South Dakota
Health Careers Guide

When deciding a career path to follow, it is important to identify the goals you wish to achieve. There are many factors to consider when choosing a career, such as opportunities for advancement, challenging work, flexibility and pay. You can fulfill these goals with a career in healthcare! You can add an important ingredient to those features: the incredible feeling you get from helping others.

South Dakota has a shortage of trained healthcare professionals, which means there are many jobs available for you in healthcare. Careers in healthcare provide people with a great selection of jobs in a variety of settings from hospitals to homes located everywhere from Custer to Canton. Health careers in South Dakota…check them out!

The South Dakota Department of Health, the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO) and the South Dakota Area Health Education Center (AHEC) developed this guide for use by middle school, high school and college students; academic and career counselors; hospitals and healthcare facilities; and others. The guide supports the efforts of the participating entities to meet their missions to improve the supply, distribution and quality of healthcare personnel in South Dakota. For additional information about health careers in South Dakota, visit healthcareers.sd.gov.
Contents

Administrative and Support Services 4
- Health Unit Coordinator
- Medical and Health Services Manager
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Records and Health Information Technician
- Medical Transcriptionist

Medical Laboratory Science 4
- Medical Laboratory Scientist
- Medical Laboratory Technician
- Microbiologist
- Phlebotomist

Dental/Oral Health 5
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Dental Laboratory Technician
- Dentist

Dietary Health 6
- Dietetic Technician
- Dietitian

Medical Careers 6
- Chiropractor
- Optometrist
- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Podiatrist

Mental Health 7
- Psychologist
- Counselor
- Healthcare Social Worker
- Mental Health Technician

Nursing 8
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Midwife
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse

Pharmacy 9
- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Technician

Pre-Hospital 9
- EMT
- Paramedic

Public Health 10
- Biostatistician
- Community Health Worker
- Epidemiologist
- Health Educator

Radiology 10
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist
- Radiation Therapy Technologist
- Radiologic Technologist

Technologies and Services 11
- Biomedical Engineer
- Biomedical Technician
- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Cardiac Sonographer
- Child Life Specialist
- Dialysis Technician
- Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist
- Genetic Counselor
- Home Health Aid
- Orthotist/Prosthetist
- Perfusionist
- Surgical Technologist

Therapy 13
- Athletic Trainer
- Audiologist
- Massage Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Rehabilitation Counselor
- Respiratory Therapist
- Speech-Language Pathologist

Healthcare Occupations Projected to Have Higher-than-Average Demand for Workers in South Dakota through 2022 14

Additional Resources 15

South Dakota Technical Institutes and Universities 15
Administrative and Support Services

Administrative and support services encompass a wide variety of careers. Administrative services professionals oversee staff, policy, strategic initiatives and quality outcomes. Support service professionals include a mixture of professions that are essential to the healthcare team.

**Health Unit Coordinator**

Health Unit Coordinators assist in maintaining patient and unit records, ordering supplies, transcribing orders, coordinating patient activities for the unit and serving as a connection between staff, patients and visitors. Health Unit Coordinators receive new patients and give information and directions to visitors.

**Medical and Health Services Manager**

Medical and Health Services Managers are in charge of specific clinical departments or an entire facility or system. Medical and Health Services Managers plan, direct, coordinate and supervise the delivery of healthcare. They help formulate business strategies and coordinate day-to-day business activities.

**Medical Assistant**

Medical Assistants perform clinical and administrative duties to keep healthcare delivery settings running smoothly. They assist physicians, physician assistants and nurse practitioners during exams and treatments. Medical Assistants also may give injections, take blood for testing and perform simple lab and evaluation tests, including electrocardiography.

**Medical Records and Health Information Technician**

Medical Records and Health Information Technicians supervise the medical records department, including appropriate storage, maintenance and retrieval of information, specifically patients’ medical information and charts.

**Medical Transcriptionist**

Medical Transcriptionists listen to recordings made by physicians and other healthcare professionals and transcribe them into medical reports, correspondence and other administrative material. They edit documentation for grammar and proper medical terminology use.

