



South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster:
Health Care & 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 Styles (personality tendencies) of people who perform well in this occupation have:

Humility — A tendency to be modest and humble when interacting with others at work.

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.

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

Work Activities

- Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships
- Assisting and Caring for Others
- Getting Information
- Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates
- Resolving Conflicts and Negotiating with Others

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, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations
- Self Employment
- Hospitals
- Social Assistance
- Nursing and Residential Care Facilities

South Dakota Employment & Wages

2024 Employment	2034 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,828	1,898	70	3.8%	167	\$59,860	\$60,180

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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