Rehabilitation Counselor

What They Do
Counsel individuals to maximize the independence and employability of persons coping with personal, social, and vocational difficulties that result from birth defects, illness, disease, accidents, or the stress of daily life. Coordinate activities for residents of care and treatment facilities. Assess client needs and design and implement rehabilitation programs that may include personal and vocational counseling, training, and job placement.

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.
- **Achievement** – Results oriented, allow use of strongest abilities and provide feeling of accomplishment.
- **Support** - Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

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** – Like to work with other people. They enjoy teaching, helping, and curing people. They are good with words.

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
- Speech Clarity
- Written Comprehension
- Written Expression
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
- Social Perceptiveness – Being aware of others’ reactions and understanding why they react as they do
- Monitoring – Monitoring/assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvement or take corrective action
- Speaking – Talking to others to convey information effectively
- Critical Thinking – Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems

Education & Training

Rehabilitation counselors need at least a bachelor’s degree in guidance counseling or psychology.
Rehabilitation counselors are required to be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists.

Where They Work

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

- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- State Government
- Other Residential Care Facilities
- Residential Mental Health Facilities
- Individual and Family Services

SD Employment & Wages

<table>
<thead>
<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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>$38,720</td>
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</tbody>
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Activities: what you might do in a day

- Maintain client records
- Develop treatment plans for patients or clients
- Monitor clients to evaluate treatment progress
- Confer with clients to discuss treatment plans or progress
- Collaborate with other professionals to assess client needs or plan treatments
- Arrange physical or mental health services for clients
- Refer individuals to educational or work programs
- Evaluate the effectiveness of counseling or educational programs
- Evaluation characteristics of individuals to educational or work programs
- Evaluate the effectiveness of counseling or educational programs

Additional References

Career OneStop
www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online
online.onetcenter.org

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