

SOUTH DAKOTA
MyLife
2016

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IS CALLING!

Next-Level Career Planning

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My Dream.



Time for some truth-telling. What do **you** dream of doing for a living? It could be a casual hobby, it could be something you're interested in but have never tried or it could be a keyword or two that really strike your fancy. Whatever the case, we'll help you translate that mess of words and bullet points into your ideal career path.

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My Plan.



Fly by the seat of your pants? Not really much of a "planner"? No big deal. That's what we're here for. We'll coach you through figuring out what you need to do post-high school to make sure your dream career becomes a reality. It could include college (and how to pay for it), what to expect academically (not all courses are alike in terms of difficulty) and what you can do now to set yourself up for later.

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My Future.



Sure, a lot could happen in the next four to six years – your interests could change, you might find out a particular area of study isn't your thing or you could get drafted for a top-secret CIA mission. (Hey, it could happen.) But that doesn't mean you can't get an idea of what your options are. Map out your ideal future, and make it happen!

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STUDENTS,

Moving forward into adulthood, you face many important decisions. SDMyLife provides tools to help you take purposeful steps toward career and education goals.

I hope you will consider a future in South Dakota. There are many high quality opportunities right here in our state – from one of the universities or technical institutes, to getting an industry certification and going directly into the workforce.

You can find the right track by studying this magazine and utilizing the resources on www.SDMyLife.com. I hope you will also take full advantage of the experiences available to you in high school – job shadowing, internships, dual credit, and student organizations. Even after you graduate, there are several resources available to support your journey, including the Build Dakota and SD Opportunity scholarships. Check out www.SDMyLife.com to learn more.

I wish you the best as you dream of, plan for, and move into your future.

Dennis Daugaard

Governor Dennis Daugaard

YOUR ROAD

TO A GREAT FUTURE.

Here are a few things to consider each year as you make your way to graduation day. Remember, SDMyLife is here to help!

GRADE 8: Discover Your Interests

- Take a career exploration course
- Attend a career fair
- Join a student organization
- ⊕ ■ Complete the Career Matchmaker
- ⊕ ■ Start your Personal Learning Plan

GRADE 9: Find Your Place

- Attend a career fair
- Job Shadow & Interview someone in a field of interest
- Participate in student organizations
- ⊕ ■ Take the Learning Style Inventory
- ⊕ ■ Research careers of interest
- ⊕ ■ Update your Personal Learning Plan

GRADE 10: Assess Your Abilities

- Job Shadow & Interview
- Participate in a career day at a postsecondary school
- ⊕ ■ Review your Career Matchmaker
- ⊕ ■ Complete the Ability Profiler
- ⊕ ■ Take the Career Selector
- ⊕ ■ Research postsecondary options
- ⊕ ■ Take the My Skills Assessment
- Update your Personal Learning Plan
- Consider virtual courses
- Participate in camps
- Look for work or volunteer opportunities

GRADE 11: Get Serious

- ⊕ ■ Review/Revise your Career Matchmaker
- ⊕ ■ Research postsecondary options
- Visit postsecondary schools
- ⊕ ■ Consider dual credit or virtual courses
- ⊕ ■ Update your Personal Learning Plan
- Participate in career cluster camps
- Participate in work-based learning
- Look for work or volunteer opportunities
- Take the appropriate tests

GRADE 12: Leap into Your Future!

- Take the NCRC
- ⊕ ■ Consider dual credit or virtual courses
- ⊕ ■ Research postsecondary options
- Visit postsecondary schools
- ⊕ ■ Search and apply for scholarships
- Talk with admissions counselors
- Ask for letters of recommendation
- Take the appropriate tests
- Participate in work-based learning
- Fill out and send in college applications
- Attend financial aid meetings
- Complete the FAFSA
- Look for work or volunteer opportunities

⊕ Able to complete at SDMyLife.com

NEW CAREERS:

Exploring Jobs That Didn't Exist Five Years Ago

The job market is constantly changing – practically by the minute. Think about all the stuff you enjoy now that didn't even exist a few years ago. Well, those things don't appear out of thin air – someone has to make them.



HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE BRAND-NEW POSITIONS THAT DIDN'T EXIST FIVE YEARS AGO.

SMARTPHONE DEVELOPER

With the rise in popularity of iPhones and Android devices, more and more companies are looking to app and OS developers to design killer user experiences for mobile users.

ON THE GROW:

162x growth in last five years

DATA SCIENTIST

Nope, it doesn't involve beakers and Bunsen burners – but it does involve problem-solving. As people go more and more digital, companies need scientists to analyze and make sense of the mountains of consumer data and information that piles up and offer recommendations.

ON THE GROW:

30x growth in last five years

DIGITAL MARKETING SPECIALIST

The marketing world is diversifying – and it's doing it in ways with which you're probably very familiar. The digital and social media world are ripe for the picking when it comes to advertising. The people who specialize in it are becoming more and more in-demand.

ON THE GROW:

17x growth in last five years

UX DESIGNER

You know how your favorite apps are easy to use, reliable and look great? Someone makes that happen. Techie types who like to make a user experience, or "UX," positive are very popular for companies who want to make their customers happy.

ON THE GROW:

22x growth in last five years



GREEN BUILDING ARCHITECT

Have a passion for eco-friendliness? As the benefits of "going green" in building practices become more and more beneficial for both the environment and budgets, the demand is booming for architects who specialize in green buildings that use recycled materials and limited energy and resources.

ON THE GROW:

3-4x growth in last five years

Sources: LinkedIn, Bureau of Labor Statistics

START YOUR POST-HIGH SCHOOL ROAD TRIP.

JUST MAKE SURE TO PLAN YOUR PIT STOPS NICE AND EARLY.

(We hear postsecondary education is a great photo op.)

UNCOVER YOUR DREAM CAREER



REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE?

You probably wanted to be a lot of things – a doctor, a firefighter, a teacher, an astronaut, a pro athlete...maybe even whatever your mom and dad did! (Yeah right.)

Now that you're (almost) all grown up, it's time to get serious.

Don't worry – having it all figured out is rare right now.

Be prepared to change your mind a lot. It's okay!

FULL DISCLOSURE: Most adults change careers multiple times. Do your homework. Make informed decisions. Don't sweat it.

We'll lay it out for you – the next few pages talk about what are called “career clusters” and “career pathways.” But what are they? Let's break it down.

A *career cluster* encompasses careers that require similar skills and interests – basically they're the 16 areas in which you could become a pro and all the stellar jobs that are open to you if you specialize in them.

A *career pathway* is basically the road map that shows you the path to being successful in an occupation within a career cluster. The career pathway may show courses to take in high school and after graduation, helping you learn the skills needed in that line of work, and later in life enter into that specific career.



AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES



One acre of soybeans produces more than **82,000 crayons.**



WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO PUT FOOD ON ALL THE TABLES?

Agriculture, food and natural resources is the state's largest industry, and you won't find a career with much bigger global impact.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Sheri Kahnke
 Contract Processing Supply Chain Manager, Davisco Foods
 Lake Norden, South Dakota

“Every day presents new opportunities for learning and growth.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I had an interest in dairy foods and how they were made. South Dakota State University (SDSU) has one of the few dairy manufacturing degree programs in the United States. The program has an outstanding track record of providing students with high-paying summer internships and full-time jobs after graduation.

HOW DID HIGH SCHOOL PREPARE YOU FOR THIS CAREER?

I was very active in South Dakota FFA in high school and college. FFA provides students with leadership and career skills opportunities. I gained valuable team-building skills that have helped me work in a variety of group settings in my career.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Every day presents new opportunities for learning and growth. At my workplace, we have best-in-class manufacturing equipment and quality programs that allow us to manufacture high-quality food products that help to feed the world.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

- Perseverance
- Lifelong learning habits
- Self-motivation

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - SOIL AND PLANT SCIENTISTS

Conduct research in breeding, physiology, production, yield and management of crops, trees, shrubs and nursery stock, as well as their growth in soils and control of pests. They could also study the chemical, physical, biological and mineralogical composition of soils as they relate to plant or crop growth.



Starting Salary Range:
\$40,900 to \$45,900



Projected Growth:
14.7 % Growth 2014-2024

Power, Structural & Technical Systems	Food Products & Processing Systems
Animal Systems	Plant Systems
Natural Resources Systems	Environmental Science Systems
Agribusiness Systems	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Ag Business Sales & Marketing	Agricultural Biotechnology
Plant Science	Horticulture
Biology	Capstone Experience
Chemistry	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

FFA
DECA
4-H
Skills USA
FBLA

ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION

(DYK?)

The tallest building in the United States, One World Trade Center in New York, is as tall as nearly

270

LeBron Jameses stacked on top of each other.



EVERY BUILDING - AND EVERY CAREER, FOR THAT MATTER - NEEDS A GOOD FOUNDATION.

Be a part of creating something from nothing with the architecture and construction cluster - from planning to building to maintaining, make your mark on the skyline.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Trent Theye
 Owner/Operator,
 Theye Construction, LLC
 Watertown, South Dakota

“Jobs are numerous and waiting for you when you graduate from one of the technical schools.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I have always enjoyed performing work with my hands. It is such an enjoyment for me to start a project with plain pieces of lumber and create something out of that. Whether just a simple remodel or building a whole house. I can stand back and see what I accomplished in a day, and seeing the customer’s satisfaction makes it even more rewarding.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

Jobs are numerous and waiting for you when you graduate from one of the technical schools. Scholarships could make it possible to go to school for virtually free nowadays. I know many students are taking advantage of the Build Dakota Scholarship and others to obtain their educations for their careers. Building a project that someone dreams up is an awesome accomplishment us contractors love to fulfill for customers.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE HIGH SCHOOLERS INTERESTED IN THIS CLUSTER?