**Medical Laboratory Science**

The medical laboratory is an important department of a hospital and many medical facilities. The laboratory team examines blood, tissues and other body fluids to assist physicians in diagnosing and monitoring patients. The laboratory team includes pathologists, medical laboratory scientists, medical laboratory technicians, microbiologists and phlebotomists.

**Medical Laboratory Scientist**

Medical Laboratory Scientists examine and analyze body fluids, tissues and cells. They perform medical laboratory tests either manually or with the assistance of biomedical instruments. Medical Laboratory Scientists look for microorganisms, analyze chemical contents, match blood for transfusions and make determinations to aid in the diagnoses of disease.

**Medical Laboratory Technician**

Medical Laboratory Technicians analyze blood, other body fluids, tissues and cells under the direction of a Medical Laboratory Scientist. They look for microorganisms, analyze chemical contents and match blood for transfusions.
Microbiologist
Microbiologists investigate the growth, structure, development and other characteristics of microscopic organisms such as bacteria, algae or fungi. Microbiologists study the relationship between organisms and disease or the effects of antibiotics on microorganisms.

Phlebotomist
Phlebotomists draw blood samples by venipuncture, skin puncture or arterial collection for medical tests and blood donations. They prepare specimens for screening, analysis or other medical purposes.

Dental/Oral Health
Dentistry is a health career field dedicated to treating oral health - teeth, mouth and problems of the head and neck. Dental professionals focus on disease prevention, disease detection, diagnosis and overall oral health improvement.

Dental Assistant
Dental Assistants instruct and educate patients about oral health care. They prepare and sterilize dental instruments and take and develop dental x-rays. In addition, dental assistants perform administrative work.

Dental Hygienist
Dental Hygienists evaluate patients’ dental health and teach patients how to practice good oral hygiene. Dental Hygienists clean patients’ teeth, take x-rays and apply fluorides and sealants to teeth.

Dental Laboratory Technician
Dental Laboratory Technicians make dental prostheses (replacements for the natural teeth), including dentures, crowns, bridges and other dental prosthetics. Working with teeth, dental laboratory technicians’ work is highly detailed and delicate.

Dentist
Dentists diagnose, prevent and treat problems with teeth or mouth tissue. They remove decay, fill cavities, examine x-rays, place protective plastic sealants on teeth, straighten teeth and repair fractured teeth. Dentists perform corrective surgery on gums and supporting bones to treat gum diseases.

Dietary Health
Professionals in dietary health understand the importance of nutrition and the prevention of illness. Dietary health professionals work with patients and other healthcare professionals to understand the science of food and to carry out food plans to improve overall health.

Dietetic Technician/Assistant
Dietetic Technicians assist dietitians in food administration and nutrition care services. They gather nutrition assessment information, counsel individuals, develop menus, perform nutrient analysis and purchase food.
Dietitian and Nutritionist
Dietitians assess the nutritional needs of patients after consulting with physicians and other healthcare professionals. Nutritionists plan patient menus and meals, as well as instruct patients on proper nutrition and/or dietary restrictions. They help to prevent and treat illnesses by promoting healthy eating habits and recommending dietary modifications.

Medical Careers
The field of medicine has expanded from the medical doctor to associated professions such as physician assistants, podiatrists, chiropractors and optometrists.

Medical doctors specialize in many areas of healthcare. For instance, a physician can specialize in family medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, internal medicine, radiology, psychiatry, pathology, cardiology, geriatrics and many more.

Chiropractor
Chiropractors use natural, non-surgical health treatments such as heat, ultrasound, massage, light, diet, water, exercise and rest to treat overall health and well-being. Postural and spinal analysis, involving correct alignment of the vertebrae, is unique to chiropractors.

Optometrist
Optometrists examine the eyes to diagnose vision problems and eye diseases. They test visual acuity, depth and color perception, ability to focus and coordinate the eyes, analyze test results and develop a treatment plan. Optometrists prescribe eyeglasses and contact lenses.

