

### Librarian definition:

A librarian is an information professional. The job consists in managing a collection of material or technical information. A librarian is responsible for acquisitions, intellectual and material organisation, dissemination and exploitation of a library's resources, in order to meet the library users' needs.

### Job opportunities

A librarian can work either in a private library or in a public institution.

In the private sector, he or she may be hired by non-profit organisations, firms (for instance in a works council), law firms, advertising agencies, professional unions, private schools, or in the media.

Many public institutions offer a library, either general or specialized. For instance: schools, universities, hospitals, museums and research laboratories. It is often necessary to pass a competitive examination to work in those places.

### Tasks

To help the users in their researches and fulfil their requests, a librarian is supposed to elaborate services and make available appropriate tools:

- an online catalogue,
- data bases,
- "tale time",
- exhibitions,
- bibliographies, for example.

The job, therefore, includes working at the reception desk, training the public to use the research tools, laying out enough space to stock the collection and enable the users' circulation

Nowadays, with the growing impact of new technologies, a librarian is more and more likely to use performant equipment in terms of information and research. Therefore, a librarian ought to be up to date on these technical innovations, besides knowing about news and current events.

### Skills

- A librarian should be curious and organized. She or he has to share and communicate information and be aware of people needs.
- Team spirit is also very important as librarians rarely work alone.
- He or she should be good at synthesizing information.

### Training

There are several ways to become a librarian. On the one hand, some universities offer professional training. On the other hand, students can integrate a school of librarian and information science. In both ways, it is necessary to apply for internships while training. However, it is recommended to work part-time in a library so as to build up one's resume and learn more about different types of libraries.

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