If you can, take advantage of the career exploration camps that are available to you. Take a building trades class or cabinetry class in your high school if that is offered. Many contractors may hire you in the summer to help on their jobsites. All of these options are a great intro to the construction world.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Firsthand jobsite experience

Punctuality

Passion



FEATURED CAREER - HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING, AND REFRIGERATION MECHANICS

Install, service, or repair heating and air conditioning systems in residences or commercial establishments.



Starting Salary Range:
\$28,800 to \$35,800



Projected Growth:
14.0% Growth 2014-2024

Design/Pre-Construction

Construction

Maintenance/Operations

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Intro to Architecture & Construction	Geometry
Residential Construction	Architectural Drafting
Foundations of Technology	Capstone Experience
Intro to Drafting & Design	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Skills USA
FBLA
Internships
FFA

ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNI- CATIONS



The first U.S. copyrighted movie was **5s** and featured Thomas Edison's assistant sneezing.
LONG



THROW TOGETHER SOME EYE-POPPING VISUALS, CATCHY TUNES OR FLAWLESS PHRASEOLOGY.

The creative types might find the arts, audio/video technology and communications cluster a great place to call home. From natural-born performers to wordsmiths to technical wizards, you belong here.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Rebekah Scott
 Owner/Designer,
 Rebekah Scott Designs
 Valley Springs, South Dakota

“...if you can't hold yourself accountable to big goals, do not work for yourself.”

TELL US ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS.

I am owner and designer of Rebekah Scott Designs, a direct sales company based in Valley Springs, SD. I employ creative moms and women who desire to stay at home. I design fabrics, creating new accessories and sewing bags. I additionally organize accountability groups for female entrepreneurs and share inspirational videos to encourage women in their own desires.

HOW DID YOU GET TO WHERE YOU ARE?

In high school, I took part in FCCLA and focused on business courses. At South Dakota State University, I focused on communication studies and theatre with an emphasis in radio and TV broadcasting. I've since spent 13 years as a small business owner and designer. I now employ 22 people and lead an incredible group of women making purses and accessories.

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I wanted to stay home and design when I started to have children, and this career allowed me to do that. Just be very self-disciplined – if you can't hold yourself accountable to big goals do not work for yourself.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Self-discipline

Creativity

Flexibility



FEATURED CAREER - GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Design or create graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs, such as packaging, displays, or logos. May use a variety of mediums to achieve artistic or decorative effects.



Starting Salary Range:
\$25,100 to \$28,400



Projected Growth:
1.7% Growth 2014-2024

A/V Technology & Film	Performing Arts
Printing Technology	Journalism & Broadcasting
Visual Arts	Telecommunications

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Web Development	Debate & Speech
Digital Animation	Capstone Experience
Audiovisual Production	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Website Design
Skills USA
Musicals
Debate, Speech Team or Drama Club
School Newspaper/Yearbook
Photography

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINI- STRATION



There are nearly

1,200x

more small businesses
in the United States than
corporations.



WHO'S THE BOSS? WELL, YOU, MAYBE.

Get into the ins and outs of the business world with the business management and administration cluster. Master organizers, motivators and leaders might find themselves suited here.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Karlene Hunter
 CEO, Native American Natural Foods
 Kyle, South Dakota

“Take what you love to do, and figure out a career around it.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

My company focuses on creating buffalo-based food products that promote a Native American way of wellness that feeds mind, body and spirit. We imagine a world filled with healthy foods that add to the restoration and preservation of our lands and ecosystem – a world without the pain of starvation or obesity.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

When we look at the impact we have had on our reservation, our community and our staff while creating a product that the entire nation embraces, it energizes me. The job is worth all the hard work – that’s why I love it.

WHAT’S THE KEY TO FINDING YOUR PASSION?

Take what you love to do, and figure out a career around it. If you love what you do, it will never be work or “just a job.”



2 MOVES TO MAKE IN HIGH SCHOOL:

Know your math – overseeing financials takes know-how

Learn your history – it drives your decisions later in life



FEATURED CAREER - CREDIT ANALYSTS

Analyze credit data and financial statements of individuals or firms to determine the degree of risk involved in extending credit or lending money. Prepare reports with credit information for use in decision making.



Starting Salary Range:
\$38,800 to \$45,800



Projected Growth:
9.7% Growth 2014-2024

General Management

Operations Management

Business Information Management

Administrative Support

Human Resources Management

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Economics	International Business
Accounting	Statistics
Business Law	Capstone Experience
Entrepreneurship	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Debate or Speech Team
DECA
FBLA
Student Council

EDUCATION & TRAINING

[DYK?]

When surveyed, Americans rank teachers

SECOND

only to members of the military as the U.S. occupation that most contributes to society's well-being.



THOSE WHO CAN DO, TEACH.

Your gift for racking up knowledge and spreading it to the masses could get you places, from the classroom to the board room. The education and training cluster is ideal for the helpful, driven and motivational types.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Wyatt DeJong
 Agri-Science Instructor,
 Winner School District
 Winner, South Dakota

“I believe that there is no growth in a comfort zone and no comfort in a growth zone.”

WHAT MAKES A GREAT AG TEACHER?

This career is incredibly rewarding but also comes with a heavy load of work. If you love to work with your hands and your brains, this job could be the perfect balance. I often think that the best ag teachers that I know are the ones that are versatile and can do a lot of things well but maybe not any one thing perfectly. They also have a vast array of interests and passions.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

In my role as a teacher, I get to open students’ minds to the world around them to experience new concepts that help them think about their futures. In my role as the FFA advisor, I get to push students to challenge themselves more than they ever thought possible to reach higher achievements and learn more skills. I believe that there is no growth in a comfort zone and no comfort in a growth zone.

WHAT’S THE KEY TO FINDING YOUR PASSION?

Doing what is easy is not the same as doing what is right. It is not the same as doing what we love. If I only did what was easy or what others said I was good at, I wouldn’t have found my passion for what I love to do.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

- Perseverance
- Lifelong learning habits
- Self-motivation

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, EXCEPT SPECIAL EDUCATION

Teach students basic academic, social, and other formative skills in public or private schools at the elementary level.



Starting Salary Range:
\$31,500 to \$34,800



Projected Growth:
5.1% Growth 2014-2024

Teaching/Training

Administration & Administrative Support

Professional Support Services

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

English, Writing & Speech

Teaching & Training as a Profession

Human Development

Capstone Experience

Introduction to Education & Training

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Athletics

Student Council

4-H

Tutor

FCCLA

FINANCE

[DYK?]

A stack of dollar bills a mile high would total more than

\$
14.5
MILLION



LET'S GET FISCAL.

Put people's hard-earned money in good hands - maybe even yours! The finance cluster engages the masters of mathematics with careers that keep investments solid and wallets happy. (And, it just so happens that South Dakota is a finance mecca when it comes to American banking!)



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

James Mortensen
 Commercial Loan Officer,
 Black Hills Community Bank
 Rapid City, South Dakota

“The career opportunities for young people in South Dakota are going to continue to grow...”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I chose political science and economics because I enjoy learning about the different systems of government and economies. Although it doesn't directly tie with the financial industry, both fields of study require a good amount of analytics, which I have to use every day in my career.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love establishing relationships and getting to know the individuals behind the small businesses. It is fun to watch business owners' ideas evolve through many hours of planning and hard work. Once a thought-out plan comes together, it is very satisfying. It's great to be able to be a part of that.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

South Dakota is a great place to live and work. Our state and local governments have worked hard to create a business-friendly environment and promote economic development. The career opportunities for young people in South Dakota are going to continue to grow, and those wanting to be successful can do so right here at home.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Personable demeanor

Analytical mind

Trustworthiness

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - LOAN OFFICERS

Evaluate, authorize, or recommend approval of commercial, real estate, or credit loans. Advise borrowers on financial status and payment methods. Includes mortgage loan officers and agents, collection analysts, loan servicing officers, and loan underwriters.



Starting Salary Range:
\$43,000 to \$50,600



Projected Growth:
13.0% Growth 2014-2024

Securities & Investments	Insurance
Business Finance	Banking Services
Accounting	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Economics	International Business & Marketing
Accounting	Intro to Financial Services
Business Law	Banking Services
Foundations of Technology	Capstone Experience

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Business Plan Competition
DECA
FBLA
Local Investment Club
Fundraisers

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINI- STRATION



(DYK?)

The U.S. Capitol dome weighs more than

14,000
grand pianos.



FROM THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS TO D.C.

Government at all levels, from the local planning board to the White House, has many career paths – the government and public administration cluster houses the electable, the service-minded and the born leaders.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Shelly Bunkers
 Professor of Military Science,
 University of South Dakota
 Vermillion, South Dakota

“South Dakota has so much to offer – it is such a great place to grow up, raise a family and live!”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

Initially I joined ROTC because I saw it as a way to assist me with college tuition – plus ROTC sounded like an adventure and an opportunity for some unique, character-building activities. If you want to compete for an ROTC scholarship, you need to get good grades, maintain your physical fitness and develop your leadership skills by volunteering and participating in school sports, clubs and civic organizations. It is beneficial to seek out leadership opportunities.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

South Dakota has so much to offer – it is such a great place to grow up, raise a family and live! South Dakotans have work ethic, values and morals unmatched around the world.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love being able to work with the cadets and play a role in their development as young adults who will be contributing members to society, regardless if they join the Army after college or pursue a civilian career. We also learn from the cadets every day – they bring new and innovative ideas to the table on different ways to do business, train, recruit and retain cadets for service to our great nation.