Physician
Physicians diagnose and treat human illness, disease and injury. They perform analyses of patient histories, physical examinations and interpretations of diagnostic tests. They diagnose and treat life-threatening situations and severe illnesses. Physicians work as leaders and coordinators of the healthcare team, referring patients to appropriate resources for care.

Physician Assistant
Physician Assistants perform routine examinations, run diagnostic tests, provide rehabilitative and preventive healthcare, perform health screenings, manage therapy for chronic health problems, perform minor surgical procedures, assist with surgery and issue prescription orders and medications.

Podiatrist
Podiatrists diagnose and treat ailments, injuries and diseases of the foot, ankle and lower leg. Podiatrists design and develop mechanical devices to correct walking patterns and balance problems. They prescribe orthotics, braces and shoes to treat conditions and improve patients’ walking and posture.
Mental Health

Mental health professionals help patients with emotional disabilities, psychological disorders and psychiatric illnesses, as well as help patients with family conflicts, developmental disabilities, substance abuse and rehabilitation. Mental health professionals work with families to involve them in the process of treating mental health problems.

Psychologist

Psychologists study the behavioral, emotional and thought processes of humans to better understand their behavior. Psychologists assess, diagnose and treat mental disorders by using individual, child, family and group therapies. Psychologists may teach, conduct research or serve as consultants or therapists.

Counselor

Counselors assist patients and families in developing an understanding of personal and behavioral problems, as well as mental disorders. Counselors use diagnostic procedures, treatment plans and psychotherapeutic techniques to create goals and action plans. There are four specializations: Marriage and Family Therapy, Substance Abuse Counseling, School Counseling and Licensed Professional Counseling.

Healthcare Social Worker

Healthcare Social Workers who work in the medical field collaborate with physicians and healthcare professionals to help individuals cope with social and emotional factors related to a medical condition or problem. Healthcare Social Workers are trained to link the patient with community resources to resume a normal or active lifestyle - without being inhibited by their medical condition.

Mental Health Technician

Mental Health Technicians work with mentally, developmentally or emotionally impaired individuals. They help people reach goals established in a therapeutic plan for their care. This involves working on goals in personal care; independent living; health care; and social, recreational and employment activities.

Nursing

Nursing professionals are important members of the healthcare team, providing care to patients and their families. Careers in nursing span from much-needed daily tasks, such as helping dress and bathe patients, to assisting surgeons in the operating room and leading administrative management teams. Nursing professionals have many possibilities for advancement and specialization.

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

Certified Nursing Assistants measure temperature, pulse rate, respiration and blood pressure, help patients with range-of-motion exercises and assist patients with their daily living needs. They perform much-needed tasks, such as serving meals, making beds and helping patients eat, dress, and bathe.

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

Licensed Practical Nurses measure and record patients vital signs such as height, weight, temperature, blood pressure, pulse and respiration. They prepare and give injections, monitor catheters and dress wounds. Licensed Practical Nurses assist with bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, moving in bed, standing and walking.
Nurse Anesthetist
Nurse Anesthetists monitor important body functions and individually modify the anesthetic to ensure maximum safety and comfort during surgery. Nurse Anesthetists oversee recovery from anesthesia after surgery in the recovery room to the patient care unit. Nurse Anesthetists stay with their patients through the entire surgical procedure.

Nurse Midwife
Nurse midwives give care to women during pregnancy, labor, birth and the postpartum period, as well as care to the newborn infant. Nurse Midwives also provide well woman care during all phases of life and may prescribe medications if needed. They promote healthy family lifestyles and educate women on nutrition, breastfeeding and child care options.

Nurse Practitioner (NP)
Nurse Practitioners record medical history, conduct physical exams, make diagnoses and implement treatment plans. Nurse Practitioners order and interpret lab tests and x-rays, as well as write prescriptions. Nurse Practitioners are professionals who have completed advanced training in nursing.

