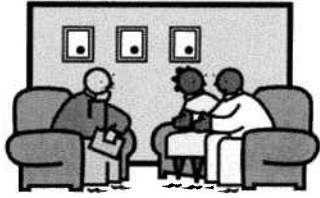


	Current Number of Workers 2006	Projected Number of Workers 2016	% Change to 2016	Average Annual Openings	 Social and Human Service Assistants SOC # 21-1093	
Regional	400	450	12.50%	10		
Texas	18,400	21,300	15.80%	505		
Education/ Training Time	Is License Required?	Wage Rate S/Hr. 2008 Regionally	Percent Female	Average Age	Job Turnover	Why Most Job Openings Occur
Associates	No	\$16.58	63.2%	39.0	Average	Equal Growth/ Replacement

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.

WHERE DO WORKERS FIND JOBS?

- State Government, Except Education
- Local Government, Except Education
- Individual and Family Services
- Residential Mental Retardation, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Facilities
- Other Personal Services
- Child Day Care Services
- Community Food and Housing, and Emergency and Other Relief Services

RELATED COLLEGE PROGRAMS

CIP 440701 Social Work

IMPORTANT KNOWLEDGE

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

- * Administration and Management
- * Clerical
- * Customer and Personal Service

HEALTH SERVICES

- * Therapy and Counseling

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

- * Psychology

IMPORTANT SKILLS

CONTENT

- * Active Listening
- * Reading Comprehension
- * Speaking

PROCESS

- * Critical Thinking

SOCIAL SKILLS

- * Social Perceptiveness

IMPORTANT ABILITIES

AUDITORY AND SPEECH ABILITIES

- * Speech Clarity -- The ability to speak clearly so others can understand you.
- * Speech Recognition -- The ability to identify and understand the speech of another person.

IDEA GENERATION AND REASONING ABILITIES

- * Problem Sensitivity -- The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.

VERBAL ABILITIES

- * Oral Comprehension * Oral Expression
- * Written Comprehension * Written Expression

NATURE OF THE WORK: Social and Human Service Assistants

Social and human service assistant is a generic term for people with a wide array of job titles, including human service worker, case management aide, social work assistant, community support worker, mental health aide, community outreach worker, life skill counselor, or gerontology aide. They usually work under the direction of workers from a variety of fields, such as nursing, psychiatry, psychology, rehabilitative or physical therapy, or social work. The amount of responsibility and supervision they are given varies a great deal. Some have little direct supervision; others work under close direction.

Social and human service assistants provide direct and indirect client services to ensure that individuals in their care reach their maximum level of functioning. They assess clients' needs, establish their eligibility for benefits and services such as food stamps, Medicaid, or welfare, and help to obtain them. They also arrange for transportation and escorts, if necessary, and provide emotional support. Social and human service assistants monitor and keep case records on clients and report progress to supervisors and case managers.

Social and human service assistants 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 caregivers to gain better insight into clients' backgrounds and needs. Social and human service assistants also provide emotional support and help clients become involved in their own well-being, in community recreation programs, and in other activities.

In psychiatric hospitals, rehabilitation programs, and outpatient clinics, social and human service assistants work with professional care providers, such as psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers, to help clients master everyday living skills, communicate more effectively, and get along better with others. They support the client's participation in a treatment plan, such as individual or group counseling or occupational therapy.