

Target Group:



Occupational Profile

Physical Therapist Assistant

Standard Occupational Code 31-2021.00

What They Do

Assist physical therapists in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with State laws, assist in the development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, document the progress of treatment, and modify specific treatments in accordance with patient status and within the scope of treatment plans established by a physical therapist. Generally requires formal training.

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:

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

Realistic – includes practical, hands-on problems and solutions.

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

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

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

Support – offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

Working Conditions – offer 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:

- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
- Problem Sensitivity
- Speech Clarity
- Written Comprehension

Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Monitoring
- Social Perceptiveness
- Speaking
- Service Orientation
- Coordination
- Critical Thinking
- Reading Comprehension

Education & Training

Physical therapy assistants need **at least an associate's degree from a physical therapy assistant program**. Physical therapy assistants are required to be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Medical & Osteopathic Examiners.

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	5
Reading for Information	7
Locating Information	5

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of physical therapy assistants are:

- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Offices of Physicians
- Nursing Care Facilities
- Offices of Other Health Practitioners
- Other Hospitals

SD Employment & Wages

2014 Workers	2024 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
230	280	50	22%	10	\$35,050

Additional References

Labor Market Information Center
www.dlr.careerontestop.org
Career OneStop
www.careeronestop.org
O*Net Online
www.onetcenter.org
mySkills myFuture
www.myskillsmyfuture.org

Additional References

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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