

Target Group:



Occupational Profile

Optometrist

Standard Occupational Code 29-1041.00

What They Do

Diagnose, manage, and treat conditions and diseases of the human eye and visual system. Examine eyes and visual system, diagnose problems or impairments, prescribe corrective lenses, and provide treatment. May prescribe therapeutic drugs to treat specific eye conditions.

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 – involves work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions.

Investigative – involves working with ideas, and require an extensive amount of thinking.

Social – involves working with, communicating with, and teaching people.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career:

Working Conditions – offer job security and good working conditions.

Recognition – offer advancement, potential for leadership, and are often considered prestigious.

Achievement – results oriented and allow employees to use their strongest abilities, giving them a feeling of accomplishment.

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

- Near Vision
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression

Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Speaking
- Science
- Reading Comprehension
- Writing
- Social Perceptiveness
- Active Learning

Education & Training

Optometrists need a **doctoral or professional degree in optometry**. Optometrists are required to be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	5
Reading for Information	5
Locating Information	5

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of optometrists are:

- Offices of Other Health Practitioners
- Department Stores
- Federal Government
- Offices of Physicians

SD Employment & Wages

2014 Workers	2024 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
100	110	10	9%	10	\$100,410

Additional References

Labor Market Information Center

www.dlr.gov/mic

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

www.onetcenter.org

mySkills myFuture

www.myskillsmyfuture.org

Provided By

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

Visit www.dlr.sd.gov/mic and choose Career Exploration & Planning from the left-hand menu, then Hot Careers to obtain most recent workforce data and trends and more resources, including this document. Also available are explanations of the terms used in the work interests, work values, abilities and skills sections of this occupational profile.

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