Police & Sheriff’s Patrol Officers

Also called: Patrol Officer, Patrolman, Police Officer, Police Sergeant, Deputy, Deputy Sheriff

What they do:
Patrol assigned area to enforce law & order, regulate traffic, control crowds, prevent crime, & arrest violaters or serve legal processes of courts. May patrol courthouse, guard court or grand jury, or escort defendants.

On the job, you would:
• Provide for public safety by maintaining order, responding to emergencies, protecting people & property, enforcing motor vehicle & criminal laws, & promoting good community relations.
• Record facts to prepare reports that document incidents and activities.
• Monitor, note, report, & investigate suspicious persons & situations, safety hazards, & unusual or illegal activity in patrol area.

Skills

Basic Skills
• listening to others, not interrupting, & asking good questions
• talking to others

Problem Solving
• noticing a problem & figuring out the best way to solve it

Social
• understanding people’s reactions
• bringing people together to solve differences

Abilities

Verbal
• communicate by speaking
• listen & understand what people say

Ideas and Logic
• make general rules or come up with answers from lots of detailed information
• notice when problems happen

Visual Understanding
• see hidden patterns

Social
• understanding people’s reactions
• bringing people together to solve differences

Technology

You might use software like this on the job:
Database user interface and query software
• Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System IAFIS
• National Crime Information Center NCIC database

Graphics or photo imaging software
• Computer aided composite drawing
• DesignWare 3D EyeWitness

Spreadsheet Software
• IBM Lotus 1-2-3

Education

High school diploma or equivalent + Moderate-term on-the job training

Job Outlook

109 Annual Openings

High Wage, Demand Occupation

Wages

$25.95 Per Hour
$53,985 Per Year

Produced by the Nebraska Department of Labor, Office of Labor Market Information
Education and Job Outlook from 2012-2022 Long-term Occupational Projections
Average wages from Occupational Employment Statistics, 4th Quarter 2015
All other information from O*NET online
March 2016