

Workforce & Technology Center

Security Guard Training

WTC's 12-week Security Guard Training Program prepares students to enter a rapidly growing and respected field.

- ❖ Opportunities include positions in schools, hospitals, local government and contractual security agencies.
- ❖ Median earnings are approximately \$19,140.



Fern Awokere, WTC Security Guard with Andrew Todd (r), now employed by Abacus. "Well-trained security guards can take pride in knowing that they are contributing to a company's bottom line by proactive protection of its employees, visitors and property," says John Quinn, Securitas's Area Human Resource Manager.



Training Curriculum

DORS security guard teachers are experienced police officers. They collaborate with Securitas, an internationally recognized security company, to provide state-of-the-art lectures and coursework.

- Investigative techniques
- Observation skills
- Report Writing
- Professional conduct
- Legal Aspects and Requirements
- Health & Safety
- Communication Skills
- Emergency Response
- Crime Prevention Techniques

The WTC is a program of the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). For information about WTC's Security Guard Training, contact DORS Police Chief Jim Buckmaster, 410-554-9319 or email: jbuckmaster@dors.state.md.us. To obtain this flyer in alternative format, contact 410-554-9442 or TTY 410-554-9411.

Program Trains People With Disabilities for Security Jobs

By Andrea Maria Cecil, Daily Record Business Writer



Students Coty Gibson, left, and Jamaal Hurtt, seated, are learning to be security guards under the watchful eye of Jim Buckmaster, a former Baltimore City police lieutenant.

A state workforce program aimed at people with disabilities has started training people to become security guards, citing an increasing demand for them in business and government services.

Jim Buckmaster, a retired lieutenant with 21 years of experience at the Baltimore City Police Department, instructs the 12-week program, which graduated its first student in March. Three students are now in their second week.

The classes are Monday through Friday with instruction in the morning and on-the-job training in the afternoons.

The instruction focuses on duties and responsibilities on the job, including legal powers and limitations; emergency response; customer service, and some computer training.

Customer service, Buckmaster said, is the most important part of security guard work. "The vast majority of what they do is image," he says.

The program is offered at the Workforce & Technology Center, a work force program for people with disabilities operated by the Department of Education's Division of Rehabilitation Services.

It is also a partnership with Securitas Security Systems USA Inc., one of the largest providers of security officer services in the country. The

company serves as a consultant to the program and provides classroom materials and lectures.

To enter the program, people must first go through an assessment to determine suitability, readiness level and ability to write criminal reports, Buckmaster said.

"There are a wide variety . . . of things they can do and compensation can be made for certain types of disabilities," he said.

Plus, the instruction is much more extensive than other training programs, giving potential employers the security of knowing the students have been well trained, Buckmaster said.

"It's a growing field. I think some of it has to do with 9/11, and think there's just a general need for companies to have security on their premises," he said. "It's also a good public image type of thing. It gives people a sense of security."

Considering the Baltimore area alone, there are dozens upon dozens of hotels and hospitals and an airport, which all need security.

"Just about every industry that you encounter is using some type of security to prevent theft," Buckmaster said. "I think this is really going to grow."

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