



# **Orthotist and Prosthetist**

Standard Occupational Code 29-2091.00

Occupational Profile

### What They Do

Design, measure, fit, and adapt orthopedic braces, appliances or prostheses, such as limbs or facial parts for patients with disabling conditions.

#### 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.

**Social -** Enjoy working with, communicating with, and teaching people. They like helping or providing service to others.

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

**Independence -** Allow employees to work on their own and make decisions

**Relationships -** Allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

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

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

- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning
- Near Vision
- Oral Comprehension

#### Skills You Need

- Speaking Talking to others to convey information effectively
- 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 reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems
- Reading Comprehension –
   Understanding written sentences
   and paragraphs in work related
   documents

## **Education & Training**

Orthotists and prosthetists need a master's degree in orthotics or prosthetics.

#### Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of orthotists and prosthetists are:

- Outpatient Care Centers
- Health and Personal Care Stores

# SD Employment & Wages

2016 Workers	2026 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
30	40	10	23%	0	\$63,540

#### Additional References

- Adjust prostheses or other assistive devices
- Measure the physical or physiological attributes of patients
- Examine patients to asses general physical condition
- Collect medical information from patients, family members, or other medical professionals
- Instruct patients in the use of assistive equipment
- Instruct patients in the use of assistive equipment
- Record patient medical histories
- Fabricate medical devices

# **Additional References**

**Career OneStop** 

www.careeronestop.org

O\*Net Online

online.onetcenter.org