Pharmacist

What They Do
Dispense drugs prescribed by physicians and other health practitioners. They also provide information to patients about medications and their use. In some cases, pharmacists advise physicians and other health practitioners on the selection, dosage, interactions, and side effects of medications.

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 (Thinkers) – interested in science and logic. They like to analyze, evaluate and solve problems, and enjoy learning and understanding the causes of events.

Conventional (Organizers) – detail oriented and organized. They like to analyze data, keep financial records and do research. They can be counted on to be accurate and enjoy structure and closure.

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

Recognition – Offer advancement, potential for leadership, and may be considered prestigious.

Support - Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

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

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

- Oral Comprehension
- Written Comprehension
- Near Vision
- Oral Expression
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Problem Sensitivity

Standard Occupational Code 29-1051.00
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
- **Instructing** – Teaching others how to do something

Education & Training

Pharmacists must have a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D) degree. Pharmacists must also be licensed in South Dakota. For more information, visit the South Dakota Department of Health website at [http://doh.sd.gov](http://doh.sd.gov).

Where They Work

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

- Health and Personal Care Stores
- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Department Stores
- Federal Government, Excluding Post Office

SD Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1,310</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>$118,140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities: what you might do in a day

- Verify accuracy of patient information
- Advices patients on effects of health conditions or treatments
- Communicate detailed medical information to patients or family members
- Maintain medical facility records
- Determine protocols for medical procedures
- Prepare medications or medical solutions
- Collaborate with healthcare professionals to plan or provide treatment
- Advise medical personnel regarding healthcare issues

Additional References

- **Career OneStop**
  [www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)
- **O*Net Online**
  [www.onetcenter.org](http://www.onetcenter.org)

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