Security Technical Specialists safeguard people, property and sensitive information worldwide.

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS) ensures the safe conduct of U.S. foreign policy. Operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the world, its mission has grown to keep up with the constant challenges of rapidly evolving technology in detection equipment, computer systems and intrusion detection systems, as well as access control equipment. During domestic assignments, Security Technical Specialists (STS) are involved with worldwide programs concerning logistics, equipment maintenance, Secretary of State support and overseas operations. They also provide technical security support to the U.S. Mission at the United Nations in New York, and to the various regional offices located throughout the United States. A domestic assignment may also involve some periods of overseas travel.

DS deploys teams of highly skilled professionals to implement and maintain effective security systems and programs at over 285 U.S. embassies, missions and consulates overseas. As a key team member, you’ll play a critical role in the protection of U.S. Department of State facilities and personnel – fighting against technical espionage, crime and terrorism.

One of our greatest strengths is our diversity.

Diversity is reflected in who we employ – culturally aware, adaptable, strategic thinkers from all walks of life. When people of all cultures, races, religions, and economic backgrounds represent the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, it’s a clear statement to the world about who America is and what our values mean in practice.

Make a difference on a global scale.

As a Foreign Service Specialist serving overseas, you’ll be a vital part of history in the making as you experience the challenge and excitement of a career at the forefront of international affairs. You’ll have an unprecedented opportunity to travel the world and experience different cultures.

From a practical perspective, you will receive exceptional benefits, including life and health insurance, language training and professional development, federal retirement benefits, paid education for dependent children K through 12, and generous paid leave. When serving overseas, the U.S. Department of State provides excellent paid housing or a housing allowance.

This is an opportunity unlike any other: it is a chance to represent your country to the world – to contribute to a global society, make an impact, and show the world a side of America it has never seen – you.

Discover a career unlike any other – become a Security Technical Specialist.

Real change, even globally, starts with each of us. When you work for the U.S. Department of State, you’ll discover the unique opportunity to make an impact, as you help societies become full partners in the international community. Here, you’ll have the chance to represent America to the world and make a difference as you experience an extraordinary career.
Specialized training expands on your expertise.

A Security Technical Specialist is a Foreign Service Specialist devoted to keeping people and information secure in a world that poses many threats. An STS is a member of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security team that provides a safe environment for the conduct of U.S. diplomacy worldwide. All STS employees share a background that includes several years of prior technical experience and training. New STS employees undergo six months of entry-level training with frequent in-service training thereafter. They hold Top Secret security clearances and spend over half their careers living at over 65 overseas locations where we maintain offices. An STS enjoys a career that offers exceptional challenges and a lifestyle many dream of.

Qualifications – as demanding as the job.

Diplomatic Security is looking for people with a demonstrated ability to troubleshoot and repair electronic, electrical and/or electromechanical systems and equipment, evidenced by a minimum of three years work experience in this discipline.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens at least 20 years old to apply, and at least 21 years of age to be appointed. They must have:
- A High School diploma or equivalent
- Vocational or military training in electronics specialty
- Formal, job-related classroom training, equipment manufacturers’ schools, and other such instruction

Specialized experience may be substituted for educational achievements. Each time period of related formal academic, technical, vocational or trade school education may be substituted for the equivalent time period of specialized experience up to a maximum of two years. In addition, each applicant must undergo a thorough background investigation to determine eligibility for a security clearance.

It’s a career that rewards you in many ways.

Starting salaries will be at the Foreign Service grade FP-06/1. STS personnel will be promoted to the FP-05 level after one year of satisfactory performance, and to the FP-04 level after an additional 18 months of satisfactory performance. Further promotions are competitive, based on performance ratings and the recommendation of the annual promotion selection board.

To find specific opportunities, register to receive email notifications, and learn more about qualifications, training and other specifics related to DS careers, visit us at http://careers.state.gov. You can also find our career opportunities at:

- www.state.gov/m/ds/career
- www.state.gov/careers
- www.usajobs.gov

Or contact us directly at 571.345.3783 or via email at DSRecruitment@state.gov.

“I maintain complex security systems at U.S. embassies worldwide.”

Abdou
Foreign Service Specialist, Security Technical Specialist

“I contribute my technical expertise to protect U.S. embassies against acts of terror.”

Ribe
Foreign Service Specialist, Security Technical Specialist