

Emergency and Security Services

1. career options



SQA offers a small number of qualifications in this area which are mainly workbased awards, accessed through employment.

Brief information on entry to the services and useful contact addresses and telephone numbers for the public services is included.

Prison Service

2. jobs and career sources

To enter the Prison Service there are no formal educational requirements but applicants have to pass an aptitude test and medical examination.

Contact address

Scottish Prison Service
Central Recruitment Board
Calton House
5 Redheughs Rigg
EDINBURGH
EH12 9HW

Tel: 0131-244 8591

Prison Service

4. qualifications

HNC

Prison Studies

Certificate

Prison Studies

SVQ 2

Security Guarding

Security, Safety and Loss Prevention

Specifying Security/Emergency Systems

Security Service

2. jobs and career sources

To enter the Security Service

Contact address

SITO Ltd
Security House
Barbourne Road
Worcester
WR1 1RS

Security Service

4. qualifications

HNC

Security Systems

Adv Certificate

Closed Circuit Television

SVQ 3

Security Systems: Technical Services

SVQ 2

Installing Security and Emergency Systems

Locksmithing

Maintaining Security and Emergency Systems

Parking Control

Retail and Leisure Security

Security Guarding

Security, Safety and Loss Prevention

Specifying Security/Emergency Systems

Transporting Property Under Guard

Police Service

2. jobs and career sources

To enter the Scottish Police Service applicants would contact the Police Force of their choice to obtain details of their application and recruiting process. To gain entry applicants would be required to pass an entrance exam, undergo a medical as well as undertaking interviews and other forms of assessment.

Contact addresses

Central Scotland Police
Randolphfield
STIRLING
FK8 2HD

Tel: 01786 456 335

Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary
Cornwall Mount
DUMFRIES
DG1 1PZ

Tel: 01387 252 112

Fife Constabulary
Police Headquarters
Detroit Road
Glenrothes
FIFE
KY6 2RJ

Tel: 01592 418 888

Grampian Police Headquarters
Queen Street
ABERDEEN
AB10 1ZA

Tel: 01224 639 111

Lothian and Borders Police
Police Headquarters
Fettes Avenue
EDINBURGH
EH4 1RB

Tel: 0131-311 3131

Northern Constabulary
Police Headquarters
Inshes
INVERNESS
IV2 3SY

Tel: 01463 715 555

Police Service (cont)

Strathclyde Police Force Training Centre
71 Oxford Street
GLASGOW
G5 9EP

Tel: 0141-429 2713/2715

Tayside Police Headquarters
West Bell Street
DUNDEE
DD1 9JU

Tel: 01382 223 200

Police Service

4. qualifications

HNC

Police Studies

PDA

Diploma

Police Management

SVQ 4

Investigation

SVQ 3

Investigation

SVQ 2

Specifying Security/Emergency Systems

Transporting Property Under Guard

Fire Service

2. jobs and career sources

To enter the Fire Service there are no formal educational requirements but applicants are expected to have a good educational background. Applicants who satisfy the basic entry criteria have to pass a range of aptitude tests and medical examination.

SQA offers SVQs at levels 2 and 3 for those involved in the Fire Services.

Contact addresses

Central Scotland Fire Brigade HQ
Main Street
Maddiston
Falkirk
FK2 0LG

Tel: 01324 716996

Dumfries and Galloway Fire Brigade HQ
Brooms Road
DUMFRIES
DG1 2DZ

Tel: 01387 263 921

Fife Fire and Rescue Services HQ
Strathore Road
Thornton
Kirkcaldy
KY1 4DF

Tel: 01592 774451

Grampian Fire Brigade HQ
19 North Anderson Drive
ABERDEEN
AB15 6DW

Tel: 01224 696666

Highlands and Islands Fire Brigade
16 Harbour Road
Longman West
INVERNESS
IV1 1TB

Tel: 01463 222722

Lothian and Borders Fire Brigade
Lauriston Place
EDINBURGH
EH3 9DE

Tel: 0131-228 2401

Fire Service (cont)

Strathclyde Fire Brigade HQ
Bothwell Road
HAMILTON
ML3 0EA

Tel: 01698 284200

Tayside Fire Brigade HQ
Blackness Road
DUNDEE
DD1 5PA

Tel: 01382 322222

Scottish Home and Health Department (Fire Service)
St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DE

Tel: 0131-556 8400

Fire Service

4. qualifications

SVQ 3

Emergency Fire Services: Control
Emergency Fire Services: Operations
Emergency Fire Services: Supervision and Command

SVQ 2

Emergency Fire Services: Fire Fighting
Fire, Security and Emergency Alarm Systems
Maintaining Fire Extinguishing Equipment

Ambulance Service

2. jobs and career sources

A brief description of the available jobs and entry requirements is given below.

Ambulance Care Assistant

Transports patients to clinics, day centres and out-patients departments, driving patient service vehicles.

Entry requirements: minimum age normally 21, maximum approximately 55; clean current driving licence for at least two years; three Standard Grades including English and a science subject (or equivalent); entrance test available for those with no formal qualifications.

Ambulance Technician

Drives all types of ambulances and responds to 999 calls, gives emergency treatment and uses life saving equipment.

Entry requirements: age between 21 and 35; clean current driving licence for at least two years; two Highers, preferably English and a science subject (or equivalent); entrance test (focus on numeracy and communication) available for applicants with relevant experience who may not have formal academic qualifications.

Ambulance Paramedic

Uses more advanced life saving and life support equipment than technicians.

Entry requirements; there is no direct entry, only ambulance technicians can apply to become paramedics; they must pass examinations and serve a probationary period of approximately 3 to 4 years before they can begin training.

Contact address

Scottish Ambulance Service
National Training Centre
8/11 Lancaster Crescent
GLASGOW
G12

Ambulance Service

4. qualifications

At present there are no formal qualifications directly related to the Ambulance Service.

Armed Services

2. jobs and career sources

The Armed Services include, the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force. Individuals interested in a career in the armed services should contact the appropriate Service Careers Information Office for guidance.

Entry to some sections of the Services may require qualifications:

All Services: commissioned (officer) entry normally requires minimum of three Highers with English and Maths at least at Standard Grade. University Sponsorship Schemes also exist. The majority of entrants have a university degree.

Royal Navy: technical level seeks applicants with three Standard Grade passes including Maths, English and Physics or other suitable science subject.

Army: some of the more technical trades require recruits who have reached Standard Grade in English, Mathematics and a Science.

Royal Air Force: technical training will require four Standard Grades including English, Mathematics and Physics or other suitable science subject. Other sections may demand one or two Standard Grades in specific subjects.

Useful addresses

The Naval Service Careers Information Office
Charlotte House
78 Queen Street
GLASGOW
G1 3DN

Tel: 0141–221 6119

Royal Air Force Careers Information Office
Charlotte House
78 Queen Street
GLASGOW
G1 3DN

Tel: 0141–221 4852

Army Careers Information office
Charlotte House
78 Queen Street
GLASGOW
G1 3DN

Tel: 0141–221 9955

Armed Services

4. qualifications

SVQ 1

Public Service: Armed Forces