeland Security Intelligence Operations	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 16				
D			SEMESTER 3	ACTION ITEMS
♦			EMAP 1400 - Principles of Basic Emergency Management	☐ Meet with a career advisor or instructor to research your career options.
♦			HMSY 1341 - Critical Infrastructure Protection	
♦			EMAP 2302 - Managing Mass Casualty and Fatality Incidents	
♦			HMSY 2337 - Managing a Unified Incident Command	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 13				
D			SEMESTER 4	Note:
♦			MATH X3XX - Mathematics Elective CORE	After reviewing your degree plan and program of study apply for graduation.
♦			XXXX X3XX - Language/Philosophy/Culture Elective CORE	
♦			XXXX X3XX - Social/Behavioral Science Elective CORE	
♦			ENGL 1301 - Composition I CORE	
♦			PHYS 1315 - Physical Science I CORE	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 15				
AAS DEGREE MINIMUM: 60 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS/PATHWAY TOTAL: 60 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS				

Career Information

Common Job Titles

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security Investigations, Intelligence Analyst, or any of the multiple administrative support positions within DHS

Regional Labor Market Information

The two largest employers within the Department of Homeland Security are the U.S. Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection.

U.S. Border Patrol jobs have a standard starting salary between \$42,490 to \$64,229 per year.

Grade	Base Salary	Average Locality, Overtime and Premium Pay	Total Compensation
GS - 5	\$34,454	\$17,801	\$52,255
GS - 7	\$42,679	\$22,915	\$65,594
GS - 9	\$52,205	\$30,184	\$82,389

[Border Patrol Agent | CBP Careers](#)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers have a standard starting salary between \$34,454 to \$52,255 per year. CBP Officers are competitively rewarded for their time on the job. In addition to the base salary, officers may be eligible for locality pay, overtime pay, and more.

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[CBP Officer | CBP Careers](#)

Career and Labor Market Research Tools

Bureau of Labor Statistics: [Home : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

Career Resources: Laredo College career services website provides information on career exploration and employment at <https://www.laredo.edu/enrollment-management/student-success-center/career-exploration-services/index.html>. Students are encouraged to consult with their area of study advisor for additional career assistance. The above information is provided as a guide and reference tool for occupations related to this program. This is not a guarantee of job placement in any of these occupations after the successful completion of an LC program. The common job titles listed are representative titles and are provided for career research. These are not the only occupations possible in this area of study.

Transfer Information

The Associate of Applied Science in Homeland Security Studies prepares students to directly enter the workforce; however, a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) or Bachelor of Science (BS) is an excellent alternative to complete (or exceed minimal standards of) the educational requirement for some positions within the Department of Homeland Security. You still must meet general education requirements and take upper-level courses.

Transfer Guides: The evaluation of transfer courses and the determination of which courses will apply toward a bachelor's degree are conducted by the receiving institution. At present, the Homeland Security Studies Program is not recognized for transfer credit by colleges or universities, as no formal articulation agreements have been established. Securing such agreements and expanding transfer opportunities will be a priority as the program continues to grow and evolve.

Additional Transfer Resources: Laredo College transfer website provides information on additional colleges & universities: <https://www.laredo.edu/enrollment-management/student-success-center/transfer-resources/index.html>. Students are encouraged to consult with a faculty advisor, area of study advisor, and/or their chosen transfer institution to ensure courses taken at LC will apply toward their bachelor's degree program.