



South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster: Hospitality & Tourism



Food Service Managers

Standard Occupational Code 11-9051

What They Do

Responsible for the daily operation of restaurants or other establishments that prepare and serve food and beverages. They plan, direct or coordinate the activities of the food and beverage services provided.

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:

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.

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.

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.

Support — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

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

Basic Skills You Need

- Service Orientation
- Active Listening
- Management of Personnel Resources
- Monitoring

Education & Training

The minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent is recommended for food service managers. For larger or more fine dining establishments, some postsecondary education in a culinary or restaurant management program may be preferred. In most cases, those in management positions have prior work experience in the same food service tasks as those they supervise.

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

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	3
Workplace Documents	4
Graphic Literacy	4

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of food service managers are:

- Restaurants and Other Eating Places
- Self Employment
- Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)
- Special Food Services

South Dakota Employment & Wages

2022 Employment	2032 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,746	1,951	205	11.7%	224	\$60,600	\$62,090

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
2025