

Clergy

Description

Conduct religious worship and perform other spiritual functions associated with beliefs and practices of religious faith or denomination. Provide spiritual and moral guidance and assistance to members.

Education

The following is a breakdown of the top three degrees that people in this job possess (each educational level is described in the legend at the end of this document):

25 % Bachelor's Degree

18 % Associate's Degree

14 % Post-Master's Certificate

In order to pursue this career, you will need to be educated in one of the following areas:

- Theology/Theological Studies (CIP = 39.0601)
- Divinity/Ministry (BD, MDiv.) (CIP = 39.0602)
- Pre-Theology/Pre-Ministerial Studies (CIP = 39.0604)
- Rabbinical Studies (CIP = 39.0605)
- Theological and Ministerial Studies, Other (CIP = 39.0699)
- Pastoral Studies/Counseling (CIP = 39.0701)
- Youth Ministry (CIP = 39.0702)
- Pastoral Counseling and Specialized Ministries, Other (CIP = 39.0799)
- Theology and Religious Vocations, Other (CIP = 39.9999)
- Clinical Pastoral Counseling/Patient Counseling (CIP = 51.1506)

Experience

The following is a breakdown of the level of related work experience that people in this job possess:

Over 1 year, up to and including 2 years

17 % Over 2 years, up to and including 4 years

14 % None

On-site Training

The following is a breakdown of the length of on-site training that people in this job typically receive:

39 % None or short demonstration

8 % Over 1 year, up to and including 2 years

On-the-job Training

The following is a breakdown of the level of on-the-job training that people in this job received:

44 % Over 1 year, up to and including 2 years
17 % None
16 % Up to and including 1 month



Interests

The following is a list of the top three career interests (also known as Holland Codes) that people with this occupation possess, along with their level of importance to this career.

- Social (Very high)
- Artistic (High)
- Enterprising (High)

Tasks

Here are the most common tasks and duties for which you would be responsible in this job:

- Pray and promote spirituality.
- Read from sacred texts such as the Bible, Torah, or Koran.
- Prepare and deliver sermons and other talks.
- Organize and lead regular religious services.
- Share information about religious issues by writing articles, giving speeches, or teaching.
- Instruct people who seek conversion to a particular faith.
- Counsel individuals and groups concerning their spiritual, emotional, and personal needs.
- Visit people in homes, hospitals, and prisons to provide them with comfort and support.
- Train leaders of church, community, and youth groups.
- Administer religious rites or ordinances.
- Study and interpret religious laws, doctrines, and/or traditions.
- Conduct special ceremonies such as weddings, funerals, and confirmations.
- Plan and lead religious education programs for their congregations.
- Respond to requests for assistance during emergencies or crises.
- Devise ways in which congregation membership can be expanded.
- Collaborate with committees and individuals to address financial and administrative issues pertaining to congregations.
- Prepare people for participation in religious ceremonies.
- Perform administrative duties such as overseeing building management, ordering supplies, contracting for services and repairs, and supervising the work of staff members and volunteers.
- Refer people to community support services, psychologists, and/or doctors as necessary.
- Participate in fundraising activities to support congregation activities and facilities.

Abilities

To pursue this career, you will need to display the following capacities:

- Speech Clarity
- Oral Expression
- Speech Recognition
- Written Comprehension
- Oral Comprehension
- Problem Sensitivity
- Written Expression
- Fluency of Ideas
- Inductive Reasoning
- Originality
- Deductive Reasoning
- Selective Attention
- Information Ordering
- Memorization
- Category Flexibility
- Near Vision
- Time Sharing
- Speed of Closure
- Far Vision
- Flexibility of Closure



Knowledge

To pursue this career, it would be helpful to be well-versed in the following subject areas:

- English Language
- Administration and Management
- Philosophy and Theology
- Customer and Personal Service
- Education and Training
- Psychology
- Clérical
- Sociology and Anthropology
- Public Safety and Security
- Computers and Electronics
- Therapy and Counseling
- Law and Government
- Personnel and Human Resources
- Communications and Media
- Mathematics
- Telecommunications
- Economics and Accounting
- Transportation
- Sales and Marketing
- History and Archeology

