

## Sports or Leisure Centre Assistant

Sports or leisure centre assistants look after the equipment in sports and leisure centres, supervise clients that are using it and undertake reception duties.

### The Work

You could be:

- maintaining and setting up equipment, checking it is not damaged and is safe to use
- supervising adults, teenagers and children using equipment
- challenging troublemakers, if necessary excluding them and perhaps dealing with complaints
- assisting with any accidents that occur and giving first aid if needed
- overseeing security in changing rooms and lockers, tidying and cleaning all areas
- charging admission, taking bookings, renting out equipment, handling cash or answering the phone
- monitor and maintain the water quality in the pool, and check equipment such as heating or ventilation units, filters and pumps
- selling refreshments in a cafe or bar area
- helping the sports instructor to coach clients and assisting at special events.

### Pay

The figures below are only a guide. Actual pay rates may vary, depending on:

- where you work
- the size of the company or organisation you work for
- the demand for the job.

Salaries for sports or leisure centre assistants vary in Scotland depending on the employer. With private employers you may earn between £15,500 to £20,000 a year. Local authority salaries can range from £18,000 to £26,000 a year.

### Conditions

- You will work shifts including early mornings, evenings, weekends and public holidays – you may be able to work overtime.
- Part time work is common.
- You will spend a lot of time on your feet and may have to do some heavy lifting.
- You will wear a uniform.

### Getting In

- Entry into this line of work can be competitive.
- A good general education is useful. Some employers may ask for subjects at National 4 including English.
- It could be helpful to have an NQ or NC (SCQF Levels 4-6) in a sports subject – you do not usually need

qualifications for entry.

- A qualification in first aid is useful and may be required.
- If the sports or leisure centre has a swimming pool, you may also need lifeguard qualifications (see [Lifeguard or Pool attendant](#)).
- It may be helpful to have experience of working with the public.
- You should be physically fit as this is an active job.
- You will require a satisfactory criminal record check from [Disclosure Scotland](#) to show that you are suitable for this type of work. Contact Disclosure Scotland for details on the type you would need.

You could work for a local authority, a university or college, a private leisure centre, health and fitness centre or a health club.

## What Does It Take

You should be:

- interested in sport and fitness
- polite, friendly and helpful
- patient and tolerant when helping customers
- able to explain things clearly and tactfully to clients
- good at planning and organising your work
- able to remain calm in an emergency
- responsible and safety conscious
- good at working in a team.

## Training

- Training is on the job which would include health and safety guidelines.
- You could take a first aid qualification if you do not already have one.
- If you are responsible for maintaining the water quality, you can complete the RLSS National Pool Management Qualification. This 4-day course is a technical qualification for staff operating pool plant each day.
- You might take coaching and officiating qualifications in your own sport, if you do not already hold them.
- You could also take an SVQ in management.
- The [Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity](#) (CIMSPA) run short courses for sports and leisure assistants.

## Getting On

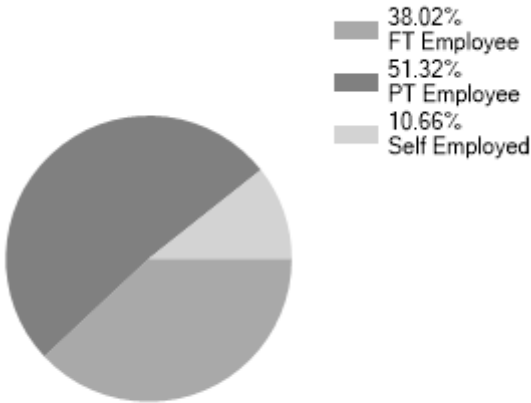
- After gaining experience and perhaps some of the qualifications noted above, you might get a job as a supervisor.
- You might then move on to become manager of a sports or leisure centre.
- You could do further qualifications and become a sports coach, fitness instructor or personal trainer.

## Contacts



**Statistics**

Employment Status UK %

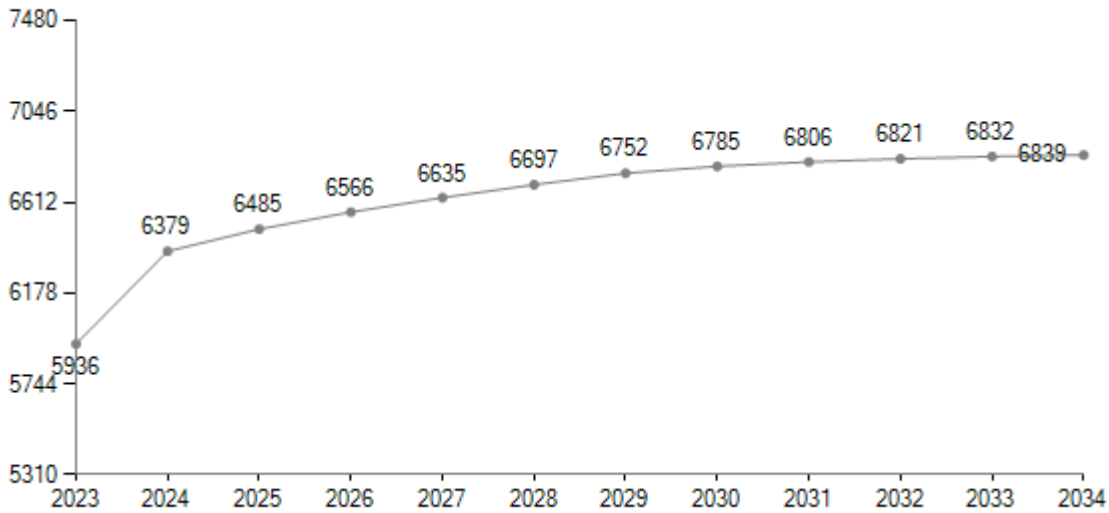


**Past Unemployment - Scotland**

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

LMI data powered by [LMI for All](#)

Predicted Employment in Scotland



LMI data powered by [Lightcast](#)