



CONTEMPLATING CAREERS

Juvenile Court Counselor

Are you analytical? Are you of good moral character? Do you possess compassion and confidence, and are you able to handle stress? Are you in good physical shape? Are you drug free? Do you have strong written and oral communication skills? Is changing the lives of others for the better important to you?

If you answered yes to these questions and want to help youth become productive members of society, becoming a juvenile court counselor may be for you. A juvenile court counselor works both inside and outside of the criminal justice system to assist juveniles. The assistance may come in the form of finding employment, education, and training opportunities. Juvenile justice counselors also help youth deal with emotional, mental health, behavioral, and substance abuse issues.

Education required is a minimum of a 4-year degree in a field such as social work, psychology, or counseling. But many states require a master's degree to work in this capacity. The effort is worth it as dealing with troubled youth offers a challenging but rewarding career. The Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the average annual salary of a juvenile court counselor is dependent on education, but can be approximately \$46,000 annually.



Career Video:

A counselor for the division of youth corrections discusses her experience and current issues in the field.