What They Do
Operate or control an entire process or system of machines, often through the use of control boards, to transfer or treat water or wastewater.

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 — Occupations that satisfy this work value are results oriented and allow employees to use their strongest abilities, giving them a feeling of accomplishment.

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
- Near Vision
- Written Comprehension
- Deductive Reasoning
Basic Skills You Need

• Operation Monitoring
• Operation and Control
• Monitoring
• Active Listening
• Quality Control Analysis
• Critical Thinking
• Equipment Maintenance
• Repairing
• Speaking
• Troubleshooting
• Judgment and Decision Making

Education & Training

The minimum of a high school diploma is recommended for water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators. Most training is done on the job.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

- Applied Math 4
- Workplace Documents 4
- Graphic Literacy 4

*Using the median skill level.

Workplace Examples

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators are:

• Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
• Utilities
• Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
• Food Manufacturing

South Dakota Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018 Workers</th>
<th>2028 Workers</th>
<th>Numeric Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>Average Annual Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Annual Median Wage</th>
<th>Annual Average Wage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>937</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>$43,454</td>
<td>$43,898</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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/

Provided By

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

Visit 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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