

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

Career Comparisons

	Certified Community Health Worker (CHW)	Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
Position Summary	A Certified CHW is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery. [1]	Remove sutures, change sterile dressings, some tracheostomy care duties, administer medication, and some Hemodialysis, Peritoneal Dialysis, and IV duties. [4]
Training and Prerequisites	- Completion of an approved training program for CHW Certification in South Dakota (200 hours of training and 40 hours of shadowing). - Obtain Certification as a Community Health Work or Community Health Representative in South Dakota. [2]	- Complete training program approved by SDBON. - High school transcript or GED. - Complete ACCUPLACER test. - Complete TEAS. - CPR certification. [5]
Certificate/Licensure	CHWs and CHRs are certified through the Community Health Worker Collaborative of South Dakota (CHWSD) on behalf of the South Dakota Department of Health and South Dakota Department of Social Services, Division of Medical Services. [2]	LPN License required by SDBON. [7]
Typical Supervisors	CHWs are primarily supervised by a clinic manager, nursing manager, or other organizational manager.	Supervised by Registered Nurse or physician. [8]
Median Hourly Wage (National) [3], [6]	Certified Community Health Worker (CHW) – \$24.54	Licensed Practical Nurse – \$29.97

Sources:

- [1] **American Public Health Association.** *Community Health Workers.* 2026. [Link](#)
 [2] **Community Health Worker Collaborative of South Dakota.** *CHW and CHR Certification.* 2026. [Link](#)
 [3] **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.** *Community Health Workers.* August 2025. [Link](#)
 [4] **NursingLicensure.org.** *South Dakota LPN Requirements 2026.* June 12, 2026. [Link](#)
 [5] **PracticalNursing.org.** *Best LPN Programs in South Dakota 2026.* May 2025. [Link](#)
 [6] **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.** *Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses.* August 2025. [Link](#)
 [7] **South Dakota Legislature.** *Administrative Rules: Nurses.* 2026. [Link](#)
 [8] **Chron.** *Can an LPN Be a Nurse Manager?* 2026. [Link](#)