3 MOVES TO MAKE IN HIGH SCHOOL:

- Take on leadership roles
- Build effective writing skills
- Grow team building skills

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

Plan, direct, or coordinate activities of an organization to ensure compliance with ethical or regulatory standards.



Starting Salary Range:
\$36,400 to \$42,200



Projected Growth:
6.5% Growth 2014-2024

Governance	Revenue & Taxation
National Security	Regulation
Foreign Service	Public Management & Administration
Planning	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Business Law	World Languages
English, Speech & Debate	Business Communications
Government	Capstone Experience

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Debate or Speech Team
Student Council
Junior ROTC
Legislative Page
Girls/Boys State
FBLA
FFA

HEALTH SCIENCE



There are more nurses in the United States than there are people in Jamaica.



THE NATION'S CAREGIVERS ARE LOOKING OUT FOR US.

Do you see yourself as one of them? Be among the elite crew of awesome individuals who doctor, nurse and research us back to the health. Health sciences is for the nurturing, technical and inquisitive types.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Wren Bishop
Emergency Room RN,
Avera St. Mary's Hospital
Pierre, South Dakota

“...you will have a bright future and job security in the state of South Dakota.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I chose nursing because I truly love helping others and enjoy working with people. Although it requires a strong degree of dedication, nursing is a very rewarding and admirable career.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

Always know when choosing nursing that you will have a bright future and job security in the state of South Dakota. Nursing is a lifelong learning career and the different avenues you can pursue are vast!

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

As an emergency room RN, my responsibilities include the assessment, treatment and monitoring of patients with emergent illnesses, conditions and ailments. I enjoy working in the ER because it is a fast-paced environment. You're also able to build a broad knowledge base through the various (and often exciting) things that you see. There is no greater feeling than knowing you've made an impact in the lives of those you treat.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Empathy and compassion

Critical thinking

Attention to detail

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - REGISTERED NURSES

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management.



Starting Salary Range:
\$41,000 to \$45,300



Projected Growth:
12.1% Growth 2012-2024

Therapeutic Services	Support Services
Diagnostic Services	Biotechnology Research & Development
Health Informatics	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Medical Terminology	Health & Wellness
Biology	Human Body Systems
Chemistry	Capstone Experience
Pharmacy Technology	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Skills USA
HOSA
Project Lead the Way
Science Clubs
Scrubs Camp

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM



The number of people who visit Walt Disney World in a given year is twice the population of Australia.



CATCH THE TRAVEL BUG.

As South Dakotans, we're used to tourism (you might be familiar with some mountain carvings in the Black Hills). But these next-level vacation destinations don't become must-see without a little help. Help others stay comfortable, well-fed and amazed on their journeys.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Sal Roseland
 Owner, R&R Lodge
 Seneca, South Dakota

“...don't be afraid of hearing 'no.' Let it motivate you and strive to succeed.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I loved people. I was always a leader in sports and any other group I was a part of. My actual business was my senior project at NSU. I started R&R Pheasant Hunting, LLC, in 2003, as well as a farm and ranch with my family. I currently handle all the day-to-day operations with the hunting lodge, along with running the cattle operation with my father.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The people are by far what I love about my job. We get to create lifelong memories for the young and old. This business has created so many wonderful opportunities for my family and me. We have gotten to meet people from all over the world and share our lives with them.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE HIGH SCHOOLERS INTERESTED IN THIS CLUSTER?

I wish I would have paid more attention in history and biology classes. The people that come to South Dakota to hunt or to tour our operation are very much here for our culture and family history. The advice I would give any students trying to start their own businesses is don't be afraid of hearing “no.” Let it motivate you and strive to succeed. There are so many opportunities out there. Surround yourself with good people.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

- Outgoing personality
- Strong people skills
- Time-management skills

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - FOOD SERVICE MANAGERS

Plan, direct, or coordinate activities of an organization or department that serves food and beverages.



Starting Salary Range:
\$41,100 to \$44,000



Projected Growth:
8.4% Growth 2014-2024

Restaurants & Food/Beverage Services	Travel & Tourism
Lodging	Recreation, Amusements & Attractions

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Principles of Marketing	Event Management
Foundations of Technology	Capstone Experience
Culinary Arts	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Skills USA
FCCLA
DECA
4-H
ProStart
FBLA

HUMAN SERVICES



(DYK?)

Early childhood education, like preschool programs, offers more return on investment to American taxpayers than the stock market.



LIVE TO SERVE? YOU'RE IN LUCK.

We need those people who excel at keeping our mental, social and physical well-being at full capacity. Human services careers are focused on improving quality of life and healthful living. Get on board.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Jason Hill
 Human Resources Assistant –
 Teammate Relations,
 Molded Fiberglass
 Aberdeen, South Dakota

“...it feels good to go to work when you are part of a team”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I spent 15 years as a social worker in the developmental disabilities field. I found that I enjoy working for and helping people. I take that same approach in the private sector. My best advice is always to find a part-time job in the field you are interested in and try to get as much information as you can from people who have worked in that field. It is natural for human beings to want change, especially in their careers, so don't think you can't switch gears and go into a completely different field. A lot of skills you learn in any job can be applied to other fields.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

No two days are the same, and it feels good to go to work when you are part of a team working toward succeeding in all aspects of the business.

HOW DID HIGH SCHOOL PREPARE YOU FOR THIS CAREER?

English – my high school English teacher gave us assignments where we had to read on a subject matter and analyze data. We then had to form a theory that we had to defend in front of class. This is what started me toward a degree in history and got me comfortable speaking in front of a large group. Playing sports and working in a pizza restaurant taught me how to be part of a team.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Creativity

Curiosity

Willingness to be a team player

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - CHILD, FAMILY AND SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

Provide social services and assistance to improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families and to maximize the family well-being and the academic functioning of children. May assist parents, arrange adoptions, and find foster homes for abandoned or abused children. officers and agents, collection analysts, loan servicing officers, and loan underwriters.



Starting Salary Range:
\$29,000 to \$33,200



Projected Growth:
6.0% Growth 2014-2024

Early Childhood Development & Services	Personal Care Services
Counseling & Mental Health Services	Consumer Services
Family & Community Services	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Nutrition & Wellness	Relationship Across the Lifespan
Human Development	Psychology & Sociology
Business Management	Capstone Experience

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

FCCLA
Tutor
Peer Mediator
Mentor

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



Smartphone and tablet users have downloaded more mobile apps than there are neurons in the human brain.



THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT.

We all value our phones, tablets and wearables. Now think of the amazing people who dream up these devices and bring them to the masses. If you're technically minded and love keeping up with the latest advancements in technology, then welcome to the Information Technology cluster.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Chris Olson
 Assistant Professor and Coordinator,
 Information Systems, Dakota State University
 Madison, South Dakota

“If you love technology, immerse yourself in it.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I chose my major due to my love of technology, but I was also drawn to high job placement and starting salary. If you enjoy working with technology, immerse yourself in it. Whether it's programming, game design, networking or securing software from hackers, learn all you can.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love inspiring students and helping them realize how technology can enhance various aspects of our lives.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

High-paying jobs in technology used to be limited to the coasts. Due to high-speed internet connectivity in South Dakota, there is increasing demand for jobs in the technology area and not enough graduates to fill them. The jobs pay extremely well, and the cost of living and absence of a state income tax in South Dakota make them even more valuable than jobs in large cities.



3 MOVES TO MAKE IN HIGH SCHOOL:

- Take computer classes
- Get a solid mathematics background
- Build up your communication skills

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS, APPLICATIONS

Develop, create, and modify general computer applications software or specialized utility programs. Analyze user needs and develop software solutions. Design software or customize software for client use with the aim of optimizing operational efficiency.



Starting Salary Range:
\$51,800 to \$62,200



Projected Growth:
16.7 Growth 2014-2024

Network Systems	Web & Digital Communications
Information Support & Services	Programming & Software Development

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMylife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Networking Technology	Electronics
Calculus	Capstone Experience

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Website Development
FBLA
Skills USA

LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY



An ambulance siren has the same decibel level as a jackhammer.



TO SERVE AND PROTECT.

Rights-reading, order-keeping and gavel-banging is just part of the law, public safety, corrections and security cluster. From national security to local law enforcement and from the courtroom to the corrections facility, there are needs at all levels.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Cindy Weber Raby
 Paramedic/Dental Assistant
 Dakota Regional Periodontics
 Rapid City, South Dakota

“I love the challenge of every patient being different.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I knew that I wanted to be in the medical field, and I was not sure exactly what specialty. I took an EMT class at Western Dakota Technical Institute and loved it. The best advice I have for anyone looking to get into paramedicine is go out, contact your local ambulance service and see if there are any programs that you can be a part of.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE HIGH SCHOOLERS INTERESTED IN THIS CLUSTER?

Take any anatomy and physiology, chemistry, medical terminology, physical science or healthcare class that is offered. Also, volunteer to help in the community get your CPR certification, and see if you can volunteer at a local hospital or ambulance service.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love the challenge of every patient being different. Everyone you come across, whether you are called to a 911 emergency on the ambulance or you are helping a patient in the dental office, no one is ever the same.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Critical thinking

Confidence

Eagerness to learn

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - FIREFIGHTERS

Control and extinguish municipal fires, protect life and property and conduct rescue efforts.



Starting Salary Range:
\$27,900 to \$32,700



Projected Growth:
7.7% Growth 2014-2024

Correction Services

Law Enforcement Services

Emergency & Fire Management Services

Legal Services

Security & Protective Services

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

American Government	Human Development
English	World Languages
Health & Physical Fitness	Capstone Experience
Intro to Emergency Medical Services	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Athletics
Mock Trials
Debate Team
Girls/Boys State
Junior ROTC
Student Council

MANUFACTURING



[DYK?]

