



South Dakota  
High Demand  
&  
High Wage  
Career



Career Cluster: Health Science

# Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians

*Standard Occupational Code 29-2010*

## What They Do

Clinical laboratory technologists (commonly known as medical laboratory scientists) and clinical laboratory technicians collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids, tissue and other substances. They perform complex medical laboratory tests to diagnose, recommend treatment for and prevent disease.

## 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.

**Support** — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

**Independence** — Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

**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.

- Near Vision
- Written Comprehension
- Inductive Reasoning
- Oral Comprehension
- Deductive Reasoning
- Information Ordering
- Problem Sensitivity

## Basic Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Reading Comprehension
- Science

## Education & Training

A bachelor's degree in medical technology or life sciences is recommended for clinical laboratory technologists. Some employers may hire those with some postsecondary education or an associate degree in those or a closely related field for technician level positions.

A registered apprenticeship is another option for preparing for this occupation. To learn more, visit [StartTodaySD.com](http://StartTodaySD.com) or contact your local Job Service office to get started.

## Recommended Levels\* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	5
Workplace Documents	5
Graphic Literacy	5

\*Using the median skill level.

## Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of clinical laboratory technologists and technicians are:

- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Offices of Physicians
- Federal Government
- Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories

## South Dakota Employment & Wages

2022 Employment	2032 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,289	1,441	152	11.8%	101	\$57,540	\$58,220

## 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/>

## Provided By

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

Visit [dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers](http://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.

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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