

SOCIAL WORKER TECHNICIAN

{ JOB DESCRIPTION }

Assist professionals from a wide variety of fields, such as psychology, rehabilitation, or social work, to provide client services, as well as support for families. May assist clients in identifying available benefits and social and community services and help clients obtain them. May assist social workers with developing, organizing, and conducting programs to prevent and resolve problems relevant to substance abuse, human relationships, rehabilitation, or adult daycare.

{ SKILLS AND APTITUDES NEEDED }

- Ability to receive and execute orders from other professional staff
- Ability to be emotionally stable
- Problem-solving skills
- Knowledge in crises intervention and case management
- Time-management skills
- Patience, understanding, and a strong desire to help others

Social worker technicians provide direct and indirect client services. They assess clients' needs, establish their eligibility for benefits and services, and help clients obtain them. They examine financial documents such as rent receipts and tax returns to determine whether the client is eligible for food stamps, Medicaid, welfare, and other human service programs. They also arrange for transportation and escorts, if necessary, and provide emotional support. These technicians monitor and keep case records on clients and report progress to supervisors and case managers. They also may transport or accompany clients to group meal sites, adult daycare centers, or doctors' offices. They may telephone or visit clients' homes to make sure services are being received, or to help resolve disagreements, such as those between tenants and landlords. They also may help clients complete insurance or medical forms, as well as applications for financial assistance. Additionally, social worker technicians may assist others with daily living needs.

Social worker technicians play a variety of roles in a community. They may organize and lead group activities, assist clients in need of counseling or crisis intervention, or administer a food bank or emergency fuel program. In halfway houses, group homes, and government-supported housing programs, they assist adults who need supervision with personal hygiene and daily living skills. They review clients' records, ensure that they take correct doses of medication, talk with family members, and confer with medical personnel and other care givers to gain better insight into clients' backgrounds and needs. Social worker technicians also provide emotional support and help clients become involved in their own well being, in community recreation programs, and in other activities.

{ SOUTH PLAINS }

Avg. Wage
\$10.01

Avg. Annual
Job Openings
18

Employment in
1998 2008
263 376

{ TEXAS }

Avg. Wage
\$10.16

Avg. Annual
Job Openings
728

Employment in
1998 2008
10,489 15,030

{ U.S. EMPLOYMENT }

In 1998
268,444

Female **63%**
Minority **42%**

HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS



{ PREFERRED EDUCATION }

- High school diploma or equivalent up to master degree

{ LICENSE / CERTIFICATION }

- Special licensure or state certification may be required in some settings

{ REGIONAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS }

- **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**-Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Social Work; Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Psychology; Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Human Development and Family Studies
- **LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**- Bachelor of Social Work
- **WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**- Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Social Sciences

{ JOB SITES }

Local Government/Except Education	32%
Individual/Family Services	18%
State Government/Except Education	16%
Residential Care	12%
Hospitals	6%
Misc. Health/Social Services	6%
Home Health Care Services	2%
Job Training/Rehab Services	2%

{ FOR MORE INFORMATION }

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR HUMAN SERVICE EDUCATION
Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ 07738

COUNCIL FOR STANDARDS IN HUMAN SERVICES EDUCATION
Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA 01830