Workers in the U.S. manufacturing industry outrank all other countries for productivity.



EVER TAKE APART THE TOASTER AND PUT IT BACK TOGETHER AGAIN?

If you're the tinkering type, manufacturing might be your ideal situation. South Dakota is booming with careers in this cluster, seeking people who succeed at planning, managing and turning materials into products.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Travis Stevens
 Owner/Operator,
 TS Customs, LLC
 Miller, South Dakota

“Don't be afraid to start something in a small community.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

I turned a passionate hobby into a career. Find something that makes you want to go to work every morning and look forward to staying late. It's far easier to work hard when you truly enjoy your work.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

Don't be afraid to start something in a small community. Support your community every time it asks, and the community will support you back.

HOW DID HIGH SCHOOL PREPARE YOU FOR THIS CAREER?

Math and trigonometry – programming and running CNC equipment demands fluent use of numbers, circles and angles.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I love the customers' satisfaction upon receipt of their new custom rifles. People put a lot of trust in me with their hard-earned money, and exceeding their expectations with the finished product is adrenalinizing!



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Personable demeanor

Analytical mind

Trustworthiness

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - MOBILE HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANICS, EXCEPT ENGINES

Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul mobile mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, and conveyors, used in construction, logging, and surface mining.



Starting Salary Range:
\$35,000 to \$40,600



Projected Growth:
11.5 % Growth 2014-2024

Production	Quality Assurance
Manufacturing Production Process Development	Logistics & Inventory Control
Maintenance, Installation & Repair	Health, Safety & Environmental Assurance

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMyLife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Machine Tool	Physics
Welding Technology	Geometry
Mechatronics/Robotics	Capstone Experience
Mechanical Drafting	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Skills USA
FFA
Project Lead the Way
Internships
Robotics

**OVER
\$350,000
IN SCHOLARSHIPS
ANNUALLY.**



**99% JOB
PLACEMENT
FOR GRADS.**



**GET THE LOOK OF
SUCCESS.**



**LAKE AREA
TECH**

It's your world.



**NATIONALLY
RANKED
TOP TWO-YEAR
COLLEGE.**



**THE COLLEGE
THAT DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
ANY OTHER.**



LAKEAREATECH.EDU

Lake Area Technical Institute: superior, comprehensive technical education that changes lives and launches careers.

1201 ARROW AVE. • WATERTOWN, SD

Lake Area Technical Institute is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action institution. We are committed to providing an environment where all students can succeed. The following persons have been recognized for their exceptional leadership and contributions to the community: You are invited to attend an award ceremony at Lake Area Technical Institute. The award ceremony will be held at the Watertown Convention Center, 1201 Arrow Ave., Watertown, SD 57201. For more information, please contact the award coordinator at (605) 852-3333. The award ceremony will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015, at 6:00 PM. The award ceremony will be held at the Watertown Convention Center, 1201 Arrow Ave., Watertown, SD 57201. For more information, please contact the award coordinator at (605) 852-3333.

CAREER GOALS ARE A JOURNEY.

ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL?
WHENEVER YOU WANT IT TO BE.

(Don't worry if the flight is delayed – every journey is different.)

REVEAL YOUR PATH

The words go every which way - backward, forward, diagonally, up and down. Good luck!

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| ACCOMPLISHMENT | HAPPINESS |
| ACHIEVEMENT | IMAGINE |
| ACTION | INTERESTS |
| ADVENTURE | JOB |
| AMBITION | LEARN |
| ASPIRATION | LIFE |
| CAREER | NEXT |
| CHOOSE | OBJECTIVE |
| DESTINATION | OPPORTUNITY |
| DREAM | PLAN |
| EDUCATION | PURPOSE |
| EXPECTATION | PURSUIT |
| EXPLORE | STRIVING |
| FUTURE | SUCCESS |
| GOALS | TARGET |

E V E E R Y T J A P O A N U R N E Y B E N N E G I
 N S W I R A T D H A U S C O I N G L E S O O V T E
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 N K U G Q I I G N I V I R T S E S E U J M I J E Q
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 V U C O Q P E N H S U L E C N L Q E H K K T N I Y
 P H I W P Q O O R S Y C E R O L P X E Z P I U M M
 C O U X B H W I U B C K K T N R F G V D G B D D H
 P X A O L N Z T O U Z R K R A O L J S A C L Y I H
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 A B Z A T P O T A X Y E N U P D Y I F Q F W F U A
 V G B H A Z G C Y R R J N N S P E M I E U V S D T
 G G N R A E L E R A O B B A W A N E X T S O T E P
 Q F A Y E Y A P C B L L C X H X G I T R Q D S O Q
 Q V Q G M F T X D J L X K N C P S A T K D I E P C
 C H O O S E Q E S L A O G H L O P P X F S D R V V
 X W C E V R K H H U R D E S T I N A T I O N E Z H
 G H D U S A A L J T B T G W N E V Q X E R X T A K
 M A A L L E W O Q P W R U O T Z M D O F C M N F R
 T N E M H S I L P M O C C A R E D F L B C O I X F

Use remaining letters of puzzle to form message below.



EDUCATION & TRAINING

TEACHING/TRAINING
PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION & ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

SECURITY & INVESTMENT
BUSINESS FINANCE
ACCOUNTING
INSURANCE
BANKING SERVICES

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL MANAGEMENT
BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS

A/V TECHNOLOGY & FILM
PRINTING TECHNOLOGY
VISUAL ARTS
PERFORMING ARTS
JOURNALISM & BROADCASTING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION

DESIGN/ PRE-CONSTRUCTION
CONSTRUCTION
MAINTENANCE/ OPERATIONS

AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES

FOOD PRODUCTS & PROCESSING SYSTEMS
PLANT SYSTEMS
ANIMAL SYSTEMS
POWER, STRUCTURAL & TECHNICAL SYSTEMS
NATURAL RESOURCES SYSTEMS
ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE SYSTEMS
AGRIBUSINESS SYSTEMS

CAREER PATHWAYS

TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION & LOGISTICS

TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS
LOGISTICS PLANNING & MANAGEMENT SERVICES
WAREHOUSING & DISTRIBUTION
CENTER OPERATIONS
FACILITY & MOBILE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS/ INFRASTRUCTURE
PLANNING, MANAGEMENT & REGULATION
HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL
SALES & SERVICE

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, & MATH (STEM)

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS
MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS
MERCHANDISING
PROFESSIONAL SALES
MARKETING MANAGEMENT

MANUFACTURING

PRODUCTION
MANUFACTURING, PROCESS DEVELOPMENT
MAINTENANCE, INSTALLATION & REPAIR
QUALITY ASSURANCE
LOGISTICS & INVENTORY CONTROL
HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE

LEGAL SERVICES
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES
SECURITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES
PROPERTY & FIRE SERVICES
BUSINESS SERVICES

CAREER CLUSTER



FINANCE

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

HEALTH SCIENCE

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

HUMAN SERVICES

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTION & SECURITY



FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE

REAL ESTATE

SECURITIES

TRADING

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

FINANCIAL PLANNING

FINANCIAL MARKETING

FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY

FINANCIAL REGULATORY AFFAIRS

FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE

FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

FINANCIAL SYSTEMS

FINANCIAL SERVICES

GOVERNANCE
NATIONAL SECURITY
FOREIGN SERVICE
PLANNING
REVENUE
& TAXATION
REGULATION
PUBLIC
MANAGEMENT
ADMINISTRATION

THERAPEUTIC SERVICES
DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES
HEALTH INFORMATICS
SUPPORT SERVICES
BIOTECHNOLOGY
RESEARCH &
DEVELOPMENT

RESTAURANTS & FOOD/
BEVERAGE SERVICES
LODGING
TRAVEL & TOURISM
RECREATION,
AMUSEMENTS &
ATTRactions

EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT
& SERVICES
COUNSELING & MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES
FAMILY &
COMMUNITY
SERVICES
PERSONAL
CARE
SERVICES
CONSUMER
SERVICES

NETWORK SYSTEMS
& SERVICES
INFORMATION SUPPORT
COMMUNICATIONS &
WEB & DIGITAL
PROGRAMMING &
SOFTWARE
DEVELOPMENT

CORRECTION
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
CORRECTION
SAFETY
PUBLIC SAFETY

MyLife @

SOUTH DAKOTA

HOT CAREERS

WHEN CONSIDERING YOUR CAREER, IT'S IMPORTANT TO THINK ABOUT DEMAND FOR YOUR CHOSEN FIELD.

- | Will you be able to find a job easily in your field after graduation?
- | What are the long-term job stability prospects for your chosen field?

DO THE LEGWORK

The best way to find out is through research. Talk to people in your chosen field. Talk to career counselors at your high school or prospective college. Conduct online searches to find information. As with anything in life, it's good to know what you're getting into!

SOME OF THE FASTEST-GROWING OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2024 INCLUDE:

1 Wind turbine service technicians	11 Occupational therapy aides	21 Forensic science technicians
2 Occupational therapy assistants	12 Physician assistants	22 Web developers
3 Physical therapist assistants	13 Operations research analysts	23 Occupational therapists
4 Physical therapist aides	14 Personal financial advisors	24 Diagnostic medical sonographers
5 Home health aides	15 Cartographers and photogrammetrists	25 Personal care aides
6 Commercial drivers	16 Genetic counselors	26 Phlebotomists
7 Nurse practitioners	17 Interpreters and translators	27 Ophthalmic medical technicians
8 Physical therapists	18 Audiologists	28 Nurse midwives
9 Statisticians	19 Hearing aid specialists	29 Solar photovoltaic installers
10 Ambulance drivers and attendants	20 Optometrists	30 Emergency medical technicians and paramedics

MARKETING



The average person sees as many as **5,000** marketing messages per day.



