



The ClearanceJobs Report
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With the holiday season complete, first quarter hiring of security-cleared workers is expected to surge with many multi-million dollar Department of Defense contracts being [awarded in December](#). While some employers post jobs online that are contingent upon contract award, many career seekers [don't like applying for jobs that don't yet exist](#).

Postings for security clearance jobs in December showed a strong increase in the number of positions requiring higher level clearances. When compared to November 2006, there were 10% more jobs posted requiring a Top Secret or higher level clearance.

Employers continue to seek candidates with higher level clearances, and pay them more. Fewer in supply, candidates with higher clearances earn an **average of \$10,000** more per year than similar cleared job seekers at the Secret or Confidential clearance level.

This month's **Job Spotlight** focuses on an open position for a candidate with Java and J2ee programming experience. As some of the highest paying jobs anywhere, J2ee developers earn upwards of \$175,000 per year, especially when a candidate's security clearance level is high.

By The Numbers – Focus on Security Clearance

88,020	Current number of cleared job seekers registered on ClearanceJobs.com
79,500	CIO-estimated number of contract employees working IT projects for the U.S. government
9.6%	Average decrease in metro DC area salaries of security-cleared workers polled between January 21 and September 30, 2006
18 months	Average time to clear an unclassified worker as reported by ClearanceJobs.com employers

Most Wanted Job Industries

1. IT Software-Java/J2EE
2. Engineering-Military Communications
3. Engineering-Aerospace and Aviation
4. Tech Support/Help Desk
5. Military - Intelligence Analysis

[View all posted jobs](#)

Job Seeker Poll Results

This month's poll of 150 cleared job seekers asks candidates about their thoughts on video resumes.

Video Resumes: Good Idea or Big Dud?

Good Idea - Stand out from the competition  20%

Big Dud - Fast way to be disqualified for a job  80%

Top Requested Locations for Security-Cleared Candidates:

1. VA-Chantilly
2. DC-Washington/Metro
3. VA-McLean/Arlington
4. CA-EI Segundo
5. VA-Fairfax/Reston
6. VA-Northern
7. CA-San Diego
8. MD-Ft. Meade
9. VA-Springfield
10. AL-Northern/Huntsville

Job Spotlight

(Description of unique security-cleared position currently posted on ClearanceJobs.com)

Job Title: Sr. Java/J2ee Developer

Employer: General Dynamics

Job Location: VA-Vienna

Clearance: Minimum Top Secret level security clearance required with SCI access and Full Scope Polygraph

Conducts or participates in the research, design and development of systems software, software applications and/or tools for new programs and subprograms as well as enhancements, modifications and corrections to existing software. Codes, tests, integrates and documents software solutions. Candidate will perform development and operational maintenance (O&M) on customer software application.

Spotlight on Jobs in Iraq

Understandably, security clearance jobs in Iraq pay more than any other location worldwide. With danger comes high compensation and benefits, and the challenge of working in a hostile environment. Clearance-required jobs in Iraq come from a wide range of positions, including IT, mechanics, intelligence, security, and project management. While the average salary for an American contractor working in Iraq is \$98,387 one must factor in signing bonuses, tax-exempt status, and additional danger pay for many open positions.

- Average salary of polled security cleared candidates in Iraq: \$98,387
- There are an estimated 100,000 U.S. government contractors working in Iraq – almost as much as military personnel
- About 650 contractors have been killed in Iraq since 2003 while on the job
- Prime contractors with Iraq contracts include KBR, CACI, DynCorp, and others
- Many active duty soldiers come back to Iraq as contractors after they complete their military service

ClearanceJobs.com Salary Survey

(Top 10 highest paid locations for security clearance jobs, according to the Q3 2006 ClearanceJobs.com [Salary Survey](#))

- Iraq \$98,387.10
- MD \$78,422.00
- VA \$76,500.00
- PA \$76,451.61
- DC \$73,428.45
- NY \$69,444.44
- NJ \$69,032.26
- MA \$65,740.74
- IL \$65,476.00
- AZ \$64,423.08

[Read the entire salary survey](#)

Upcoming Security-Cleared Career Fairs:

Los Angeles, CA	01/16/2007
Anaheim, CA	01/17/2007
Sierra Vista, AZ	01/17/2007
Washington, DC	01/22/2007
Washington, DC	01/23/2007
Huntsville, AL	01/31/2007
Boston, MA	02/06/2007
Dallas, TX	02/14/2007
San Diego, CA	02/21/2007
Chicago, IL	02/27/2007

[View all upcoming career fairs](#)

Security-Cleared Question of the Month:

(From the ClearanceJobs.com [Security Clearance FAQ](#))

What is the most likely factor for a person to be denied a security clearance?

The number one reason a person is likely to be denied a clearance is due to past financial difficulty. This might include declaration of bankruptcy, multiple extended lines of credit, excessive debt, defaulting on loans, etc.

Please let us know if there are specific areas of interest that you would like to see included in the next edition of the ClearanceJobs Report. Upon request, ClearanceJobs can also provide you with specific data, trend information and commentary. If you would like to be removed from this list, please respond "Remove" to this email address.