

Protect Things
or People

Security Guard

Other names for this job

Guard

tip

Do you see words in **bold**?
You can look up these words at
alis.alberta.ca/ERdictionary.

What do security guards do?

Security guards work in offices, stores, apartment buildings, airports, hospitals and other places. They check inside and outside buildings. They watch out for problems. For example, a person may try to steal something.

Meet a security guard

Al is a security guard. He works at an office building.

Here are things that Al does:

- He walks around the building. He checks doors and windows. He makes sure the doors are locked. He looks for damage.
- He checks the underground parking lot.

- He watches a computer. He can see the people at the doors and near the elevators.
- He has a **record** book. He writes down the time he checks the building and parking lot.
- People ask Al how to find an office in the building. He gives them directions.

What is Al's work like?

Al works **shifts**. Sometimes he works at night. He often works on weekends and holidays.

Al often works alone. At night, the building is very quiet. When Al works during the day, he talks to more people.

Sometimes Al has to call the police or fire department. His job can be stressful if there are serious problems. Al sometimes feels worried.

Al works indoors and outdoors. He stands and walks a lot. He wears a uniform.





Do you want to be a security guard?

- You must be 18 years old or older.
- You must be healthy.
- You must be able to stand and walk a lot. Some security guards have to sit and watch computer screens.
- You may work alone. You may work with a team.
- You have to be calm if there is an **emergency**. For example, a fire.
- You must be able to write notes in a record book.
- You may need to speak to people and give directions.
- You must not have a **criminal record**.

What education do security guards need?

- Security guards need a licence. They must pass a special 40-hour training course. Some people take a different training course. They get a **certificate** or **diploma**.
- Many employers want security guards to have a high school diploma. Security guards need to speak and write English. They need to have good **references**. For example, a letter from their last employer.
- For some jobs, security guards need a **first aid certificate** and **CPR** (say: c-p-r) training.

What can security guards do in the future?

Security guards can work in many different places. Some security guards work in large buildings or stores. Some security guards drive to different places. For example, they check large **construction sites**. These security guards may need their own car.

Some security guards become **supervisors**.

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How much does a security guard make?

A security guard usually makes between \$11.40 and \$35.00 per hour.

Do you want more information?

You can find the information below at alis.alberta.ca/occinfo. Or you can ask your career advisor or tutor.

- OCCinfo profile: Security Guard
- Easy Reading Dictionary

You can also ask your **career advisor** or tutor about jobs that are like Security Guard.

