



Dietitian

STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CODE 29-1031.00

What They Do

Plan and conduct food service or nutritional programs to assist in the promotion of health and control of disease. May supervise activities of a department providing quantity food services, counsel individuals, or conduct nutritional research.

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:

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

Social - Enjoy working with, communicating with, and teaching people. They like helping or providing service to others.

Enterprising – Enjoy starting up projects and leading people to carry them out.

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.

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

Achievement - Results oriented occupation that allows 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
- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
- Problem Sensitivity
- Written Comprehension

Skills You Need

- Reading Comprehension – Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents
- Active Listening – Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
- Critical Thinking – Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Monitoring – Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.
- Speaking – Talking to other to convey information effectively.

Education & Training

Dietitians require a **bachelor’s degree from an Accreditation Council for Education of Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) accredited program, and an ACEND accredited internship**. Beginning in 2024, a graduate degree will be required to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. Dietitians must be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Medical & Osteopathic Examiners.

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of dietitians

SD Employment & Wages

2016 Workers	2026 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Demand for Workers	Average Annual Wage
190	210	30	11%	10	\$54,360

Activities: what you might do in a day

- Monitor medical facility activities to ensure adherence to standards or regulations.
- Analyze patient data to determine patient needs or treatment goals
- Provide health and wellness advice to patients, program participants, or caregivers.
- Collaborate with healthcare professionals to plan or provide treatment.
- Conduct research to increase knowledge about medical issues.

Additional References

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

www.onetcenter.org