Registered Nurse (RN)
Registered Nurses record patients’ medical histories and symptoms, help perform diagnostic tests and analyze results. RNs treat patients and educate patients about various medical conditions. They operate medical machinery, administer treatment and medications and help with patient follow-up and rehabilitation. Registered Nurses provide advice and emotional support to patients’ family members.

Pharmacy
Pharmacy professionals provide pharmaceutical care to patients and those in need by working with the patient and other healthcare providers to prescribe, monitor and dispense a pharmaceutical plan that will resolve or prevent a medical problem.

Pharmacist
Pharmacists distribute prescription drugs to individuals. They also advise patients and health practitioners on the selection, dosages, interactions and side effects of medications, as well as monitor patient health to ensure that they are using their medications safely and effectively. They may counsel hospitalized patients on the use of drugs. Some pharmacists specialize in specific drug therapy areas, such as intravenous nutrition support, oncology (cancer), nuclear pharmacy (used for chemotherapy), geriatric pharmacy and psychiatric pharmacy (the use of drugs to treat mental disorders).

Pharmacy Technician
Pharmacy Technicians assist and support pharmacists by performing duties such as ordering, stocking, packaging and preparing medications. Pharmacy Technicians perform tasks in preparation for distributing the medications to patients and are required to have a broad knowledge of the pharmacy’s functions.
**Pre-Hospital**

Emergency medical technicians and paramedics, sometimes referred to as EMTs, are often the first people to help a sick or injured person. They must assess emergency situations, recognizing the condition of patients, and start the appropriate treatment. If the patient needs additional medical treatment, the EMT then arranges for the safe transport of the patient and will usually travel with the patient in an ambulance or helicopter.

**EMT**

EMTs are trained to provide basic-level life support to persons who are sick or injured. EMTs give appropriate emergency care following strict guidelines for which procedures they may perform.

**Paramedic**

The highest skilled pre-hospital provider is the Paramedic. Paramedics are licensed healthcare professionals who provide the most extensive pre-hospital advanced life support. Due to more advanced training, paramedics can provide a higher level of care than an EMT.

**Public Health**

Public health professionals focus on community-wide healthcare rather than individual patients for health promotion and disease prevention. Public health professionals identify groups at risk for disease and work to ensure that all individuals receive adequate health care.

**Biostatistician**

Biostatisticians design studies used to predict the pattern of a specific disease, evaluate new treatment, assess the safety and effectiveness of medications and increase the knowledge of environmental issues. They design and analyze public health research.

**Community Health Workers**

Community health workers (CHW) are often responsible for the health of members of the community who may not be cared for by traditional medical institutions. CHWs ensure that culturally diverse populations, as well as underserved individuals and communities, adopt healthy behaviors. CHWs often share similar characteristics, such as ethnicity, language and life experiences, with those living in the community they serve. CHWs have training on health interventions and practice guidelines but are not necessarily professionally certified or have post-secondary education.

**Epidemiologist**

Epidemiologists study or research infectious diseases, disease outbreaks, chronic diseases, injuries, occupations and environments. They develop or refine methods of measuring and evaluating disease occurrences and develop and recommend public health policy.

**Health Educator**

Health Educators promote healthy behaviors to individuals and communities and assist them with ways to integrate these behaviors into daily life. Health Educators collect and analyze data to identify community needs to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies and environments. Educators may also serve as a resource to assist individuals, professionals or the community.
Radiology

Radiology professionals use radiation and magnetic fields to create images, commonly called x-rays, of internal elements of the body. The images of the body (x-rays) are used to diagnose and treat illnesses and to obtain information about the inside of the body. There are many careers in radiology.

**Diagnostic Medical Sonographer**

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers use sound waves (ultrasound) to diagnose a variety of conditions and disease, as well as monitor fetal development during pregnancy. They observe the image display screen, adjust equipment to ensure a diagnostic image, make decisions as to the appropriateness of the image and the presence of pathology and relate technical reports to the interpreting physician.

