The specific security guard certification requirements vary by state, but in general, most states require some basic certifications, including:

* **Security guard license:** This is the minimum requirement to work as a security guard in the US. To obtain a license, you typically must meet the following requirements:
  + Be at least 18 years old
  + Have a high school diploma or equivalent
  + Complete a state-mandated security guard training course
  + Have no criminal record of serious offenses
  + Pass a background check and drug test
* **First aid certification:** Security guards often deal with emergency situations, so having first aid certification is important. Common first aid certifications include CPR, AED, and First Aid.
* **Firearm certification:** If you want to carry and use a firearm on the job, you will need to obtain a state-issued firearm certification. Obtaining this certification typically requires you to complete a firearms safety training course and pass a proficiency test.
* **Additional certifications:** In addition to these basic certifications, some states may require additional certifications, depending on the type of security guard work you want to do. For example:
  + Armored car driving certification
  + Motorcycle driving certification
  + Witness protection certification
  + Maritime security certification

**Note:**

* Security guard certification requirements can change over time, so you should check with your local licensing authority for the latest information.
* Some private security companies may require additional certifications or skills beyond the basic state requirements.

In addition to having the necessary certifications, security guards should also have the following qualities:

* Physical fitness
* High level of alertness
* Good communication skills
* Problem-solving skills
* Ability to work independently and as part of a team

**Here are some helpful resources:**

* National Association of Security Guards (NASG) <https://www.ngaus.org/>
* International Association of Security Professionals (IASP) <https://iasapgroup.org/>
* List of state security guard licensing agencies: <https://www.csg.org/>