ARE YOU GOOD AT GETTING PEOPLE'S ATTENTION?

Getting the word out is the job of the marketing cluster. Careers are available for concise communicators, dream designers and motivated relationship managers. If you excel at delivering messages to the masses, it's time to inspect marketing.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Shauna Sheets
 Real Estate Agent/Broker Associate,
 Keller Williams Realty Black Hills
 Rapid City, South Dakota

“I am continually learning and growing. I love making an impact in someone’s life.”

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A REAL ESTATE AGENT?

You must be educated, tough and compassionate at the same time. Sometimes I am a counselor, sometimes a parent and sometimes a firefighter. If you are self-motivated, are organized, can follow proven systems and can adjust to many different personalities, real estate is something to consider. It’s hard work and has huge rewards.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The people. The versatility. The income. The freedom. Every client and every transaction is different. I am continually learning and growing. I love making an impact in someone’s life.

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

I didn’t want to work an hour to earn an hour’s wage, so I chose a sales job where my income is directly related to my level of work. Because South Dakota has historically had a stable market and continual growth, choosing real estate here at home is a great option for someone possessing the necessary education and qualities.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

- Organization Skills
- Trustworthiness
- Strong Work Ethic

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - SALES REPRESENTATIVES, WHOLESALE AND MANUFACTURING

Sell goods for wholesalers or manufacturers to businesses or groups of individuals. Work requires substantial knowledge of items sold.



Starting Salary Range:
\$43,800 to \$55,800



Projected Growth:
14.3% Growth 2014–2024

Marketing Management	Marketing Communications
Professional Sales	Market Research
Merchandising	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMylife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Marketing Management	Market Research
English & Creative Writing	Probability Statistics
Accounting	Public Speaking
Business Law	Capstone Experience

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

DECA
FBLA
School Newspaper/Yearbook
Speech Team & Debate Team
Fundraisers
Student Government

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH (STEM)



In a group of

23
PEOPLE

odds are better
than

50/50

that at least two
will share the
same birthday.



IMPROVING THE WORLD ONE EXPERIMENT AT A TIME.

Solving problems and learning how things work is pivotal to our society. That's why we need our scientists, techies, engineers and math whizzes using their mad skills to make our lives better through innovation, research and imagination.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Mike Sherman
 Director of New Business – Construction,
 RENEW Energy
 Sioux Falls, South Dakota

“I wish I would have paid better attention in math and science classes.”

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE YOUR CAREER?

My initial plan after high school was to pursue an associate degree in telecommunications. I was looking for work and stumbled across a small wind company based out of South Dakota with work in Southern California for the summer. The travel and work were exciting to me, so at that time I made the decision to stick with the job and forgo my postsecondary education for the time being.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE HIGH SCHOOLERS INTERESTED IN THIS CLUSTER?

Attentiveness during class and study habits are important. There have been times I wish I would have paid better attention in my math and science classes.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Initially, it was the travel, seeing the country and working outdoors and with my hands. As I’ve progressed through my career, this industry has always provided plenty of upward mobility.



3 VALUABLE TRAITS IN THIS CLUSTER:

Communication

Ambition

Problem-solving

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

Design, develop, test, and evaluate integrated systems for managing industrial production processes, including human work factors, quality control, inventory control, logistics and material flow, cost analysis, and production coordination.



Starting Salary Range:
\$54,400 to \$61,800



Projected Growth:
11.6% Growth 2014-2024

Engineering & Technology

Science & Mathematics

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMylife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Robotics	Chemistry
Engineering Design & Development	Mathematics
Energy/Power	Capstone Experience

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Math Counts
Robotics
Project Lead the Way
Science Fair
Skills USA
Makerspace

TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION, & LOGISTICS



There are more than

4 MILLION MILES

of roads and highways in the United States alone.



ALL ABOARD!

We've all got places to go. That's why the transportation, distribution and logistics cluster is so important. Plan, manage and move the world's people and products by land, sea or air. Movers and shakers – apply your skills here.



REAL-LIFE RUNDOWN

Brian Klock
 President/Visionary, Klock Werks
 Mitchell, South Dakota

“...to be able to shape the motorcycle industry is a dream.”

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

At Klock Werks, we’ve been building custom motorcycles and parts for the past 20 years. We are fortunate to have worked with major brands and great motorcycle manufacturers over the years. As a product of a small town like Emery, S.D., to be able to shape the motorcycle industry is a dream.

HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT YOUR CURRENT CAREER?

I would have never guessed that my communications degree would play such a vital part in our growth as a major influencer in the motorcycle industry. When given the chance to participate, we can write, photograph and speak about our industry and ideas. This has been a critical skill that I know so much more about due to my double major (with business).

WHY STAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA?

I believe that South Dakota is as great a place as any to start and foster a business. With the advent of the internet, you can do anything from right here. I feel fortunate to have the Midwestern work ethic and a team of incredible people surrounding me. It’s truly a blessing to be from here and thrive here – it’s the greatest place.



3 MOVES TO MAKE IN HIGH SCHOOL:

- Pick classes that teach how things work
- Stay inspired
- Hone your writing, storytelling skills

PATHWAYS Where this career can take you.



FEATURED CAREER - OPERATING ENGINEERS AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

Operate one or several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concrete or other hard surface pavement.



Starting Salary Range:
\$31,300 to \$33,900



Projected Growth:
5.0% Growth 2014-2024

Transportation Operations	Transportation Systems/Infrastructure Planning, Management & Regulation
Logistics Planning & Management Services	Health, Safety & Environmental Management
Warehousing & Distribution Center Operations	Sales & Service
Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance	

To view salary ranges and other information on the career of your choice, visit www.SDMylife.com.

COURSES Where to focus your studies.

Automotive Electronics	Geometry
Entrepreneurship	Physics
Intro to Tech Ed	Capstone Experience
General Service Technician	

ACTIVITIES How to get involved.

Internship
Math Club
Skills USA

FINDING

PERFECT MATCH

THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL.

You can go to a university, technical institute or tribal college. You can join the military. You can train through an apprenticeship or internship. You can join the workforce. And no matter what, you can choose the path that's right for you!



SDMYLIFE.COM

Now that you've explored the Career Clusters, you might have a better idea of which ones fit your interests. Still unsure? Try this:

- 1 Log onto SDMyLife.com and complete the Matchmaker to discover your top recommended clusters and careers.
- 2 Take the Ability Profiler to discover the relationship between your abilities and the careers that match your interests.
- 3 Get going on your life plans!

YOUR



A SDMYLIFE CAREER MATCHMAKER

What are you going to do with your life? Not exactly an easy question, is it? The SDMyLife Career Matchmaker will get you kickstarted by showing you your top recommended career clusters and specific career suggestions, based on what you love to do and what you want to do more of.

B SDMYLIFE ABILITY PROFILER

Half the battle with loving your career is finding something you're good at – not every field will fit. As a 10th grader, you can take the Ability Profiler and answer a few questions that will measure your skills and abilities and match them to your Career Matchmaker results to let you know where you'll best succeed.

C SUITABLE FOR YOU?

So what does it all mean? Luckily for you, we'll take your results from each of the above two tools and let you know on a hand-dandy page which of your careers of interest are best suited for you and details on how you compare to an average person in each field. Just look for the "Suitable for You?" button in the sidebar of the career profile pages.



“ I don't want the
FEAR OF FAILURE
to stop me
from doing
what I
REALLY
CARE ABOUT. ”

I'LL NEVER
USE THAT.



**APPLYING
HIGH SCHOOL
LESSONS TO
REAL-LIFE CAREERS.**

WE'VE ALL HAD THAT MOMENT WHEN WE'RE LISTENING TO A LECTURE AND THINK, "WHEN AM I EVER GOING TO USE THIS?"

The truth is, a lot of the things you learn in high school will have a direct impact on both your postsecondary training and your future career.

ALGEBRA

Who needs math anyway? Well, it turns out a lot of people do. There are many careers that require a good sense of basic algebra, including animators, engineers and market researchers. You'd be surprised how many day-to-day work tasks require some level of equations to make them happen.

BIOLOGY

From anatomy to zoology, life sciences might be a lot to wrap your head around, but putting in the effort now greatly expands your career opportunities. Everybody from animal trainers to PE teachers to crime scene investigators use biology.

GEOMETRY

Don't throw out your protractor yet. Even though isosceles triangles and theorems might not seem like your thing now, you could use geometry a lot in the future. Building contractors, air traffic controllers and nurses all use geometric concepts in their day-to-day work.



HISTORY

What's the point of learning about stuff that already happened? Well, it turns out there's a really big point to it – it pays off in your future jobs. Teachers, archeologists, politicians and lawyers all benefit from having a good grasp of history, and future employers will respect you more if you know your stuff!

Sources: *Houston Chronicle*, *TopUniversities.com*



“SUCCESS
isn't about how much
MONEY you make.

It's about the
DIFFERENCE
you make in
PEOPLE'S
LIVES.”

