Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers

What They Do

Use hand-welding or flame-cutting equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

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.

Working Conditions — Offer job security and good working conditions.

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

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

- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Near Vision
- Control Precision
- Multi-limb Coordination
- Problem Sensitivity
- Visualization
Basic Skills You Need
• Critical Thinking
• Operation and Control
• Monitoring
• Reading Comprehension

Education & Training
Some postsecondary education in welding is recommended. Without that education, job seekers would need on-the-job experience to be competitive. Demonstrated skill is the most important qualification for welders.

A registered apprenticeship is another option for preparing for this occupation. To learn more, visit StartTodaySD.com to be connected with a staff person at your nearest Job Service office who can help you get started.

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>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic Literacy</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work
The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of welders are:
• Machinery Manufacturing
• Transportation Equipment Manufacturing
• Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing
• Repair and Maintenance Services
• Self Employment

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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>3,321</td>
<td>3,758</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>$38,264</td>
<td>$39,453</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
South Dakota Dept. of Labor and Regulation
605.626.2314

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