

# More South Dakota Hot Careers

Beyond the  
Top **30**

High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster: Manufacturing



## Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators and Tenders

*Standard Occupational Code 51-9032*

### What They Do

Set up, operate or tend machines that cut or slice materials, such as glass, stone, cork, rubber, tobacco, food, paper or insulating material.

### 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.

**Conventional (Organizers)** — Detail oriented and organized. They like to analyze data, keep financial records and do research. They can be counted on to be accurate and enjoy structure and closure.

**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.

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

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

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

- Control Precision
- Finger Dexterity
- Near Vision
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Manual Dexterity
- Problem Sensitivity
- Multi-limb Coordination

## Basic Skills You Need

- Operations Monitoring
- Operation and Control
- Quality Control Analysis
- Monitoring
- Reading Comprehension

## Education & Training

A high school diploma or equivalent is the minimum education recommended for cutting and slicing machine setters, operators and tenders. Most training for specific work tasks is done on the job. Prior work experience in a production facility is helpful.

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

## Recommended Levels\* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	3
Workplace Documents	3
Graphic Literacy	4

\*Using the median skill level.

## Where They Work

The South Dakota industry which employs the largest number of cutting and slicing machine operators are:

- Food Manufacturing

## South Dakota Employment & Wages

2020 Workers	2030 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
812	819	7	0.9%	99	\$42,650	\$44,080

## 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/>

## 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.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. U.S. DOL funded. For details, see [dlr.sd.gov/lmic/eta\\_grant.aspx](http://dlr.sd.gov/lmic/eta_grant.aspx).

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