

Degree Stats Lesson

Degree Stats is a search engine provided to search degree programs and earning potential from completing those programs at one of the Kansas public institutions.

Navigate to [Kansas Degree Stats](#) search engine

At the top of the page you'll see three fields to search. Follow the instructions below to learn how the search engine works, and then the last few questions will be based on your own searching.

Find "**Criminal Justice**" in the drop-down list under "Choose a Degree Title"

List institutions that offer degree types in the boxes below:

Associate Degree:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Bachelor Degree:

- 1.
- 2.

Find "**Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement**" in the drop-down list under "Choose a Degree Title". List the institution here: _____

Click on the degree name to look at the summary page:

Find the following information:

Tuition: _____

% of Program Grads Employed: _____

Housing & Meal Plan: _____

Median earning in region

Books: _____

Upon Entry: _____

Total Cost of Degree: _____

After 5 yrs: _____

What Degree is awarded? _____

How many course hours are required? _____

Label 4 different topics included in this degree plan

1.

2.

3.

4.

Scroll down to the bottom of wage information &
Click on “**more**” to the answer the following questions

Where are the graduates in the data employed? _____

What does Median Earnings mean: _____

List 3 other facts you find on this definitions page:

Go back to the home search page to start a new search

Choose a Degree title you are interested in & **list here:** _____

Select two institutions & check the boxes on the left to use the compare feature to complete the following information

Institution _____

Cost of Degree:

Scholarship & Grants:

% graduates employed:

Median Earnings on entry:

Institution _____

Cost of Degree:

Scholarship & Grants:

% graduates employed:

Median Earnings on entry:

Notes for Teachers/Counselors

This lesson is designed for be for students to visit the Degree Stats website and work independently to be delivered in a classroom setting without much teacher instruction.

We put together this page for teachers/counselors who want a little more background on the degree stats site or may want to identify areas where students may have questions.

Kansas DegreeStats

This interactive online tool reviews cost and earnings data from real graduates for each undergraduate degree program offered at a public university or college in Kansas. The earnings data is from graduates of these programs now working in either Kansas or Missouri.

For detailed description on how to use the DegreeStats search tool [click here](#).

1. The first part of the assignment is intended to expose students to the different degree programs available by major at our Kansas public institutions. Students will search for institutions offering a Criminal Justice program and note that there are Associate Degree and Bachelor Degree options.
2. Next they will search under a related degree “Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement”. Here they will find only one university, and hopefully this will illustrate that universities call their majors different names. If they can’t find the major or university they are looking for, it might help to search all the degrees in a certain school or search for different degree program with a similar name. (this is a common challenge with any college/degree search engine, so pointing it out might help avoid some frustration)
3. The next group of questions will ask the student to examine the degree program details for Criminal Justice: Law Enforcement program at Washburn University. All of the information will be found on that page from tuition costs, type of degree, to listing facts from the description of the degree plan. The worksheet will ask the student to write down how much it costs for “Housing & Meal Plan”. That statistic is listed as “Room & Board”. This difference allows student to learn what Room & Board means

when they find the cost on college websites. All of this scripted searching should help students see what type of information is available under each degree & each college.

4. The worksheet will ask students to scroll down and find the small link that says “more”. This link will take them to a definitions page which explains the source of our data, and what words like “Median Earnings” means. This would be a great place to stop for a quick scroll through and discussion if you were interested.
5. The last set of questions asks students to choose their own search on a major they are interested in and then use the compare features to see two different institutions side by side. Understanding that finding the specific major can be a challenge or limitation, the instructor might want to walk around and help students who might have trouble thinking of something or finding what they are looking for. If a degree only comes up with one institution, encourage the student to find a similar degree with more than one so they can experience the compare feature. Students can compare up to 3 different institutions at a time.

This lesson is intended to be an introductory lesson on the different programs and costs associated with pursuing higher education at one of our Kansas public institutions. It would pair nicely with a different lesson about the costs of higher education, or the different types of programs available after high school (certificate/trade school, associate or bachelor). Feel free to adapt and change this lesson as it fits your needs and your students.