



South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster:
Healthcare & Human Services



Child, Family, and School Social Workers

Standard Occupational Code 21-1021

What They Do

Provide social services and assistance to improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families. May assist parents, arrange adoptions, and find foster homes for abandoned or abused children. In schools, they address such problems as teenage pregnancy, misbehavior, and truancy.

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:

Social (Helpers) — Like to work with other people. They enjoy teaching, helping and curing people. They are good with words.

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

Work Styles (personality tendencies) of people who perform well in this occupation have:

Sincerity — A tendency to be genuine and sincere in interactions with others at work, without concern for personal gain or self-interest.

Optimism — A tendency to exhibit a positive attitude and positive emotions at work, even under difficult circumstances.

Adaptability — A tendency to be open to and comfortable with change, new experiences, or ideas at work.

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

- Oral Expression
- Oral Comprehension
- Problem Sensitivity
- Written Comprehension
- Written Expression
- Speech Clarity
- Deductive Reasoning

Work Activities

- Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates
- Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships
- Documenting/Recording Information

Education & Training

A bachelor's degree in social work is the minimum education recommended for child, family and school social worker positions. However, many of these workers have a master's degree in social work. The master's degree generally takes an additional two years to complete beyond the typical four-year bachelor's degree.

Clinical social workers must be licensed in South Dakota. For more information, see the South Dakota Department of Social Services website at <http://dss.sd.gov>.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	4
Workplace Documents	4
Graphic Literacy	4

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of Child, Family, and School Social Workers are:

- Social Assistance
- Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
- State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
- Education Services

South Dakota Employment & Wages

2024 Employment	2034 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,880	2,004	124	6.6%	173	\$51,100	\$53,320

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/>

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.

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Provided By

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

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