

Target Group:



Occupational Profile

Environmental Health Specialist

Standard Occupational Code 19-2041.00

What They Do

Conduct research or perform investigation for the purpose of identifying, abating, or eliminating sources of pollutants or hazards that affect either the environment or the health of the population. Using knowledge of various scientific disciplines, may collect, synthesize, study, report, and recommend action based on data derived from measurements or observations of air, food, soil, water, and other sources.

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.

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

Achievement – Results oriented occupation that allows employees to use their strongest abilities, giving them a feeling of accomplishment.

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

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

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
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Oral Expression

Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Reading Comprehension
- Science
- Speaking
- Writing
- Active Learning
- Complex Problem Solving

Education & Training

Environmental health specialists need a **bachelor's degree in environmental management, environmental science, environmental engineering, biology, or related program.**

SD Employment & Wages

2012 Workers	2022 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
290	335	45	15.5%	12	\$57,700

Additional References

South Dakota Career InSite

www.sdjobs.org/careerinsite

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

online.onetcenter.org

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	5
Reading for Information	5
Locating Information	5

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of environmental health specialists are:

- State Government
- State Government Educational Services
- Management and Technical Consulting Services
- Local Government
- Architectural and Engineering Services

Visit www.sdjobs.org/lmic/occprofiles to obtain the most recent workforce data and trends. Also available are explanations of the terms used for work interests, work values, abilities, and skills sections of occupational profiles.