

Top
30
to
30

South Dakota
High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster: Manufacturing



Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers

Standard Occupational Code 51-4121

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.

- Near Vision
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Control Precision
- Manual Dexterity
- Finger Dexterity
- Problem Sensitivity

Basic Skills You Need

- Monitoring
- Critical Thinking
- Quality Control Analysis
- Active Listening
- Operations Monitoring

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 or contact your local Job Service office to get started.

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 welders are:

- Machinery Manufacturing
- Transportation Equipment Manufacturing
- Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing
- Repair and Maintenance
- Self Employment

South Dakota Employment & Wages

| 2020 Workers | 2030 Workers | Numeric Change | Percent Change | Average Annual Demand for Workers | Annual Median Wage | Annual Average Wage |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2,612 | 3,016 | 404 | 15.5% | 336 | \$44,710 | \$44,350 |

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/>

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Provided By

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

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