

UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN COLORADO

College of Humanities
and Social Sciences

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Professional Organizations

Membership in organizations linked to your areas of interest and your career plans is an excellent way to gain more information and become well prepared to enter your profession. Listed below are organizations relevant to the various areas of criminology and criminal justice. Many of these have reduced rates for student members and a few (*e.g.*, the American Correctional Association) provide opportunities to earn certificates, which may be beneficial in building your resumé.

[Colorado Criminal Justice Association](#)

State chapter of a national organization that provides training, supports awareness, and strives to increase inter-agency cooperation.

[Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences \(ACJS\)](#)

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences is a professional organization dedicated to criminal justice research, education and policy analysis. ACJS promotes scholarly research and professional activities within the discipline of criminal justice for educators and practitioners. During the past decade, the Academy has matured into one of the major scholarly associations in the field. The Academy provides a forum for disseminating ideas related to issues in research, policy, teaching, and education within the field. Additionally, the Academy encourages diversity through sections that address individual specialties and interests.

[American Society of Criminology \(ASC\)](#)

The American Society of Criminology is an international organization concerned with criminology, embracing scholarly, scientific, and professional knowledge concerning the etiology, prevention, control, and treatment of crime and delinquency. This includes the measurement and detection of crime, a review of legislation and the practice of law, as well as an examination of the law enforcement, judicial, and correctional systems.

[American Correctional Association \(ACA\)](#)

Do you want to work, learn and grow in your profession? If so, then the American Correctional Association has a place for you. Whether you are a criminal justice, political science, business, journalism, marketing, finance, public relations, or information technology major, the Association wants you to have an opportunity to experience your profession!

American Jail Association (AJA)

The American Jail Association is proud to be able to now offer you many of its services ONLINE, including membership applications, updated training calendar, annual conference schedule, bulletins, videos, association news and much, much more.

American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)

The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) is an international association composed of individuals from the United States and Canada actively involved with probation, parole and community-based corrections, in both adult and juvenile sectors. APPA has grown to become the voice for thousands of probation and parole practitioners including line staff, supervisors and administrators. Educators, volunteers and concerned citizens with an interest in criminal and juvenile justice are also among APPA's members.

American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS)

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences is a multi-disciplinary professional organization that provides leadership to advance science and its application to the legal system. The objectives of the Academy are to promote education, foster research, improve practice, and encourage collaboration in the forensic sciences.

Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA)

The Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance is an organization that addresses the needs of victims and a place where crime victims are given the opportunity to heal and restore balance to their lives.

International Association for Identification (IAI)

The International Association for Identification, the world's oldest and largest organization of forensic identification investigators, examiners, analysts and technicians, boasts over 7,000 members. This roster of accomplished and dedicated individuals makes the I.A.I. the primary resource in the realm of forensic science applications. Because the I.A.I. functions independently of government, we are sought after to provide intellectual and practical guidance regarding a number of forensic disciplines and the policies and practices which support their application.

American Society for Industrial Security International (ASIS)

The American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS) is the largest international organization for security professionals, with more than 25,000 members worldwide. ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topic areas.

International Association of Women Police (IAWP)

The International Association of Women Police strives to ensure equity for women in the criminal justice field. We will strive to achieve this mission by utilizing, investing, and celebrating the individual strengths, talents, and skills of our members.

International Community Corrections Association (ICCA)

The International Community Corrections Association is a membership organization dedicated to promoting and enhancing community-based criminal justice and alternative services.

Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA)

JRSA conducts and publishes policy-relevant research on justice issues, provides training and technical assistance and maintains a clearing house of state criminal justice activities.

National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ)

A multiethnic, nonpartisan, nonprofit association of criminal justice professionals and community leaders dedicated to improving the administration of justice.

National Black Police Association (NBPA)

A nationwide organization of African American Police Associations dedicated to the promotion of justice, fairness, and effectiveness in law enforcement.

National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA)

NOVA's promotes rights and services for victims of crime and crisis everywhere by the use of a national advocacy program, providing direct services to victims, and offering assistance to professional colleagues.

National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)

This organization is dedicated to raising the level of professionalism in the criminal justice field through research, education, and training. This site contains links and information about Community Policing and Neighborhood Watch.