What They Do
Assess and treat persons with speech, language, voice, and fluency disorders. May select alternative communication systems and teach their use. May perform research related to speech and language problems.

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

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

Artistic – Interested in self-expression and working with forms and patterns. The work can be done without following a clear set of rules.

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.

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

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

- Oral Comprehension
- Speech Recognition
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Speech Clarity
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.
- Critical Thinking – Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Learning Strategies – Selecting and using training/instructional methods and procedures appropriate for the situation when learning or teaching new things.
- Reading Comprehension – Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents

Education & Training
Speech-language pathologists need a master’s degree in speech-language pathology or related program. Speech-language pathologists are required to be licensed by the South Dakota Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology.

Where They Work
The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of speech-language pathologists are:
- Local Government Educational Services
- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Nursing Care Facilities
- Other Hospitals
- Elementary and Secondary Schools

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

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