

How to Earn Extra Cash in a Tough Economy

Part-time work offers employees the flexibility to stay at home with their children, care for relatives, go to school or have more time to themselves. These of jobs are also a way to earn supplemental income throughout the year.

Whether you already have a job and you want to work part-time to supplement your income, or you just need extra money for the holidays, we have some suggestions for jobs that may suit your needs.

Before you start your search, consider the following:

- Use a reliable part-time jobs website to initiate your search, do research, and ask questions before applying.
- Seasonal and long-term part-time jobs are two different things--make sure you are clear about what you are looking for and what the potential employer is offering.
- Find out how much flexibility there is with your part-time employer and consider how much free time you actually have available.

Security Guard

This is a good night or weekend part-time job. A Security Guard patrols buildings and grounds of industrial plants, commercial establishments, docks, logging camp areas, or work sites. The job requires a high school diploma or its equivalent and zero to two years of experience in the field or in a related area.

Bank Teller

Tellers process a variety of routine financial transaction including check cashing, withdrawals, deposits, and loan payments. The job requires a high school diploma or equivalent. They rely on instructions and pre-established guidelines to perform the functions of the job.

At-Home Sales Associate

Do you enjoy meeting people in your neighborhood or workplace? Maybe you want to be your own boss and have the flexibility to work the hours that are best for you and your lifestyle. There are many at-home sales positions where you can sell products you enjoy such as health and beauty supplies, jewelry, cookware, candles and more to people you know in a personal, convenient and timesaving way.

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Seasonal Retail Jobs

Seasonal jobs are traditionally a great way to learn new skills and make extra money. Unfortunately, a tough economy can negatively affect the holiday retail job market. Although many retailers are cutting back on their holiday hiring, there are still some merchants who could use some holiday help. Many retailers also offer their seasonal employees a store discount. Jobs include Retail Cashier, Loss Prevention Representative and Retail Stock Clerk.

Restaurant Jobs

Holiday foot traffic picks up at fast food restaurants and casual dining establishments. Not only are people grabbing bites on the go between shopping stops, but they are meeting up with family and friends. Jobs such as Bartender, Server, and Hostess/Restaurant Greeter may be a good option to fit in on nights and weekends, lending itself well to someone who wants to earn extra dollars after the regular workday is through.

Home Care Aide

The elderly population of America is growing, and many of our older citizens are opting to stay at home rather than go into nursing homes. This has fueled a burst in Home Care Aide jobs. The job requires short-term on-the-job-training. With the growing need for people in this field, it is more likely that employers will be flexible with part-time hours in order to cover various work shifts.

Usher/Ticket Taker

Local theaters often hire part-time employees to assist with ticket taking and ushering for its performances. Ushers are expected to greet and seat guests in a timely and efficient manner. As a bonus, you can view the event and get paid at the same time.

Go Freelance

You could also go freelance with some less specialized skills. Consider starting a cleaning business on the side. If you have a reliable vehicle, consider running errands for those in your community that are unable to do so for themselves for an hourly fee.

Source: Salary.com is the leading provider of detailed compensation information. Through continual analysis, Salary.com tracks up-to-date salary information for more than 3,700 job titles.