Public Safety consists of three departments that comprise the Police Department, Department of Emergency Management, and Transportation and Parking Services.

The Police Department is a full service police agency certified by the California Department of Justice. It has the same responsibilities and authorities as any other law enforcement agency in the State of California and has state-wide authority. It includes a 9-1-1 emergency dispatch center that is responsible for all phones, radio communications, emergency medical dispatch, alarm monitoring and dispatch, and all communications for events.

Transportation and Parking Services, includes the management of over 7,300 parking spaces, four parking structures, parking and event planning and traffic flow. Special Events management staff is responsible for the traffic and parking coordination of over 500 campus events a year which brings approximately 700,000 visitors to campus. Commuter and Access Services provide resources for alternative transportation in partnership with local transit, regional RideShare, and bicycle organizations. The Escort Van Service provides free transportation for students, faculty and staff on campus during evening hours.

The Cal Poly Department of Emergency Management (DEM) is the lead coordinating department for all campus-wide emergency management preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation operations. DEM is responsible for the development, maintenance, and sustainability of a campus-wide comprehensive all-hazard, risk-based emergency management program that engages the whole community. DEM consists of two full time and two part time employees.