

# Medical and Public Health SOCIAL WORKER



## What does a SOCIAL WORKER do?

- Social Workers collaborate with physicians and health care professionals to help individuals cope with social and emotional factors related to a medical condition or problem.
- They work directly with patients and families and counsel them on how to deal with emotional and social problems that are related to the patient's medical disorder or disability.
- Social Workers are trained to link the patient with community resources to resume a normal or active lifestyle - without being inhibited by their medical condition.

## What kind of Education would I need?

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, sociology or a related field
- Master's degree in social work (MSW) is usually required

## Where would I work?

- Homes of clients
- Hospitals
- Clinics
- Local government
- Mental health facilities
- Nursing home facilities
- Rehabilitation centers
- Substance abuse facilities and other health care settings

## Job OUTLOOK?

Employment of Social Workers is expected to increase much faster than the average for all occupations through 2022.

## Site:

<https://apps.sd.gov/ld01dol/Template/Main.aspx?TemplateID=24&OrphanPage=https://apps.sd.gov/LD55CareerInsite/CustomContent/welcome.aspx>

## Video:

<https://apps.sd.gov/ld55careerinsite/CIOccupation.aspx?OccupationCode=211022>

## Salary?

Social Workers earn an average of \$37,100 per year!

 South Dakota  
Association of Healthcare Organizations



South Dakota Area Health Education Center  
AHEC

Visit [healthcareers.sd.gov](http://healthcareers.sd.gov) to explore South Dakota Educational Opportunities in this field.