Orthotist and Prosthetist

Standard Occupational Code 29-2091.00

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 - 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.

Social - Enjoy working with, communicating with, and teaching people. They like 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 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
- Inductive Reasoning
- Near Vision
- Oral Comprehension
Skills You Need

- Speaking – Talking to others to convey information effectively
- 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 reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems
- Reading Comprehension – Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents

Education & Training

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

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>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016 Workers</th>
<th>2026 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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<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10</td>
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Additional References

- Adjust prostheses or other assistive devices
- Measure the physical or physiological attributes of patients
- Examine patients to assess general physical condition
- Collect medical information from patients, family members, or other medical professionals
- Instruct patients in the use of assistive equipment
- Instruct patients in the use of assistive equipment
- Record patient medical histories
- Fabricate medical devices

Additional References

Career OneStop
www.careeronestop.org
O*Net Online
online.onetcenter.org

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