



Healthcare Social Worker

Standard Occupational Code 21-1022.00

Occupational Profile

What They Do

Provide individuals, families, and groups with the psychosocial support needed to cope with chronic, acute, or terminal illnesses. Services include advising family care givers, providing patient education and counseling, and making referrals for other services. May also provide care and case management or interventions designed to promote health, prevent disease, and address barriers to access to healthcare.

Is This For You?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model). People who tend to succeed in this career are:

Social - Enjoy working with, communicating with, and teaching people. They like helping or providing service to others.

Investigative - Interested in science and logic. They like to analyze, evaluate, and solve problems, and enjoy learning and understanding the causes of events.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career:

Relationships - Allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

Achievement - Results oriented occupation that allows employees to use their strongest abilities, giving them a feeling of accomplishment.

Independence - Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

Abilities reflect a person's aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career:

- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning

Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Social Perceptiveness
- Speaking
- Critical Thinking
- Coordination
- Reading Comprehension
- Service Orientation
- Writing

Education & Training

Healthcare social workers require a master's degree in social work, psychology, sociology, or a related program.

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

Median Skill Level

Applied Mathematics	4
Reading for Information	4
Locating Information	5

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of healthcare social workers are:

- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Nursing Care Facilities
- Residential Mental Health Facilities
- Offices of Physicians
- Local Government

SD Employment & Wages

2012 Workers	2022 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
490	555	65	13.3%	16	\$36,700

Additional References

South Dakota Career InSite

www.sdjobs.org/careerinsite

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

online.onetcenter.org

Visit www.sdjobs.org/lmic/occprofiles to obtain the most recent workforce data and trends. Also available are explanations of the terms used for work interests, work values, abilities, and skills sections of occupational profiles.