Photo Credit: *matheofoto / Shutterstock.com*

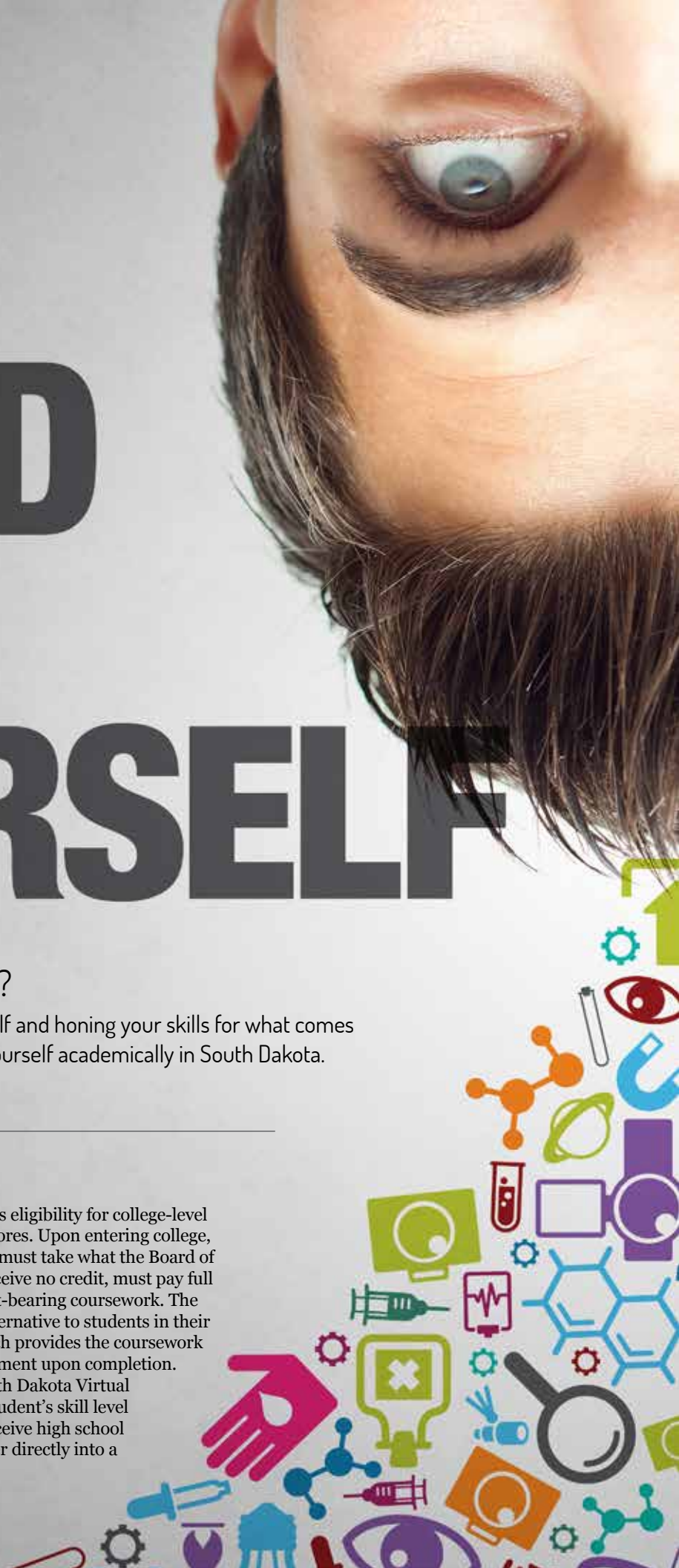
BE HARD ON YOURSELF

WHY TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT?

High school should be about challenging yourself and honing your skills for what comes next. There are a variety of ways to challenge yourself academically in South Dakota. Trust us – they're 100% worth it.

COLLEGE READINESS COURSES

South Dakota's public universities determine a student's eligibility for college-level courses based on ACT English and mathematics sub-scores. Upon entering college, students whose ACT scores are less than a certain level must take what the Board of Regents calls "remedial" coursework, for which they receive no credit, must pay full cost and must pass before they can be placed into credit-bearing coursework. The South Dakota Department of Education provides an alternative to students in their senior year, called "college readiness coursework," which provides the coursework at low cost to those who are eligible with full reimbursement upon completion. The college readiness coursework is offered via the South Dakota Virtual School. This coursework is tailored specifically to the student's skill level and, if successfully completed, will allow students to receive high school credit, bypass postsecondary remedial courses and enter directly into a college-level course.





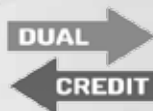
VIRTUAL SCHOOL COURSES

The South Dakota Virtual School is a clearinghouse of distance courses offered by approved providers. Courses are available online and via the Digital Dakota Network (DDN). The goal of the Virtual School is to provide choice, flexibility and quality for all students across the state.

Any middle or high school student enrolled in a South Dakota school can take courses via the Virtual School. Check out Virtual School courses if:

- 1 Your school doesn't offer the desired course
- 2 A course doesn't fit into your schedule
- 3 You're in need of credit recovery
- 4 You need an academic challenge

To get started, browse the course offerings at www.sdvs.k12.sd.us. Talk to the appropriate contact person at your school regarding your course interests. The school representative will review your request and, if approved, get you registered!



DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Dual credit is an opportunity for you to enroll in postsecondary schools in South Dakota, simultaneously earn credits for both a high school diploma and postsecondary degree or certificate and enjoy a potentially huge cost savings. To learn more, check out the dual credit page on www.SDMyLife.com.



ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide college-level curriculum and exams that will help you develop study skills and habits for the rigors of college coursework. AP exams are administered in May of each year and students earn scores ranging from 1-5. Many colleges throughout the United States offer credit for students who score 3 or higher on their AP exams. To learn more, check out the AP page on www.SDMyLife.com.

RIGOROUS COURSEWORK

Rigorous courses can give you a career-building experience that will help ensure what you are learning in school is relevant to what is happening in business. You will experience in-depth coursework that will help prepare you for specific careers. Learn more at www.SDMyLife.com.



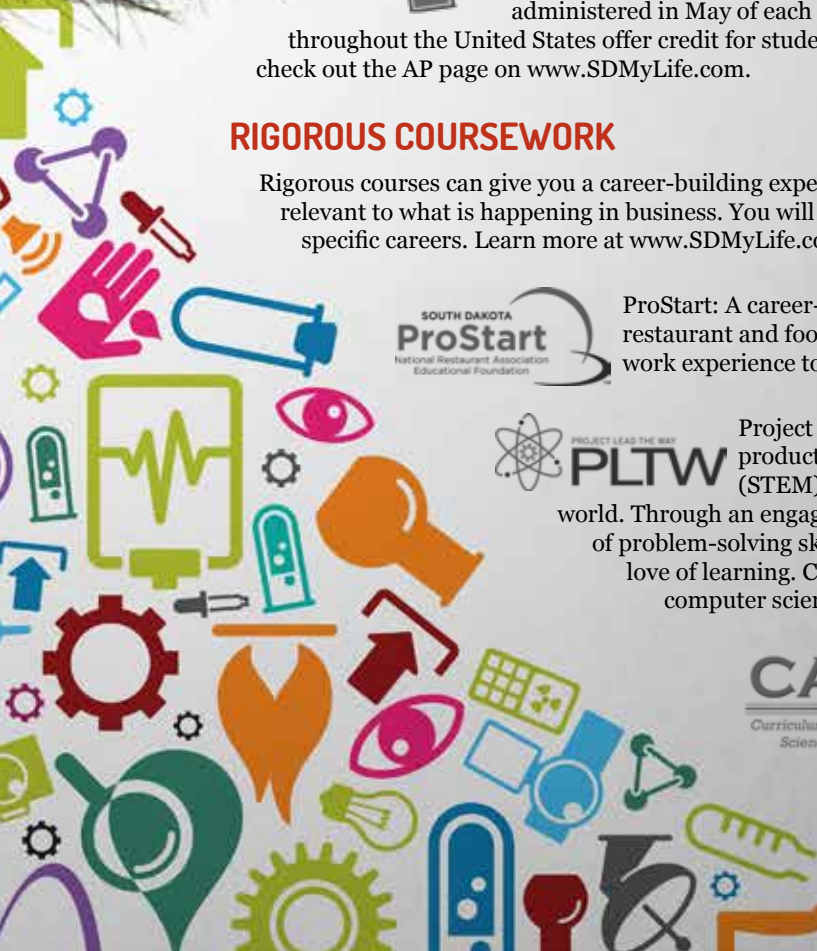
ProStart: A career-building program that gives you a taste for success in the restaurant and food service industry by blending both classroom learning and work experience to produce the culinary and management leaders of tomorrow.



Project Lead the Way: Helps prepare students to be innovative and productive leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to make meaningful, pioneering contributions to our world. Through an engaging, hands-on curriculum, PLTW encourages the development of problem-solving skills, critical thinking, creative and innovative reasoning, and love of learning. Classes are available in engineering, biomedical services and computer science.



Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education: CASE provides you with a high level of educational experiences to enhance the rigor and relevance of agriculture, food and natural resources subject matter. CASE provides purposeful enhancement of science, mathematics and English language understanding.



JOB SHADOWING:

GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON YOUR CAREER OF CHOICE BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ON A JOB SHADOW? IT'S ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO FIGURE OUT IF THAT JOB YOU'VE DREAMED ABOUT SINCE YOU WERE A KID IS REALLY THE BEST FIT FOR YOU.



WHAT IS IT?

Your typical job shadow involves close-up observation (hence the “shadow”) and hands-on experience. You see what an average day in that career looks like, and you may get a chance to try out some of the key activities for yourself.



WHY DO IT?

You get to see “a day in the life” of your chosen profession: what it’s like to be an employee and work with coworkers and bosses. You make a new contact in your potential future industry. Perhaps best of all, you get to see firsthand if it’s even a job you really want to have.



HOW DO I DO IT?

