



South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career



Career Cluster: Human Services

Clergy

Standard Occupational Code 21-2011

What They Do

Conduct and plan religious worship services and perform other spiritual functions associated with beliefs and practices of religious faith or denomination. Provide spiritual and moral guidance and assistance to members. Titles vary greatly with denomination but include priest, minister and pastor, among many others.

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.

Enterprising (Persuaders) — Like to influence, persuade or lead people and manage others. They enjoy working on a team toward goals, competition and business-like activities.

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

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

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.

- Speech Clarity
- Oral Expression
- Oral Comprehension
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Problem Sensitivity
- Speech Recognition

Basic Skills You Need

- Speaking
- Active Listening
- Social Perceptiveness
- Instructing
- Service Orientation

Education & Training

The educational preparation required for clergy varies a great deal depending on the religious affiliation or in some cases the individual church or group being served. But in most cases, the minimum is a bachelor's degree in religious studies, theology or a related field. Many of the larger organized religions have more advanced education requirements.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Applied Math | 4 |
| Workplace Documents | 5 |
| Graphic Literacy | 5 |

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of clergy are:

- Religious Organizations
- Self-Employment

South Dakota Employment & Wages

| 2022 Employment | 2032 Employment | Numeric Change | Percent Change | Average Annual Openings | Annual Median Wage | Annual Average Wage |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2,026 | 2,155 | 129 | 6.4% | 183 | \$50,810 | \$51,840 |

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.

Printed on recycled paper. 

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.



July
2024