

Social and Human Service Assistants

SOC: 21-1093 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$45,120

Median Salary

449,600

Employment

+6.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 6.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

7.4/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	4.0/10	Investigative	5.8/10
Artistic	7.0/10	Social	9.2/10
Enterprising	5.0/10	Conventional	5.8/10

■ Top Skills Required

Adaptability, Communication skills, Customer-service skills, Interpersonal skills, Organizational skills, Problem-solving skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Social and Human Service Assistants support individuals and communities by **providing social services, guidance, and assistance under the supervision of social workers, counselors, or other professionals**. They help connect clients with resources, coordinate services, and monitor progress. Their work is critical in healthcare, social services, and community support programs.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy helping others, problem-solving, and coordinating social support.

What Do Social and Human Service Assistants Do?

These professionals assist clients in accessing social services, provide guidance, and support case management.

Common responsibilities include:

- Identifying client needs and connecting them with appropriate services
- Monitoring client progress and reporting to supervisors
- Assisting with intake, assessment, and eligibility processes
- Maintaining client records and documentation
- Educating clients about available programs and resources
- Collaborating with social workers, counselors, and community organizations
- Participating in outreach programs and community services

Key Areas of Social and Human Services

Assistants may focus on particular populations, programs, or service types:

- Community Outreach and Support: Engaging clients and promoting awareness of services
- Case Management Assistance: Helping clients navigate healthcare, housing, and social programs
- Program Implementation: Supporting initiatives in mental health, substance abuse, or family services
- Client Education: Providing guidance on resources, rights, and self-care strategies
- Administrative Support: Documentation, scheduling, and recordkeeping

Skills and Abilities Needed

Social and human service assistants combine interpersonal, organizational, and analytical skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education or training and practical experience:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic math, reading, and communication skills
- Postsecondary Certificate or Associate Degree (optional): Human services, social work, or related fields
- On-the-Job Training: Gaining hands-on experience in social service agencies or community programs
- Continuing Education: Learning about social programs, policies, and best practices
- Professional Development: Specialized training in mental health, substance abuse, or family services

Where Do Social and Human Service Assistants Work?

They are employed in organizations that provide social, community, or human services:

- Social Service Agencies
- Healthcare Facilities
- Community Centers and Nonprofit Organizations
- Government Programs

- Educational and Counseling Institutions

Work environments include offices, community centers, hospitals, and client homes.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires interpersonal skills, organization, and empathy. Assistants must manage multiple clients, coordinate services, and handle sensitive situations professionally.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy helping individuals and communities
- Are detail-oriented and organized
- Have strong communication and collaboration skills
- Can handle sensitive or challenging client situations
- Want a career supporting social, mental health, or community services

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in social sciences, psychology, or human services
- Volunteer or intern in community organizations, social service agencies, or healthcare settings
- Develop communication, empathy, and organizational skills
- Explore certificate or associate programs in human services or social work
- Gain hands-on experience assisting clients or coordinating programs

Social and human service assistants provide essential support, connecting clients to resources, coordinating services, and enhancing the well-being of individuals and communities.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-and-human-service-assistants.htm>