

# More South Dakota Hot Careers

Beyond the  
Top **30**



## High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster: Agriculture, Food and  
Natural Resources

## Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service Technicians

*Standard Occupational Code 49-3041*

### What They Do

Diagnose, adjust, repair or overhaul farm machinery and vehicles, such as tractors, harvesters, dairy equipment and irrigation systems.

### 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** — Occupations that satisfy this work value offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

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

**Achievement** — Results oriented, allow use of strongest abilities and provide feeling of accomplishment.

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

- Control Precision
- Manual Dexterity
- Multilimb Coordination
- Finger Dexterity
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Near Vision

## Basic Skills You Need

- Equipment Maintenance
- Repairing
- Troubleshooting
- Operation & Control
- Critical Thinking
- Operations Monitoring
- Quality Control Analysis

## Education & Training

Some postsecondary education in an appropriate mechanized agriculture, agricultural technology or a related field is recommended. Demonstrated ability in maintenance and repair of agricultural equipment is the most important qualification.

## South Dakota Employment & Wages

2020 Workers	2030 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,147	1,313	166	14.5%	137	\$47,446	\$49,015

## 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/>

## 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 industries which employ the largest number of farm equipment mechanics are:

- Self Employment

## 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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