**Nuclear Medicine Technologist**

Nuclear Medicine Technologists work with imaging equipment and are skilled in using radioactive substances in the human body to obtain pictures of organs, tissues and other areas. They assist in disposing radioactive waste, maintaining inventory and control of radiopharmaceuticals and following safety regulations to limit radiation exposure.

**Radiation Therapy Technologist**

Radiation Therapy Technologists play a vital role in the treatment of patients who are diagnosed with cancer. They administer the radiation therapy by exposing specific areas of the patient’s body to prescribed doses of radiation. They help position the patient’s body and assist the physician.

**Radiological Technologist**

Radiological Technologists take images (x-rays) of tissues, organs, bones and vessels in the body. Radiological Technologists work with radiologists (physicians specializing in the use of x-ray and radioisotopes) in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. They may also be trained to use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or computerized tomography (CT or CAT scans) for diagnostic purposes.

Technologies and Services

There are many healthcare professionals overseeing technology in the care of patients. Technological advancement in healthcare requires professionals to utilize and service complex equipment. There are numerous service-oriented areas in healthcare. The human body is complex and requires a vast range of professionals to assist in the healthcare team.

**Biomedical Engineer**

Biomedical Engineers develop devices and procedures that solve medical and health-related problems. Many do research to develop and evaluate systems and products for use in the fields of biology and health, such as artificial organs, prostheses, instrumentation, medical information systems, health management and care delivery systems.
**Biomedical Technician**

Biomedical Technicians install, operate, repair and maintain equipment such as X-ray machines, incubators, electronic thermometers, dental equipment, cardiac pressure monitors and sterilizers. Biomedical Technicians also instruct other healthcare personnel in the correct use of the equipment and assist in the evaluation of new devices.

**Cardiovascular Technologist**

Cardiovascular Technologists perform diagnostic examinations and therapeutic interventions of the heart and/or the blood vessels at the request and direction of the physician.

There are three specializations in cardiology:

- **Invasive cardiology** is a practice that involves the technologist helping a doctor insert probes into arteries to look for blockages and clots that inhibit the blood flow to the heart.

- **Noninvasive cardiology** is a practice that involves the use of ultrasound instrumentation to obtain images of the heart to identify diseased and healthy areas.

- **Noninvasive peripheral vascular cardiology** uses the same equipment as noninvasive cardiology, but attempts to identify diseased and healthy areas on the blood vessels that provide circulation.

**Cardiac Sonographer**

Cardiac Sonographers use sound waves (ultrasound) to create images that show the shape and composition of body tissues, organs and pathologies. They record patient history, position the patient for ultrasound testing and explain the procedure in detail. Cardiac Sonographers work under the direct supervision of a physician.

**Child Life Specialist**

Child Life Specialists focus on the emotional and developmental needs of children and families. They must assess the psychosocial needs of children and families and provide appropriate therapeutic relationships and activities. Using play and other forms of communication, they seek to reduce the stress associated with a healthcare experience and enable children and families to cope in a positive manner.

**Dialysis Technician**

Dialysis Technicians set up and operate hemodialysis units and related equipment to provide dialysis treatment for patients with kidney disorders or failure. Dialysis Technicians use advanced medical equipment to remove excess toxins and fluids from an individual's bloodstream. Dialysis Technicians use dialysis procedures, assess patients throughout the dialysis process, provide support to dialysis patients and keep patient records.
Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist

Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists record the electrical activity of the brain and nervous system. This activity is recorded by electrodes on the scalp or other regions of the body using electroencephalographic (EEG) and other electrophysiological equipment for NCS (nerve conduction studies), IONM (intraoperative monitoring), EP (evoked potentials) and PSG (polysomnography or sleep studies).

Genetic Counselor

Genetic Counselors provide information and support to families who have members with birth defects or genetic disorders and to families who may be at risk for a variety of inherited conditions. Genetic Counselors interpret information about the disorder, analyze inheritance patterns and risks of recurrence and review available options with the family.

