

INTRODUCTION

Iowa Licensed Occupations is designed to provide job seekers, career counselors, and other interested individuals with information concerning occupations in Iowa that require a license, certificate, or commission issued at the state level. According to the Kentucky-based Council on Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation (CLEAR), there are three main types of State occupational regulation: 1) Licensure, 2) Certification, and, 3) Registration. They acknowledge, however, that these terms are not used consistently between states or within occupations. Regardless, they offer the following definitions in an effort to promote standardization:

- ❖ “*Licensure* – The most restrictive form of professional and occupational regulation. Often referred to as right-to-practice. Under licensure laws, it is illegal for a person to practice a profession without first meeting State standards.
- ❖ *Certification* – The State grants title (occupational right-to-title) protection to persons meeting predetermined standards. Those without certification may perform the duties of the occupation, but may not use the title.
- ❖ *Registration* – The least restrictive form of occupational regulation, usually taking the form of requiring individuals to file their names, addresses, and qualifications with a government agency before practicing the occupation. This may include posting a bond or filing a fee.”

Information within this publication was obtained by contacting the various state boards, commissions, departments represented by the listed occupations or was extracted from the Code of Iowa. Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the following information. However, licensing procedures are subject to change at any time as a result of legislative action or revisions made by the various licensing boards.

Brief job descriptions are provided for each listed occupation along with licensing requirements. Although many of the occupations do require a license to practice in Iowa, some do not. *It is not the intent of this publication however, to cover or include dealer or business licenses (such as retail sales permits) or occupational licenses issued by federal, county, or city agencies.*

We attempted to gather the number of licenses/certificates/registrations, active December 31st, 2003 for a snapshot of Iowa counts. Accurate information is not always available due to differences in tracking, fiscal years and license types. Figures represent estimates only.

Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes are provided to indicate a comparable mean hourly (sometimes annual) wage for each occupation in 2003. Please note, this does not always mean that will be the mean wage paid for that *specific job title*. Exact matches were not always found for more obscure occupations, such as acupuncturist, bail enforcement agent, tattoo artist, etc.

This publication is updated annually and posted on our Web site (see following page). A limited number of printed copies are available by calling (515) 281-6642.

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