



**PROTECTIVE  
SECURITY**

# Security Officer

## Career level



Entry Level

Early Career

Mid Career

Later Career



## Job Description

Security Officers protect not just property but lives in their efforts to make sure that places, buildings and valuable items are kept safe and secure. Another important part of their role is working with the public and making sure people are kept safe.

As a Security Officer you could work anywhere from an airport or shopping centre to a construction site, government building, sporting stadium, museum or club venue. Security is provided to clients 24/7 so you may be expected to be available for shift work. With training or experience there's opportunity for progression. What's more, lots of places, people and things all over the country need protecting, so it's a secure career option. There is a growing demand for security officers in Australia.

## Salary & Benefits

Your starting salary can vary because of factors like level of experience, training, or location. Your salary as a Full Time Level 2 security officer may increase over time as you build skills, knowledge and experience.

**Weekly Pay:** \$935.00 – \$1150.00

**Annual Pay:** \$49,000 – \$60,000

**Hours per week:** 38

**Hourly Pay:** \$25.00 (base)



## On the Job

As a Security Officer you could be working inside or outside, and will often wear a uniform or protective clothing, like a hi-vis jacket, so that you can be recognised as security. Work may include shift work covering 24/7 rosters. Among the day-to-day job responsibilities include:

- Supervising on the door or reception for a large organisation, ensuring visitors are signed in and out, performing any required checks, or giving directions.
- Patrolling, securing and monitoring premises (like car parks or construction sites), either on foot patrol, in a car or monitoring via equipment like CCTV.
- Crowd control.
- Ensuring customer safety and preventing theft in retail spaces like shopping centres.
- Guarding cash and valuables.
- Responding to fire and security alarms.
- Writing incident reports and potentially giving evidence to the police or in court.



## Entry Qualifications & Training

Given your role will be to keep people and things safe, your employer will need to know you're a safe bet to hire. That's why you'll need to obtain a Security Licence to work as a Security Officer. To qualify for a licence, you'll need to:

- Be aged 18 or over
- Meet probity requirements and criminal record checks
- Complete the Certificate II in Security Operations\*

\*Funded Certificate II in Security Operations training is available in some states/territories.



## Career Progression

With time and experience as a Security Officer you could progress to a site supervisor or team leader, operations manager through to a branch, state, or national manager. You could head into security management or training others as a learning and development co-ordinator in security training. With experience you could set up your own security company.

You may also decide to specialise in certain fields of security including:

- Mobile patrols
- Static guarding
- Cash in Transit
- Office reception concierge
- Crowd control / event security
- Aviation / Maritime security
- Retail loss prevention and audit security
- Investigations
- Executive protection



## Experience & Skills Required

Any past experience, including working in the police force or armed services, or where you can demonstrate that you are a responsible and trustworthy person with good communication skills can help you stand out to an employer. Other useful skills to highlight to your employer when applying include:

- Awareness skills to observe the environment with high attention to detail and ability to problem-solve.
- Self-management skills to help you use your initiative and make quick (but informed) decisions.
- Basic computer and practical skills so that you can – once trained – feel comfortable working with technology like CCTV.
- Communication, customer care and self-confidence skills so that you can reassure the public and challenge people if you need to, using the most appropriate technique. For example, talking to someone may resolve a situation more effectively than direct physical action, although physical action may sometimes be required.
- Ability to follow written and verbal instructions and write short reports.
- Ability to stay calm under pressure – when everyone around you are losing their heads, you need to keep yours. You also need patience for quiet shifts!
- Vocational qualifications and work experience will help you build these skills over time.
- First Aid.

## Getting Started

Security Officer jobs are advertised under different job titles and can be found on online jobs or directly by employers. When looking on job boards, look for the following types of job:

**Security Officer or  
Security Guard**

## Useful Organisations and Links

- **ASIAL**  
asial.com.au
- **Security Licensing Information**  
asial.com.au/security\_licensing\_information
- **Security Training Requirements**  
training.gov.au/Training/Details/PPP
- **ASIAL Contact Information**  
1300 127 425  
contactus@asial.com.au



### Contact ASIAL

Security Industry House,  
41 Hume Street, Crows Nest NSW 2065  
1300 127 425  
contactus@asial.com.au  
www.asial.com.au

**Supporting members, promoting standards and safeguarding public interests.**



Find out more: [www.asial.com.au/careers](http://www.asial.com.au/careers)