Skills

The following skills are considered essential to this job:

- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Speaking
- Active Listening
- InstructingReading Comprehension
- Persuasion
- Negotiation
- Critical Thinking
- Writing
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Coordination
- Active Learning
- Time Management
- Systems Analysis
- Learning Strategies
- Management of Personnel Resource
- Complex Problem Solving
- Systems Evaluation
- Monitoring



Activities

In this job, you will likely spend most of your time engaged in the following activities:

- Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships
- Developing Objectives and Strategies
- Assisting and Caring for Others
- Training and Teaching Others
- Developing and Building Teams
- Interpreting the Meaning of Information for Others
- Resolving Conflicts and Negotiating with Others
- Performing for or Working Directly with the Public
- Thinking Creatively
- Guiding, Directing, and Motivating Subordinates
- Organizing, Planning, and Prioritizing Work
- Coaching and Developing Others
- Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates
- Judging the Qualities of Things, Services, or People
- Making Decisions and Solving Problems
- Getting Information
- Coordinating the Work and Activities of Others
- Selling or Influencing Others
- Scheduling Work and Activities
- Provide Consultation and Advice to Others

Job Zone

All occupations are categorized into job zones, based on the level of preparation (experience, education, and training) that is required. There are five job zone categories, with job zone one indicating that little to no preparation is required, to job zone five, where extensive preparation is needed.

This occupation is categorized as Job Zone Five: Extensive Preparation Needed

Occupations in this job zone tend to require the following:

Experience

Extensive skill, knowledge, and experience are needed for these occupations. Many require more than five years of experience. For example, surgeons must complete four years of college and an additional five to seven years of specialized medical training to be able to do their job.

Education

Most of these occupations require graduate school. For example, they may require a master's degree, and some require a Ph.D., M.D., or J.D. (law degree).

Training

Employees may need some on-the-job training, but most of these occupations assume that the person will already have the required skills, knowledge, work-related experience, and/or training.

Example

These occupations often involve coordinating, training, supervising, or managing the activities of others to accomplish goals. Very advanced communication and organizational skills are required. Examples include librarians, lawyers, aerospace engineers, wildlife biologists, school psychologists, surgeons, treasurers, and controllers.



Legend:

Educational Levels

- 1. Less than High School: No schooling or just grade school or some high school courses.
- 2. High School Diploma: Or GED or High School Equivalence Certificate.
- 3. **Post-Secondary Certificate:** Awarded for training completed after high school (for example, in Personnel Services, Engineering-related Technologies, Vocational Home Economics, Construction Trades, Mechanics and Repairers, Precision Production Trades).
- 4. **Some College Courses:** Can consist of college preparatory courses or regular courses taken while attending college, but credits attained are not sufficient to get a degree.
- 5. **Associate's Degree:** An undergraduate degree awarded by a junior, community technical or bachelor's degree-granting college/university. Requires a completion of a two-year course of study.
- 6. **Bachelor's Degree:** An academic degree awarded for an undergraduate major or course. Requires a completion of a four-year course of study.
- 7. **Post-Baccalaureate Certificate:** Awarded for completion of an organized program of study; designed for people who have completed a Baccalaureate degree, but do not meet the requirements of academic degrees carrying the title of Master.
- 8. **Master's Degree:** An academic degree awarded to people who, in addition to achieving a bachelor's, have taken additional courses or completed a research study in a specific field or subject area. Requires an additional one to three years of study.
- 9. **Post-Master's Certificate:** Awarded for completion of an organized program of study; designed for people who have completed a Master's degree, but do not meet the requirements of academic degrees at the doctoral level.
- 10. **First Professional Degree:** Awarded for completion of a program that: requires at least 2 years of college work before entrance into the program, includes a total of at least 6 academic years of work to complete, and provides all remaining academic requirements to begin practice in a profession.
- 11. **Doctoral Degree:** An academic or professional degree awarded for the completion of advanced graduate study beyond a Master's degree. Requires an additional two to four years of study.
- 12. **Postdoctoral Training:** Consists of advanced academic research completed after doctoral studies. Generally done within five years of the completion of a Doctoral Degree in order to deepen a person's knowledge of a particular subject, hone skills, and publish academic papers.