Network & Computer Systems Administrators

What They Do
Organize, install and support an organization’s computer systems, including local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), network segments, intranets and other data communication systems. They monitor networks to ensure availability to all system users and may perform necessary maintenance to support network availability.

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:

Investigative (Thinkers) — Interested in science and logic. They like to analyze, evaluate and solve problems, and enjoy learning and understanding the causes of events.

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.

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

Working Conditions — Offer job security and good working conditions.

Support — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

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:

- Problem Sensitivity
- Information Ordering
- Written Comprehension
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Oral Expression
- Near Vision
- Oral Comprehension
Basic Skills You Need
• Critical Thinking
• Judgment and Decision Making
• Reading Comprehension
• Systems Analysis
• Active Listening
• Complex Problem Solving
• Monitoring
• Systems Evaluation
• Troubleshooting
• Programming
• Operation Monitoring

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate
- Applied Math 5
- Workplace Documents 5
- Graphic Literacy 4
*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work
The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of network and computer systems administrators are:
• Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
• Educational Services
• Credit Intermediation and Related Activities
• Telecommunications
• Management of Companies and Enterprises

Education & Training
A bachelor’s degree in computer science, information systems or a related program is recommended for network and computer systems administrator positions. Some employers may require only a postsecondary certificate or an associate degree, but others may prefer a master’s degree.

South Dakota Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Workers</th>
<th>2028 Workers</th>
<th>Numeric Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>Average Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Annual Median Wage</th>
<th>Annual Average Wage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>1,808</td>
<td>1,958</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>$61,553</td>
<td>$63,505</td>
</tr>
</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/)

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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