

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- ▶ Security guards are not required to have completed secondary school; however completion of Grade 12 is preferred by employers.
- ▶ All security companies and their employees must be licensed prior to taking part in security duties. Licensing requires the completion of the Basic Security Training (BST) course.
- ▶ Training requirements beyond BST vary depending on who they work for. Individual security companies often provide additional in-house training.
- ▶ Many security companies require criminal background checks.
- ▶ Many companies require level one industry first aid training.

TRAINING

The Justice Institute of British Columbia is (www.jibc.ca) the best place to find information about Basic Security Training courses. The website lists a number of approved schools where people can take this training around the province, including in Northern BC. If you are interested in completing Grade 12 or upgrading your skills, you have a number of options. Check out adult basic education programs at:

- ▶ The College of New Caledonia.
- ▶ Coast Mountain College

If you have completed Grade 12 and are interested in exploring your career options in exploration and mining, contact:

- ▶ General education advisors or First Nations Access coordinators at Coast Mountain College
- ▶ School of Exploration & Mining advisors at Coast Mountain College
- ▶ Academic advisors at the College of New Caledonia

CAREER ADVANCEMENT POTENTIAL

- ▶ Security guards with considerable experience may move into supervisory positions in the field or office or into corporate security management.
- ▶ With additional training and education, some security guards may move into law enforcement occupations (i.e. as police officers, correction officers or sheriffs).

To learn more about a career as a security guard (including information about work duties and working conditions, salaries and employment prospects), you can access information in the National Occupation Classification (NOC) System at www.workbc.ca. The NOC code for this occupation is 6541.

SECURITY GUARDS

Security guards and other related workers guard property against theft and vandalism, control access to establishments, maintain order and enforce regulations at public events and within establishments. They are employed by many different industries and types of business, including private security agencies, retail stores, transportation facilities, educational, financial and health institutions, and industrial establishments, including mines.



Image source: MiHR Council and iStock

JOB DESCRIPTION

If you are a security guard, you may perform some or all of the following duties:

- ▶ Control access to establishments, issue passes and direct visitors to appropriate areas.
- ▶ Attend to persons with special needs.
- ▶ Patrol assigned areas, on foot or in vehicles, to guard against theft, vandalism and fire.
- ▶ Enforce regulations of an establishment to maintain order and resolve conflicts.
- ▶ Operate security control-room equipment to monitor establishment activities.
- ▶ Ensure that establishment safety and emergency procedures are followed, and respond to fire alarms, bomb threats, and other emergencies.
- ▶ Follow radio and emergency telephone procedures.