**Mental Health Technician**

Visit healthcareers.sd.gov to explore South Dakota Educational Opportunities in this field.

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**What does a Mental Health Technician do?**

- Mental Health Technicians work with mentally, developmentally, or emotionally impaired individuals.
- They work with other psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, counselors and therapists.
- Mental Health Technicians help people reach goals established in a therapeutic plan for their care. This involves working on goals in personal care, independent living, health care, and social, recreational and employment activities.
- Mental Health Technicians have close contact with patients, helping keep track of progress toward goals, barriers to reaching goals, and emergence of new goals.

**What kind of Education would I need?**

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Employers increasingly seek individuals with relevant work experience or education beyond high school
- Associate’s Degree

**Where would I work?**

- Hospitals
- Psychiatric hospitals
- Treatment facilities
- Agencies supporting people with mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse issues
- Child care, family services, social services, rehabilitation and correction facilities

**Job Outlook?**

Employment of social and human service assistants is expected to grow by nearly 34 percent through 2016. Job prospects are expected to be excellent, particularly for applicants with appropriate postsecondary education.

**Site:**


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Mental Health Technicians earn an average of $24,723 per year!