Home Health Aide

Home Health Aides provide services to home-bound or disabled individuals and their families under the supervision of home care or social service agencies. Home Health Aides may bathe and feed patients, change linens and make beds.

Orthotist and Prosthetist

An Orthotist designs and fits devices, known as orthoses, to provide care to patients who have disabling conditions of the limbs and spine. A Prosthetist designs and fits devices, known as prostheses, for patients who have partial or total absence of a limb.

Perfusionist

Perfusionists check and operate circulation equipment, such as the heart-lung machine, during any surgical operation involving support or replacement of the circulatory system. They administer some types of anesthesia and medications, as well as constantly monitor the patient’s vital signs during the procedure.

Surgical Technologist

Surgical Technologists are members of operating room teams. Before an operation, they help prepare by setting up surgical instruments, equipment, drapes and sterile solutions. Surgical Technologists also observe patients’ vital signs, check charts and assist the surgical team with putting on gowns and gloves. During surgery, they pass instruments and other supplies to surgeons.

Therapy

Therapists improve the quality of life in patients by expanding their productivity and ability for independence. Careers in therapy span from helping patients with speech and language disabilities to helping patients with the occupations of daily life, such as dressing and eating.

Athletic Trainer

Athletic Trainers rehabilitate athletes and work to keep them injury-free and able to achieve their highest potential. Athletic Trainers assess sports injuries, provide appropriate treatment and educate athletes on injury-prevention programs, as well as healthy lifestyles.
**Audiologist**
Audiologists are responsible for testing and measuring hearing functions; identifying types of hearing disorders; developing patient rehabilitation plans and programs; providing educational, medical, and professional consultation; and recommending and dispensing hearing aids.

**Massage Therapist**
Massage Therapists use hands-on techniques to manipulate soft tissue - the skin, muscles, tendons, ligaments and fascia (membranes surrounding muscles) - to help restore health and well-being to the body.

**Occupational Therapist**
Occupational Therapists help patients regain their independence and good health through the use of toys, games, computers, work simulation, leisure activities, self-care tasks and other methods. They are trained to teach people of all ages how to learn or regain skills they need to live productive, independent lives.

**Occupational Therapy Assistant**
Occupational Therapy Assistants treat patients with disabilities with exercises, skill practice with artificial limbs, provide therapeutic activities or perform any other activities. They carry out treatment plans as directed by the occupational therapist.

**Physical Therapist**
Physical Therapists treat patients with exercise, light, heat, cold, water, electricity, ultrasound and massage. Physical Therapists help improve strength and mobility, relieve pain and take a personal and direct approach to meeting an individual’s health goals.

**Physical Therapist Assistant**
Physical Therapist Assistants assist the physical therapist in implementing treatment programs for patients. Physical Therapist Assistants train patients in exercises and activities of daily living, conduct treatments and use special equipment for some treatment procedures.

**Rehabilitation Counselor**
Rehabilitation Counselors collaborate and plan with physicians, psychologists and occupational therapists to determine the capabilities and skills of the individual. They develop a rehabilitation program, which may include training to help improve or develop patient job skills.

**Respiratory Therapist**
Respiratory Therapists evaluate, treat and care for patients, especially those with asthma, COPD or heart failure, with breathing or other cardiopulmonary disorders. Respiratory Therapists assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care, therapeutic treatments and diagnostic procedures.

