Orthotist and Prosthetist

What They Do
Design, measure, fit, and adapt orthopedic braces, appliances or prostheses, such as limbs or facial parts for patients with disabling 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. Involves searching for facts and figuring out problems mentally.

- **Social** – involves working with, communicating with, and teaching people. Involves helping or providing service to others.

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

- **Independence** – allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

- **Relationships** – allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

- **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:

- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Near Vision
- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
Skills You Need

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

Education & Training

Orthotists and prosthetists need a master’s degree in orthotics or prosthetics.

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Median Skill Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Mathematics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading for Information</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locating Information</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of orthotists and prosthetists are:

- Outpatient Care Centers
- Health and Personal Care Stores

SD Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014 Workers</th>
<th>2024 Workers</th>
<th>Numeric Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
<th>Average Annual Demand for Workers</th>
<th>Median Annual Wage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$59,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Updated March 2017.