

Target Group:



Occupational Profile

Recreational Therapist

Standard Occupational Code 29-1125.00

What They Do

Plan, direct, or coordinate medically-approved recreation programs for patients in hospitals, nursing homes, or other institutions. Activities include sports, trips, dramatics, social activities, and arts and crafts. May assess a patient condition and recommend appropriate recreational activity.

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. Involves helping or providing service to others.

Artistic – involves working with forms, designs and patterns. They often require self-expression and the work can be done without following a clear set of rules.

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.

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

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

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

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

Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Speaking
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Coordination
- Critical Thinking
- Reading Comprehension
- Complex Problem Solving

Education & Training

Recreational therapists need a **bachelor's degree in recreational therapy or related program.**

US Employment & Wages

2014 Workers	2024 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
18,600	20,900	2,300	12%	660	\$45,890

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

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4
Reading for Information	5
Locating Information	4

Where They Work

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

- State Government
- Nursing Care Facilities
- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Other Hospitals
- Outpatient Care Centers

Provided By

Labor Market Information Center

South Dakota Dept. of Labor Regulation

605.626.2314

Visit www.dlr.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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