

PSA Announces Licensing Details For Companies and Individuals.

It will be illegal to operate and illegal to engage an unlicensed security provider...

The Private Security Authority (PSA) today announced details of its licensing programme for the Irish Security Industry. Minister Michael McDowell, who introduced the Private Security Services Act last year, participated in today's announcement, with Michelle Doyle, Chairperson of the PSA, and Geraldine Larkin, Chief Executive, PSA.

The Private Security Services **Contractors** Licence will apply to companies, partnerships and sole traders providing security services, while the Private Security Services **Employee** Licence will apply to all employees across all sectors in the industry. The security industry now employ close to 20,000 people across all sectors.

The schedule for licensing the different sectors will commence in early October 2005 and will be concluded by the end of 2006. The different sectors are **Door Supervisor**, which will include event security, **Security Guarding**, which will include those operating monitoring centres, **Suppliers or Installers of Security Equipment, Providers of Protected Forms of Transport (cash in transit), Private Investigator, Security Consultant, Locksmith and Supplier or Installer of Safes.** From April 2006 through to the end of 2006, once the 'critical dates' have passed for the different industry sectors, it will be an offence to provide any security service in this jurisdiction without a licence. (Details of rollout attached and below on email)

Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform speaking at today's launch said, "In the past I have said this industry must clean up its act. This licensing programme announced today will ensure this happens. The PSA will decide whether a license applicant is a fit and proper person to work in the private security industry. The PSA will liaise with An Garda Siochana in regard to criminal background, which may apply for individual employees, sole traders, partners and company directors. This is a vitally important industry – and we must work in partnership to create a well regulated and brighter future".

Geraldine Larkin, Chief Executive of the PSA said today, "**We have a huge task ahead from now to the end of next year. From the time the licensing is in place for different sectors it will constitute an offence to operate without a license – and I should stress that it will be also be an offence for customers to engage security providers who are not licensed**".

Geraldine Larkin went on to say, "**This is an historic day - as we have essentially delivered a licensing plan which so many people and groups have sought for decades. I ask all those seeking licenses to check our website and study the detail. Our staff will also be available at the PSA to assist companies in the weeks and months ahead. If we work in partnership we can create an industry**

which will grow and develop as a major player in all sectors of Irish society into the future

Contractors

The licence fee will consist of two components – an administration fee and a sectoral fee, which will be based on the turnover of the contractor for each sector (as defined in the Private Security Services Act 2004) in which the contractor operates. Thus a contractor operating in more than one sector will pay one administration fee and the appropriate sectoral fee for each area of activity.

The two-year licence fee is chargeable on the annual turnover per sector, on the following basis:

Administration Fee	€1,000		
Turnover <€25,000	€1,250	Total	€2,250
Turnover <€1,250,000	€2,500	Total	€3,500
Turnover <€3,750,000	€5,000	Total	€6,000
Turnover <€10,000,000	€9,000	Total	€10,000
Turnover >€10,000,000	€19,000	Total	€20,000

Example 1:

A contractor applying for a licence for Security Guard (turnover €500,000) and Door Supervisor (turnover €1,000,000) will be charged the following licence fee for a two-year licence:

Administration Fee:	€1,000
Security Guard:	€1,250
Door Supervisor:	€2,500
Total Licence Fee	€4,750

Example 2:

A contractor applying for a licence for Security Guard and Alarm Receiving Centre (turnover €1,500,000), and Door Supervisor (turnover €1,000,000) will be charged the following licence fee for a two-year licence:

Administration Fee:	€1,000
Security Guarding & Alarm Receiving: Centre (Security Guard sector)	€5,000
Door Supervisor:	€2,500
Total Licence Fee	€8,500

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Licence Fees - individuals

The licence fee will consist of two components –an administration fee of €20 and a sectoral fee. Thus an employee working in more than one sector will pay one administration fee and the appropriate sectoral fee for each area of activity.

Sectors (as defined in legislation)	Licensing sectors/sub sectors	Licence Fee	Licence Fee Incl.Admin Fee
Door supervisor	Door supervisor Event Security	€10	€30
Supplier or installer of security equipment	Intruder Alarms Access control CCTV	€60	€80
Private investigator	Private investigator	€60	€80
Security consultant	Security consultant	€60	€80
Security guard	Security guarding Alarm Monitoring	€60	€80
Provider of protected forms of transport	Cash-in-transit	€60	€80
Locksmith	Locksmith	To be decided	
Supplier or installer of safes	Supplier or installer of safes	To be decided	

Example 1:

An employee applying for a licence for Security Guarding and Door Supervisor will be charged the following licence fee for a two-year licence:

Administration Fee: €20
Security Guarding: €60
Door Security €10
Total Licence Fee €190

Sectoral Rollout of Private Security Services Contractors Licences

Sector as defined in legislation	Licensing Sector/Subsector	OPEN FOR LICENSING	CRITICAL DATE*
Door Supervisor	Door Supervisor Event Security	3 October 2005 2006	1 April 2006 2006
Security Guard	Security Guarding Alarm Receiving Centres	3 October 2005 1 November 2005	1 April 2006 1 August 2006
Supplier or installer of security equipment	Intruder Alarms	1 November 2005	1 August 2006
Provider of protected forms of transport	Cash-in-transit	1 December 2005	1 June 2006

*Critical Date is the date from which it will be an offence to provide a service in a designated sector of the private security industry without a licence. It will also be an offence to contract an unlicensed contractor after that date.

Details of the rollout of licences for other sectors will be announced later this year.

The above schedule is the first phase of a three phase rollout of licensing for Private Security Services Contractors Licences as follows:

- Sectors/subsectors for which standards have been developed – Door Supervisor (door supervisor and event security), Security Guard (security guarding and alarm receiving centres) and Supplier or installer of security equipment (intruder alarms)
- Sectors/subsectors for which standards are currently being developed – Supplier or installer of security equipment (access control, CCTV), Provider of protected forms of transport (cash-in-transit)
- Sectors/subsectors for which work on standards has yet to commence – Locksmiths, Suppliers or Installers of Safes, Private Investigators and Security Consultants

The PSA may develop licensing standards for other subsectors, as necessary, in the future.

Sectoral Rollout of Private Security Services

Employee Licences

Sector as defined in legislation	Licensing sector/subsector	OPEN FOR LICENSING	CRITICAL DATE*
Door Supervisor	Door Supervisor	1 April 2006	1 April 2007
Security Guard	Security Guarding	1 April 2006	1 April 2007

* Critical Date is the date from which it will be an offence to operate in a designated sector of the private security industry without a licence. It will also be an offence to employ an unlicensed person after that date.

The timetable for licensing has been set taking into account the number of potential applicants, the availability of nationally accredited training programmes and the time required to complete such programmes. The timetable also distributes the number of licence applications throughout the licensing period so that the PSA can achieve the fastest processing times possible.

Details of the introduction of licensing for other sectors will be announced in due course.