

Letter Carrier

One employer, one union, and a route you walk in every kind of weather.

TYPICAL PAY**\$60,000**

a year, full time

PAY RANGE**\$48k to \$70k**

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY**up to 1 year**

after high school

DEMAND**Moderate**

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED**No**

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK**Neighbourhood routes, sorting
depots, delivery vehicles**

How you get there

- 1 Finish some high school** Grade 12 recommended
Job Bank lists some secondary school as the education requirement. A full diploma helps you compete.
- 2 Apply when postings open** Weeks to months
Hiring runs in waves, mostly before summer and before Christmas. Almost everyone starts as a temporary or on-call carrier.
- 3 Pass the checks** Weeks
A criminal record check, and you have to show you can carry a loaded satchel and walk a route in any weather.
- 4 Employer training** 2 to 4 weeks
Job Bank says Canada Post provides two weeks to one month of training on sorting, route order, scanners, safety and vehicles.
- 5 Work on call, then bid a route** Months to years
You cover other carriers first. Permanent routes are awarded by seniority.

Pros and cons

- + No tuition and a pension, which is a rare combination
- + Outdoors and moving all day
- + A negotiated wage grid, so your pay is predictable
- Years of on-call and temporary work before a permanent route
- Snow, ice, rain and heat with no choice about it
- Parcel volumes keep making the route heavier

Optional boosts

A permanent full-time route. Depot and sorting roles. Supervisor. Driving roles.

Good to know

Almost everyone in the job has benefits

Job Bank reports that about 95% of Canadian letter carriers receive at least one non-wage benefit such as a pension or insurance. For delivery drivers the figure is about 57%.

The pay range is unusually tight

Job Bank's low and high for letter carriers are \$23 and \$33.65 an hour. Most jobs on this site have a spread three or four times as wide. A negotiated wage grid is why.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Letter Carrier in Canada, wages (updated Nov 2025)

Job Bank: Letter carrier, job requirements

Job Bank: Letter carrier, job prospects

Canada Post: Our company

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/letter-carrier>



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