



Dental Laboratory Tech

STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CODE 29-2021.00

What They Do

Construct and repair full or partial dentures or dental appliances such as crowns and bridges.

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 - Enjoy work activities that involve practical, hands-on problems and solutions.

Investigative - Interested in science and logic. They like to analyze, evaluate, and solve problems, and enjoy learning and understanding the causes of events.

Conventional - Enjoy following a set of procedures and routines with a clear line of authority to follow. May include working with data and details more than ideas.

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.

Independence - Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

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:

- Finger Dexterity
- Near Vision
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Control Precision
- Visualization
- Information Ordering

Skills You Need

- Finger Dexterity – The ability to make precisely coordinated movements of the fingers of one or both hands to grasp, manipulate, or assemble very small objects.
- Near Vision – The ability to see details at close range.
- Arm-Hand Steadiness – The ability to keep your hand and arm steady while moving your arm or while holding your arm and hand in one position.
- Control Precision – The ability to quickly and repeatedly adjust the controls of a machine or a vehicle to exact positions.
- Visualization – The ability to imagine how something will look after it is moved around or when its parts are moved or rearranged.

Education & Training

Dental laboratory technicians require **at least a high school diploma.**

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of dental laboratory technicians are:

- Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing
- Offices of Dentists
- Electronic Equipment Repair and Maintenance
- Federal Government

SD Employment & Wages

2016 Workers	2026 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Demand for Workers	Average Annual Wage
140	160	20	13%	20	\$32,210

Activities: what you might do in a day

- Read work orders or other instructions to determine product specifications or materials requirements.
- Apply parting agents or other solutions to molds.
- Inspect medical or dental assistive devices.
- Mix ingredients to create specific finishes.
- Place material into molds.
- Melt metal, plastic, or other materials to prepare for production.

Additional References

O*NET OnLine

www.onetonline.org

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org