

Act relating to security guard services.

Section 1. *Scope and extent*

This Act shall apply to commercial security guard services. For the purposes of this Act commercial security guard services shall mean activities involving the provision of security guard services in return for remuneration. By security guard services is meant services whereby, by employment of personnel, TV monitoring, electronic monitoring or in other ways:

- a) surveillance is performed of private areas or of areas accessible to the general public,
- b) control services are performed,
- c) guarded transport of valuables is performed,
- d) security escort services are performed, or
- e) alarm signals are received from assault alarms or burglary alarms or security checks in response to such signals.

This Act applies to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings or public administrative bodies. For the purposes of this Act, public administrative bodies shall mean any state or municipal bodies. This Act does not apply to security surveillance of own premises, neighbourhood watch or other security surveillance which is performed sporadically and has a small scope.

The King shall decide the extent to which this Act shall apply to Svalbard and Jan Mayen.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 2. *Licences*

Persons who perform commercial security guard services or enter into agreements concerning performance of such security guard services must hold licences for this.

The undertaking must be registered in the Register of Business Enterprises before licences may be granted. The undertaking must have a permanent place of business in Norway.

Commercial security guard services that are organized as one-man enterprises, must be registered in the Central Coordinating Register of Legal Entities before the owner may be granted a licence. The company registration number must be stated in the application. The owner must furthermore:

- a) be 21 or more years of age,
- b) have a satisfactory character,
- c) be a national of a state that is a party to the EEA Agreement, and
- d) otherwise not be regarded as unfit to perform security guard services in a proper manner in accordance with proper usage in the trade.

Licences may be granted to companies, foundations or other corporation when all members of the board of a limited company or other corporation with limited liability satisfy the requirements of the third paragraph (a)–(d) and all fully liable partners in general partnerships or limited partnerships satisfy the requirements of the third paragraph (a)–(d).

If the undertaking as referred to in the third and fourth paragraphs has a manager, this person must also satisfy the requirements of the third paragraph (a)–(d).

In certain cases, exception may be granted from the requirement regarding age in the third paragraph (a).

If changes are made in the composition of the undertaking's board or partners, notification of this shall be made to the authority that granted the licence within one month following the change. The same applies if a new manager is appointed.

The Ministry may issue regulations laying down requirements regarding persons with day-to-day responsibility for commercial security guard services performed by a public administrative body.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 3. *Licensing and supervisory authority*

The Ministry may issue regulations deciding who shall be the licensing and supervisory authority and further provisions concerning this.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 4. *The contents of the licence*

The licence is granted for specific types of security guard service pursuant to section 1, first paragraph (a)–(e).

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 5. *Lapse of licences*

The licence lapses if the undertaking to which the licence has been granted becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings or if the owner of a one-man enterprise dies. A bankrupt estate or estate of a deceased person shall be entitled to continue operations to the extent this is deemed appropriate with a view to winding up or transfer of the business to a new owner, however not in excess of six months without a licence granted by the authority specified pursuant to section 3.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 6. *Withdrawal of licences*

A licence may be withdrawn if the owner or management of the undertaking that holds the licence, or another employee of the undertaking is found guilty of a gross or repeated infringement of the special conditions for the licence or of provisions laid down in or pursuant to this Act. The same applies if the conditions for licences are no longer satisfied.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 7. *Requirements regarding employees*

Persons who are to be employed by undertakings subject to this Act must have a satisfactory character. The requirement regarding character applies to anyone who carries out work or services for the undertaking. Persons who are to perform security guard services must furthermore be 18 or more years of age.

The management of the undertaking is obliged to ensure that employees of the undertaking satisfy the requirements of the Act and regulations.

The Ministry may provide in regulations that exceptions may be granted from the requirement regarding age laid down in the first paragraph.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 8. *Requirements regarding training*

Persons who are to perform services as security guards must complete approved training for security guards.

The Ministry may issue regulations laying down requirements regarding training.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 9. *Uniforms*

Anyone who performs services as a security guard shall wear a uniform. The uniform shall be approved by the licensing and supervisory authority. The uniform shall be designed in such a way that it cannot be mistaken for a police uniform. The licensing and supervisory authority may grant exceptions from the requirement regarding use of uniforms during performance of specific guard duties when special grounds so indicate.

The Ministry may issue regulations laying down requirements regarding uniforms.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 10. *Proof of identity*

Persons who perform services as security guards shall carry proof of identity. The proof of identity shall be issued by the security undertaking concerned and approved by the licensing and supervisory authority. The proof of identity shall be shown to the police when so requested. Security guards are otherwise obliged to produce proof of identity when so requested by a person subjected to measures.

The Ministry may issue regulations laying down requirements regarding proof of identity.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 11. *Use of dogs*

Dogs may only be used for self-protection during performance of guard services. The dog shall be held on a short lead.

Use of dogs during performance of guard services shall be approved by the security undertaking. The security undertaking shall draw up instructions for training, approval and use of dogs.

The licensing and supervisory authority may grant exceptions from the provision laid down in the first paragraph if special grounds so indicate.

The Ministry may issue regulations laying down requirements regarding use of dogs and requirements regarding special grounds.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 12. *Obligation to take out insurance*

Undertakings that are to perform security guard services must hold insurance covering the liability the undertaking may incur during performance of security guard services. The insurance must be taken out before the operations are initiated and be maintained as long as they continue.

The Ministry may issue further rules concerning the insurance. The Ministry may issue regulations exempting public administrative bodies that operate commercial security guard services from the obligation to take out liability insurance.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 13. *Requirements regarding communications equipment*

Persons who perform services as security guards shall be able to communicate with a staffed security service or alarm centre while performing the guard service. The security undertaking is responsible for ensuring that a proper communication system is established.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 14. *Duty to provide information*

Undertakings that perform security guard services are obliged to provide the licensing and supervisory authority with the information and documentation necessary for control by the authorities that the undertaking is operated in compliance with provisions laid down in or pursuant to this Act.

Undertakings that perform security guard services shall before the end of March each year submit a report to the licensing and supervisory authority. The report shall give an account of the undertaking's operations during the previous year.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 15. *Regulations*

The Ministry may issue further regulations concerning implementation of this Act.

The Ministry may issue regulations laying down that fees shall be paid in connection with the establishment and operation of security guard services, and issue further provisions concerning this.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 16. *Penalties*

Persons who wilfully or negligently violate provisions laid down in or pursuant to this Act, or who are accessory thereto, shall be liable to fines or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.

Section 17. *Entry into force*

1. This Act shall enter into force from the date decided by the King.
2. From the same date the Act relating to security guard services of 13 May 1988 No. 29 are repealed.
3. The regulations issued pursuant to the Act relating to security guard services of 13 May 1988 No. 29 shall continue to apply until otherwise decided by the Ministry.

Section 18. *Transitional provisions*

This Act shall also apply to persons who hold licences for security guard services granted pursuant to the Act relating to security guard services of 13 May 1988 No. 29. Such persons may continue operations without applying for new licences provided that the licence they hold is not in contravention of the provisions of this Act.

In force with regard to commercial security guard services operated by private undertakings.