

Target Group:



Occupational Profile

Physical Therapist Assistant

Standard Occupational Code 19-3031.00

What They Do

Physical Therapist Assistants assist the Physical Therapist in implementing treatment for patients. They train patients in exercise and activities of daily living, conducting treatment, use special equipment, and other treatment procedures.

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 – involve working with, communicating with, and teaching people.

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

Investigative – involve working with ideas, and require an extensive amount of thinking.

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.

Support – offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

Working Conditions – offers 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:

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

Skills You Need

- 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.
- Monitoring – Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.
- Social Perceptiveness – Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they do.
- Speaking – Talking to others to convey information effectively.
- Service Orientation – Actively looking for ways to help people.

Education & Training

Physical Therapist Assistant requires an Associate's Degree.

Where They Work

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

- Hospitals
- Physical Therapy Offices
- Rehabilitation Centers
- Nursing Homes

SD Employment & Wages

| 2016 Workers | 2026 Workers | Numeric Change | Percent Change | Average Annual Demand for Workers | Median Annual Wage |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 220 | 260 | 40 | 21% | 30 | \$41,730 |

Activities: what you might do in a day

- Engage patients in exercises or activities.
- Prepare medical reports or documents.
- Monitor patient progress or responses to treatments.
- Communicate patient status to other health practitioners.
- Encourage patients during therapeutic activities.
- Confer with other professionals to plan patient care.
- Administer therapy treatments to patients using hands or physical treatment aids.
- Assess physical conditions of patients to aid in diagnosis or treatment.
- Teach medical procedures or medical equipment use to patients.

Additional References

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

www.onetcenter.org