Correctional Officers and Jailers

What They Do
Guard inmates in penal or rehabilitative institutions in accordance with established regulations and procedures. May guard prisoners in transit between jail, courtroom, prison or other point. Includes deputy sheriffs and police who spend the majority of their time guarding prisoners in correctional institutions.

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.

Support — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

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

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
- Problem Sensitivity
- Speech Clarity
- Speech Recognition
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
Basic Skills You Need

- Social Perceptiveness
- Speaking
- Active Listening
- Monitoring
- Critical Thinking
- Coordination
- Reading Comprehension
- Complex Problem Solving
- Persuasion

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Math</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace Documents</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic Literacy</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of correctional officers and jailers are:

- Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
- State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
- Federal Government

South Dakota Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>Average Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Median Wage</th>
<th>Average Wage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>$39,019</td>
<td>$40,012</td>
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<td>2028</td>
<td>1,512</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional References

Labor Market Information Center  
[www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic](http://www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic)

Career OneStop  
[www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)

O*Net Online  
[www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

mySkills myFuture  
[https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/](https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/)

Provided By

Labor Market Information Center  
South Dakota Dept. of Labor and Regulation  
605.626.2314

Visit [dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers](http://dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers) to obtain the most recent workforce data and trends and more resources, including this document. Also available are explanations of the terms used in this occupational profile.

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