First, talk to a teacher or school counselor. They’ll have the connections you need to find the right fit. Don’t worry if you live in a small town -- there are still plenty of opportunities available. The most important thing to do is just ask!

Visit the SDMyLife Network to find work-based learning experiences.

GET INVOLVED

Depending on what you're interested in, there are many ways to get involved in organizations that promote leadership, teamwork and citizenship throughout your high school and college career.



DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

www.sddeca.weebly.com



Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) brings business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs.

www.fbla.dsu.edu



Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) provides personal growth, leadership development and career preparation opportunities for students in family and consumer sciences education.

www.sdfccla.org



FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

aged.sdstate.edu



HOSA enhances the delivery of compassionate, quality health care by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill and leadership development of all health science education students, therefore helping students meet the needs of the health care community.

sdhosa.org



SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps its members become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. It provides quality educational experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development.

skillsusasd.org

FIND YOUR



BE FLEXIBLE

Don't worry if you're not sure about a career choice. You're not alone. Take opportunities as they come, and be flexible. You never know what may come along and change the path of your life.

IT'S A BIG WORLD - EXPLORE IT

Experience this big world we live in, and try to experience something new every day. After all, life is meant to be LIVED.

FIND FRIENDS

Get involved in clubs or other groups, and get out of your comfort zone. Get to know new people, and ask questions about their stories. The more people you network with, the richer your life will be.

OUR PATH

It's Up to You.

ENJOY THE MOMENT

The next few years of your life are all about YOU. So do fun things. Go to a play. Learn a new language. Join a team. And find one thing to truly appreciate every day.

NEVER STOP LEARNING

Opportunities to learn are everywhere. And there are always people willing to share their knowledge and experiences. So ask questions. And listen intently.

LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

If you want something, make a plan and go for it. You only get from life what you put into it.



ARE YOU PLANNING TO ATTEND COLLEGE?

SO WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO? SOUTH DAKOTA HAS IT ALL. YOU'LL GET A GREAT EDUCATION AT A VERY AFFORDABLE PRICE!



- 1** Black Hills State University
www.bhsu.edu
- 2** Capital University Center
www.cucpierre.org
- 3** Dakota State University
www.dsu.edu
- 4** Lake Area Tech
www.lakeareatech.edu
- 5** Mitchell Technical Institute
www.mitchelltech.edu
- 6** Northern State University
www.northern.edu
- 7** South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
www.sdsmt.edu
- 8** South Dakota State University
www.sdstate.edu
- 9** Southeast Tech
www.southeasttech.edu
- 10** University Center Rapid City
www.sduniversitycenter.org
- 11** University Center Sioux Falls
www.sduniversitycenter.org
- 12** University of South Dakota
www.usd.edu
- 13** Western Dakota Tech
www.wdt.edu

Listing only includes South Dakota's public universities and technical institutes.

FIND THE RIGHT PATH

Not sure what journey is the right one for you? Use SDMyLife to Compare as many as three schools from anywhere across the country by admissions, estimated expenses, student life, athletics, undergraduate major options and other parameters. Don't have a clue where you

want to go? No problem - use the School Selector to embark on your own adventure for postsecondary opportunities. It can match your interests and goals to colleges across the United States.



IT'S TIME TO HIT THE ROAD.

COLLEGE AND CAREER ARE ON THE HORIZON.

(It's a bright future - bring some sunglasses.)



TINA FEY

“You can't be that **KID** standing at the top of the water slide **OVERTHINKING IT.** **YOU HAVE** to go down the **CHUTE.**”

Photo Credit: Tinseltown / Shutterstock.com

TEST YOURSELF

DO YOU PLAN TO TAKE A COLLEGE ENTRANCE OR WORKFORCE READINESS EXAM?

There are different tests that may need to be taken your junior or senior year depending on the school and/or career path your choose.

ACT

America's most widely accepted college-entrance exam, the ACT, is used to assess students' general education development and ability to complete college-level work in math, reading, science and English. The ACT is the most common admissions test in South Dakota.

ACT COMPASS

ACT Compass is a computer-adaptive college-placement test that:

- Evaluates student skill levels in reading, writing, math and English as a second language

- Places students in appropriate courses

- Connects students to resources they need for academic success



Method Test Prep offers short sessions to help boost your ACT scores in five- to 15-minute prep opportunities. The features of these sessions include audio explanations of test questions, strategy guides, practice tests and quizzes, strength-tracking and test-taking tips.

ACCUPLACER

AccuPlacer accurately assesses reading, writing, math and computer skills and connects students to more than 1,300 institutions nationwide, including community colleges, four-year colleges, technical schools and high schools.

ASVAB

The ASVAB measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. It also includes a career-exploration program with tools to learn more about civilian and military worlds of work.

NCRC

ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) is a portable credential that shows achievement and workplace-employability skills in applied math, information-gathering and other real-world skills that are critical for job success. NCRC can be taken by South Dakota juniors and seniors at no cost.

SAT

The SAT is a globally recognized college-admission test that shows colleges what students know and how well they can apply their knowledge in reading, writing and math – subjects taught every day in high school.



BE PREPARED



Get a good night's sleep before the exam. Set out your admission ticket, identification, acceptable calculator, No. 2 pencils and erasers before going to bed. Set your alarm so you wake up early enough to have time for a good breakfast.



Know where your test center is located. Print out and review directions in advance. Arrive at the test center early. Leave extra time to get there in case you run into delays.



Bring something handy to eat during breaks so you can stay focused and sharp.



UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID

WHETHER OR NOT YOUR PARENTS OR GRANDPARENTS CAN HELP YOU PAY FOR COLLEGE OR TECHNICAL SCHOOL, YOU WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY NEED FINANCIAL AID.

According to www.FAFSA.com, approximately

\$199 BILLION

worth of financial aid is available to college students each year.

THE TERM “FINANCIAL AID” INCLUDES:



SCHOLARSHIPS

No need to repay – just start learning! Scholarships are available from a wide variety of public and private sources and are primarily awarded based on your achievements or affiliations.



GRANTS

Like scholarships, grants do not need to be repaid – but unlike scholarships, grants are awarded primarily for financial need. Most grants come from the federal government and state governments. Perhaps the most well known grant is the federal Pell Grant. Other grants are awarded to the children of military personnel or civil servants, such as police and firefighters.



STUDENT LOANS

Student loans need to be repaid after you graduate from college. In addition to federal and state sources, student loans are available from private sources such as banks and professional organizations. Subsidized student loans do not accrue interest until after you graduate.

Contact your counselor to find out how to apply for these grants and more!



SOUTH DAKOTA STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Learn more and apply online at www.doe.sd.gov/secretary/scholarships.aspx

1

CRITICAL TEACHING NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP

Provides financial assistance to South Dakota high school graduates who attend an eligible higher education institution in South Dakota and promise to work in a critical teaching need occupation in South Dakota for five years after graduating from a participating postsecondary institution.

2

DAKOTA CORPS SCHOLARSHIP

Provides full tuition to South Dakota high school students who promise to enter a critical need occupation in South Dakota following completion of the program of study.

3

DAVIS-BAHCALL SCHOLARSHIP

All-expense paid summer-study program to study physics, plus a variety of other science and engineering topics. Spend two weeks at the Sanford Underground Research Facility, and travel to research laboratories within the United States and possibly in Italy.

4

HAGEN-HARVEY SHOLARSHIP

Provides \$6,000 over four years for study at a South Dakota postsecondary institution to enrolled members of American Indian Tribes.

5

SOUTH DAKOTA OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

Provides \$6,500 over four years to a qualifying student who attends an eligible higher education institution in South Dakota.

6

US SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP

Nationwide youth program that brings high school students to Washington, D.C., for a brief on-site introduction to the functions of the federal government and, in particular, the United States Senate.

WHERE CAN I FIND SCHOLARSHIP INFO?

SDMYLIFE FINANCIAL AID SELECTOR

The financial aid office at a college or technical institute

Your school counselor

Foundations, religious or community organizations, local businesses, or civic groups

Organizations (including professional associations) related to your field of interest

Ethnicity-based organizations

Your employer or your parents' employers



www.builddakotascholarships.com

Aims to fill South Dakota's technical career needs by offering full-ride scholarships to future skilled professionals who commit to the continued growth and success of the state by living in South Dakota for at least three years following graduation.



Ready to impact.

Students from every state and 81 different countries.

At SDSU, our students are getting ready. Ready to advance agriculture to help solve hunger, to educate today's students to become tomorrow's leaders and ready to shape their communities.

And it all started when they chose a university ready to provide the knowledge, the research opportunities and a community that empowered them to make a difference.

Every day, students are choosing South Dakota State University. Join them to discover when you graduate from here, you graduate ready to impact.

www.sdstate.edu • sdsu.admissions@sdstate.edu • 605-688-4121



**SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY**

Be Great. Start Here.®

PAUSE BEFORE YOU POST

All those selfies on **Facebook** and **Instagram** could come back to haunt you!

Manage your privacy settings so your posts are seen only by those you want to see them. Better yet, do not post anything you wouldn't want an employer to see. If friends post photos that show you in an unfavorable light, remove or untag the photos. Also, delete any friends' comments that may reflect poorly on you.

OF MORE THAN 2,100 HIRING MANAGERS SURVEYED BY CAREERBUILDER.COM IN 2016:

60%

USE SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES TO RESEARCH JOB CANDIDATES

46%

DIDN'T HIRE OR INTERVIEW A CANDIDATE BECAUSE OF PROVOCATIVE OR INAPPROPRIATE PHOTOS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

32%

FOUND THINGS THAT ENCOURAGED THEM TO HIRE THE CANDIDATE

49%

DISCOVERED THINGS THAT DISCOURAGED THEM FROM HIRING THE CANDIDATE



NELSON MANDELA

“ EDUCATION is the most powerful WEAPON which you can use to CHANGE the WORLD. ”

Photo Credit: Alessia Pierdomenico / Shutterstock.com

RESUME BUILDER



HOW'S THE RESUME LOOKING?







