



Explore a Career as a

SECURITY GUARD

Target Occupation Profile

What do Security Guards do?

Security Guards are professionals who patrol, monitor and protect the environments where they are stationed in order to prevent theft, violence or infractions of rules. These highly trained individuals are responsible for locking doors and gates, and monitoring and authorizing the entrance and departure of employees, visitors and other persons. Security guards must also be able to document reports and observe activities and irregularities of the premise/environment in which they are guarding. They also are able to inspect and operate security systems and related machinery to ensure operational use. If you wish to pursue a career as a security guard, you may be responsible for responding to emergency situations.

Security Guards are in demand in Cook County!

Cook County employment of Security guards is expected to grow through the year 2020.

Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as an security guard, but first you will have to complete training to earn a certificate. Security guards are often trained in basic first aid as well. Some security guards may be armed and require additional training.

As a Security Guard you will:

- Conduct security checks and enforce laws over specified areas
- Detain violators and deescalate tense situations
- Supervise parking or seating, and direct crowds and traffic
- Monitor alarms and security surveillance

Security Guard

Training Providers

There are many training providers available in Cook County to supply you with the training you need for a career as a security guard.

To access a list of training providers for this occupation and many more, please visit Illinoisworknet.com and select the 'Training and Credentials' menu option to view 'WIOA Approved Training Programs.'



Types of Employers

Many different types of businesses and corporations hire security guards in Cook County, including:

- Retail stores
- Banks
- Hospitals
- Museums/Galleries,
- Event Venues

Wages & Openings

Security Guard Employment Data for Cook County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$9.30
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$15.58
Average Annual Job Openings Cook County	1,537
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	986

*Source: Emsi, 2017.2

Opportunities

After you receive your certificate as a security guard you will have other opportunities for advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Correctional Officer
- Security Supervisor/Manager
- Police Officer
- Private Detective/Investigator



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