**Speech-Language Pathologist**
Speech-Language Pathologists work with people who cannot make speech sounds or cannot make them clearly. They work with speech rhythm and fluency problems (such as stuttering), voice quality problems, modifying an accent and people who use hearing aids in order to develop auditory skills, improve communication and diminish swallowing difficulties.
## Healthcare Occupations Projected to Have Higher-than-Average Demand for Workers in South Dakota through 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupational Title</th>
<th>2012 Workers</th>
<th>2022 Workers</th>
<th>Average Annual Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Minimum Education</th>
<th>Median Annual Wage*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>11,380</td>
<td>12,870</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>Associates or bachelors degree in nursing</td>
<td>$52,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Nursing Assistants</td>
<td>6,310</td>
<td>6,885</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>Occupational training</td>
<td>$22,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Practical Nurses</td>
<td>2,135</td>
<td>2,380</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Practical nurse diploma or associates degree in nursing</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Records and Health Information Technicians</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Associates degree in medical records technology, medical transcription or related program</td>
<td>$33,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Assistants</td>
<td>1,095</td>
<td>1,275</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Associates degree in medical assisting or vocational training</td>
<td>$27,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
<td>1,030</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Doctoral or professional degree in pharmacy</td>
<td>$110,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>1,040</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>EMT or paramedic training program</td>
<td>$27,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapists</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Master or doctoral degree in physical therapy</td>
<td>$71,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Assistants</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Certified dental assistant certificate</td>
<td>$32,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Technicians</td>
<td>1,245</td>
<td>1,405</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Vocational training or pharmacy technology program</td>
<td>$28,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Health Aides</td>
<td>945</td>
<td>1,030</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Occupational training</td>
<td>$25,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Associates or bachelors degree in medical technology or related program</td>
<td>$34,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiologic Technologists</td>
<td>955</td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Associates degree in radiologic technology or related program</td>
<td>$45,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Health Services Managers</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree in healthcare administration, business administration, business management or related program</td>
<td>$89,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygienists</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Associates degree in dental hygiene</td>
<td>$58,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Median annual wage varies by location, education and experience.

Labor Market Information Center, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation Office of Rural Health, South Dakota Department of Health
Would you like more information about a specific health career?

Visit healthcareers.sd.gov for South Dakota training in healthcare information and career information including career duties, required education, workplace organizations, job outlook and salary information.

The HOTT website offers endless resources...check it out today!

Additional Resources:
National Health Service Corps
   nhsc.hrsa.gov
South Dakota HOSA
   www.sdhosa.org
US Air Force
   www.af.mil
US Air Force Reserve
   www.afrc.af.mil
US Air National Guard
   www.ang.af.mil
US Army
   www.goarmy.com
US Army National Guard
   www.nationalguard.com
US Army Reserve
   www.usar.army.mil
US Coast Guard and Reserve
   www.uscg.mil
US Marines
   www.marines.mil
US Marine Reserve
   www.marforres.marines.mil
US Navy
   www.navy.mil

South Dakota Universities:
Augustana University - Sioux Falls
   www.augie.edu
Black Hills State University - Rapid City
   www.ucrapidcity.org
Black Hills State University - Spearfish
   www.bhsu.edu
Capital University Center - Pierre
   www.cucpierre.com
Dakota State University - Madison
   www.dsu.edu
Dakota Wesleyan University - Mitchell
   www.dwu.edu
Globe University - Sioux Falls
   www.globeuniversity.edu
Mount Marty College - Yankton
   www.mtmc.edu
Northern State University - Aberdeen
   www.northern.edu
Oglala Lakota College - Kyle
   www.olc.edu
Presentation College - Aberdeen
   www.presentation.edu
Sinte Gleska University - Mission
   www.sintegleska.edu
Sisseton-Wahpeton College - Sisseton
   www.swc.tc
SD School of Mines and Technology - Rapid City
   www.sdsmt.edu
South Dakota State University - Brookings
   www.sdstate.edu
University Center - Sioux Falls
   www.sduniversitycenter.org
University of Sioux Falls - Sioux Falls
   www.usiouxfalls.edu
The University of South Dakota - Vermillion
   www.usd.edu

South Dakota Technical Institutes:
Lake Area Technical Institute - Watertown
   www.lakeareatech.edu
Mitchell Technical Institute - Mitchell
   www.mitchelltech.edu
Southeast Technical Institute - Sioux Falls
   www.southeasttech.edu
Western Dakota Technical Institute - Rapid City
   www.wdt.edu
How long do I have to go to school?

What schools offer the program I want?

How much am I going to make? $$$

Go to www.healthcareers.sd.gov to find out!