Do you have the right stuff to get that job? Your resume needs to grab the right kind of attention, with **1 in 4 managers receiving 50 resumes per job listing and 1 in 10 receiving 100 per job listing!**

Get noticed. Build a stellar resume.

Source: www.careerbuilder.com

THEY CALL US THE MILLENNIALS, GENERATION Z.

We are quick to learn and discover new technologies, so why not use these digital tools to our benefit? Here are a few of our favorites:

 <p>www.SDMyLife.com</p>	 <p>www.knowhow2go.org</p>	 <p>www.studentaid.ed.gov</p>
 <p>www.dlr.sd.gov</p>	 <p>www.bls.gov/ooh</p>	 <p>www.selectdakota.org</p>

DigiTOOLS FOR YOUR SUCCESS

MOBILE APPS:

Search for apps to help you manage your life and learn new things.

- Test preparation
- Internship locator
- To-do list management
- Savings calculators
- Checkbook registers

Yep. There's an app for that!

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Sites like Facebook and Twitter are a great way to keep up with your friends and find out what's going on around town. Start using your accounts to get news and network with professionals. Get a foot in the door by using social media to connect with potential employers, learn from professionals and keep up with what's happening in the industries you're interested in.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION WEBSITES:

Interested in a career as a lineman? An engineer? An accountant? Search out the organizations that represent the profession you're interested in. If you're looking for advice on where to start, check out the "Other Resources" button in the lower left of any career profile in SDMyLife to link to professional organizations and other useful information.

SOUTHEAST TECH DEGREES

AFFORDABLE. ACCESSIBLE.
ATTAINABLE.

Every day, our graduates are making a difference.

In business.

In industry.

In engineering.

In clinics and leading medical centers.

They're keeping the computer networks running.

Keeping people safe in our communities.

Keeping people alive.

They're touching the world in different ways. But they all started at the same place: Southeast Tech.

Get your start today.
Visit southeasttech.edu



SOUTHEAST TECH

605.367.6040 | Sioux Falls, SD
WWW.SOUTHEASTTECH.EDU



TECH DEGREES PAY OFF!

According to recently published South Dakota Department of Labor wage data*, individuals that possess an associate degree are on average out-earning not only bachelor's degrees, but master's degrees in South Dakota as well.

LEVEL	SALARY
Associate Degree	\$62,485
Bachelor's Degree	\$57,769
Master's Degree	\$55,195

*Source: South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, Labor Market Information Center, September 2014 using May 2013 wage data aged through second quarter 2014.

GET A LEG UP— GET CERTIFIED!



YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL GRADUATION DAY TO START YOUR FUTURE.

Get a jumpstart on your career by racking up those certification points early and often – spruce up the resume and drop some knowledge along the way.

No matter your level of education, earning certifications can get you a long way in your future career. Technical and professional certifications get you studied up on topics relevant to the modern workforce and amp up your college and career readiness skills.

And there's pretty much something for everyone when it comes to certifications. Whether you fancy yourself a computer tech, an automotive repair guru, a next-level nurse or a ground breaking graphic designer, you should consider certifications.

Future employers and schools like to see your commitment. Set yourself apart from the competition (and maybe even grab some college credit along the way)!



Ask a teacher or counselor at your school to get started or to learn more.

POPULAR CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES

Certified Welder (AWS)
Commercial Applicator Certification (Pesticide)
OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification—Construction Industry
Private Applicator Certification (Pesticide)
Registered Parliamentarian

ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION

Certified SolidWorks Association (CSWA)
Drafter Certification (ADDA)
OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification—Construction Industry

ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS

Adobe Certified Associate (ACA)
HTML Developer
JavaScript Developer

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

Concepts of Entrepreneurship and Management (A*S*K)
Concepts of Finance (A*S*K)
Fundamental Business Concepts (A*S*K)
Fundamental Marketing Concepts (A*S*K)
Registered Parliamentarian

EDUCATION & TRAINING

First Aid/CPR
Registered Parliamentarian

FINANCE

Concepts of Entrepreneurship and Management (A*S*K)
Concepts of Finance (A*S*K)
Fundamental Business Concepts (A*S*K)
Fundamental Marketing Concepts (A*S*K)

HEALTH SCIENCE

Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
First Aid/CPR
Medical Administration
Pharmacy Technician Certification

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

ProStart® National Certificate of Achievement (COA)
Registered Parliamentarian
ServSafe Food Safety Certification

HUMAN SERVICES

First Aid/CPR
Registered Parliamentarian

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A+/CompTIA Certification Examination (A+ Essentials)
Adobe Certified Associate (ACA)
C-Tech Home Professionals
C-Tech Network Cabling Specialists
C-Tech Voice Communication Professionals
Cisco Certified Entry Networking Technician (CCENT™)
Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA™)
CompTIA Network+
HTML Developer
JavaScript Developer
Microsoft Office Specialist

LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY

EMT-Basic
First Aid/CPR

MANUFACTURING

Certified SolidWorks Associate (CSWA)
Certified Welder (AWS)
Drafter Certification (ADDA)
OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification—Construction Industry

MARKETING

Concepts of Entrepreneurship and Management (A*S*K)
Concepts of Finance (A*S*K)
Fundamental Business Concepts (A*S*K)
Fundamental Marketing Concepts (A*S*K)
OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification—Construction Industry

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

Certified SolidWorks Associate (CSWA)
Drafter Certification (ADDA)
OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification—Construction Industry

TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION & LOGISTICS

Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Certification

ALL CAREER CLUSTERS INCLUDE:

OSHA 10 Hour Safety Certification—General Industry
National Career Readiness Certificate



Learn. Do. Now.

Because it's your time.

WESTERN
DAKOTA
TECH
800 Mickelson Dr. • Rapid City, SD

Visit us at wdt.edu or
call us at 800-544-8765

Connect with
Western Dakota Tech



KICK OFF YOUR TREK.

JUST DON'T FORGET TO PACK YOUR FUTURE HOPES AND DREAMS.

COLLEGIATE JUMBLE

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Unscramble each of the clue words.

Take the letters that appear in ○ boxes and unscramble them for the final message.

DEBUNKING THE MYTHS ABOUT MAJORS AND CAREER CHOICES

MYTH

FACT

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO...
MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME!

Many students don't have a clear idea of what they want to major in or do for a career. This is normal. With research and support, you can make decisions that are right for you.

THERE IS ONLY ONE CAREER FOR ME.

There's a lot that goes into career satisfaction, and often these things can be found in a variety of careers. For example, if you like helping people in an artistic way, you may be happy as a dance therapist or a high school art teacher – don't put yourself in a box.

I DON'T WANT TO PICK A MAJOR YET –
I'LL GET STUCK AND WON'T BE ABLE TO
CHANGE IT LATER!

Most majors prepare you for a variety of careers. When you combine the skills you'll learn in your major with others you'll gain from full-time work, internships and other activities, you'll have the ability to move in a variety of directions. Most people have multiple careers and jobs during their work lives.

IF I MAKE THE WRONG CHOICE,
I'M A FAILURE.

You only fail when you do not adapt and learn. If you discover a major or career choice is not right for you, change it and persevere.

MYTH

FACT

IF I DON'T HAVE THE PERFECT CAREER, I CAN'T BE HAPPY.

A career can be a major source of satisfaction in life, but it is not everything. Many happy and successful people wouldn't say their careers are perfect. The key is finding a career that aligns with your interests and talents and allows you a lifestyle that matches your values.

THERE ARE TESTS AND PROFESSIONALS WHO CAN TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT I NEED TO DO IN MY CAREER.

Only you can make the decision of what's best for you. There are people and resources you can use for support, but, in the end, you make your own decisions.

I NEED MOUNTAINS OF INFORMATION BEFORE I'M READY TO MAKE A DECISION ON A MAJOR.

Although it's important to make a well-informed decision, sometimes people are paralyzed because they think that no matter how much information they have gathered, it's not enough. They put off making a decision indefinitely. Don't let this happen to you. Collect information about your major or career choice. But realize that even after you make a decision, you will still be able to collect more information and evaluate whether it is the right one.

ONCE I PICK A MAJOR, I HAVE TO STICK WITH IT.

Many college students change their course of study/major at some point. Do research early, and try out career options with activities like job shadowing or service learning to learn as much as possible before you leave high school.

MY CAREER PATH WILL PRETTY MUCH STAY THE SAME THROUGHOUT MY LIFE.

Nearly half of all graduates change their career plans after they finish college, and the average person changes careers nearly eight times in his or her lifetime.

YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED WHAT INSPIRES YOUR MAJOR DECISIONS.

When you're picking your ideal area of study, think about:

- What you loved doing as a kid – does it translate to an adult career?
- What your career role models say – are they happy in their careers in the way that you someday want to be?
- Will you have trouble picking just one – are you doubly passionate and want to consider double-majoring?
- Do you need more time – is giving a few classes a shot freshman year more your speed before settling on an official major?

Source: <http://www.citruscollege.edu/stdntsrvcareersvcs/Documents/mythsandfacts.pdf>

Edited from: Sources: *College is Only the Beginning*, edited by John N. Gardner and A. Jerome Jewler; *What Color is Your Parachute*, by Richard Nelson Bolles; *What Can I Do With a Major In...?* by Lawrence R. Mahng; Indiana University Bloomington



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