

More South Dakota Hot Careers

Beyond the
Top
30

High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster:
Architecture & Construction



Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers

Standard Occupational Code 47-2051

What They Do

Build and align forms for sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Once the concrete is poured for projects such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads or curbs, they smooth the surface and use a variety of hand and power tools to apply special finishes. They may patch voids in existing cement or concrete structures, or they may use saws to cut expansion joints.

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:

Realistic (Doers) — Prefer to work with objects, things, machines, tools, plants or animals. They have mechanical ability, enjoy being outdoors and working with their hands.

Enterprising (Persuaders) — Like to influence, persuade or lead people and manage others. They enjoy working on a team toward goals, competition and business-like activities.

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

Relationships — Provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly, non-competitive environment.

Support — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

Independence — 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.

- Manual Dexterity
- Trunk Strength
- Multilimb Coordination
- Near Vision
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Control Precision
- Extent Flexibility

Basic Skills You Need

- Monitoring
- Coordination
- Quality Control Analysis
- Speaking
- Time Management
- Active Listening
- Complex Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Judgment and Decision Making

Education & Training

The minimum of a high school diploma is recommended for cement masons. However, those with demonstrated skill in concrete work and/or some postsecondary education in a building trades program are given preference over job candidates without those credentials.

A registered apprenticeship is another option for preparing for this occupation. To learn more, visit StartTodaySD.com or contact your local Job Service office to get started.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	5
Workplace Documents	4
Graphic Literacy	4

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of cement masons and concrete finishers are:

- Specialty Trade Contractors

South Dakota Employment & Wages

2020 Workers	2030 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,730	1,830	100	5.8%	170	\$37,707	\$39,778

Additional References

Labor Market Information Center

www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

www.onetonline.org

mySkills myFuture

<https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>

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