



South Dakota
High Demand
&
High Wage
Career

Career Cluster:

Health Care & Human Services



Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists

Standard Occupational Code 39-5012

What They Do

Provide beauty services, such as cutting, coloring, and styling hair, and massaging and treating scalp. May shampoo hair, apply makeup, dress wigs, remove hair, and provide nail and skincare services.

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:

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.

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

Social Orientation — A tendency to seek out, enjoy, and be energized by social interaction at work.

Cooperation — A tendency to be pleasant, helpful, and willing to assist others at work.

Attention to Detail — A tendency to be detail-oriented, organized, and thorough in completing work.

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

- Near Vision
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Finger Dexterity
- Manual Dexterity
- Oral Comprehension

Work Activities

- Performing for or Working Directly with the Public
- Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships
- Selling or Influencing Others
- Assisting and Caring for Others

Education & Training

Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists generally complete a postsecondary program in cosmetology. 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.

Cosmetologists must be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Cosmetology. For more information, visit <http://dlr.sd.gov/cosmetology>.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	3
Workplace Documents	3
Graphic Literacy	4

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

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

- Personal and Laundry Services
- Self Employment
- General Merchandise Retailers
- Hospitals

South Dakota Employment & Wages

2024 Employment	2034 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
989	1,063	74	7.5%	133	\$49,800	\$48,310

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/>

Provided By

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

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