Highway Maintenance Workers

What They Do
Maintain highways, municipal and rural roads, airport runways and rights-of-way. Duties include patching broken or eroded pavement, repairing guard rails, highway markers and snow fences. May also mow or clear brush from along road or plow snow from roadway.

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 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.

Relationships — Provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly, non-competitive environment.

Working Conditions — Job security and good working conditions.

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

- Control Precision
- Multilimb Coordination
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Oral Comprehension
- Problem Sensitivity
- Static Strength
- Auditory Attention
Basic Skills You Need

- Operation and Control
- Operation Monitoring
- Coordination
- Monitoring
- Active Listening
- Complex Problem Solving
- Speaking

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Math</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace Documents</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic Literacy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Using the median skill level.

Education & Training

The minimum of a high school diploma is recommended for highway maintenance worker positions. Those with postsecondary education in a heavy construction or related program are normally given preference in the hiring process. Work experience helping with street or highway maintenance is also a plus.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of highway maintenance workers are:

- Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
- State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals

South Dakota Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Workers</th>
<th>2028 Workers</th>
<th>Numeric Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>Average Annual Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Annual Median Wage</th>
<th>Annual Average Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>1,796</td>
<td>1,870</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>$36,139</td>
<td>$36,392</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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  
SD Department of Labor & Regulation  
605.626.2314

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