

Exploring STEM careers

By rawan

What a zookeepers job involve

A zookeepers job may involve:

- keep animal enclosures clean and secure
- Prepare foods and feed animals (diet preparations)
- Administer medication
- Educate visitors by sharing animal knowledge
- Talks, tours, and visitor experiences
- Record keeping of animals growth and development
- Behavioural observation



Skills required to be a zookeeper

- Understanding animal behaviour
- Knowledge of handling animals and care techniques
- Experience with common grooming techniques (including caring for coats, cleaning ears and clipping nails)
- Ability to meet the physical demands of the job e.g, lifting heavy objects, bending and kneeling.



Qualifications needed to be a zookeeper



GCSES:

You will typically need at least 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English, maths and science. Some zoos will require A-levels and a higher education qualification in animal care or animal science.

Higher Education:

Zookeepers need a bachelor's degree in biology, zoology, zoo technology, or some field related to animal management. Another option is a specialized two-year zookeeper degree from a community college. Gaining experience through volunteer work or an internship is really important to landing a job in this field

What is the average salary for a zookeeper

Salaries for trainee zoo keepers at entry level are around £13,000 to £16,000 a year.

Qualified keepers can earn around £16,000 to £20,000 a year, while senior keepers earn up to around £22,000 a year.

Head keepers can earn up to £32,000 a year.

You can gain up £875 on bonus as well.

The average salary is £16,943



What does a dog handler/trainer job involves

Dog handlers work with specially trained dogs to help prevent and detect criminal activity and search for missing persons.

They are responsible for looking after, feeding and keeping the dogs under control.

Dog handlers are usually employed by private security firms.



Skills required to be a Dog handler

- Patience and confidence
- Being comfortable working independently with your dog
- To judge situations accurately and react instantly to any given situation.
- experience of caring for dogs
- Physically fit and strong
- The ability to work with a dog efficiently with minimum supervision



QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A DOG HANDLER

You can get into this job through:

- an apprenticeship
- working towards this role
- applying directly
 - some GCSEs, usually including English and maths, or equivalent, for an intermediate apprenticeship
 - 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship
 - 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship
- Acquire the necessary education and/or job experience to become a police officer.
- Apply for an open police officer or law enforcement position.
- Undergo a background investigation and be fingerprinted.
- Take and pass a polygraph test.
- Take and pass a series of physical fitness tests.



The average salary for a dog handler

Starting pay rates for new entrant trained dog handlers with a private security firm in the UK vary, but tend to be in the range of £16,000 to £18,000 a year.

Experienced or specialist dog handlers would expect to earn up to £26,000 a year or more.

Typical working hours average: 13-14 hours a week

