

Skin Care Specialists Are Much More than Beauticians

Summary: *Skin care specialists may be a good option for those that enjoy the hair and makeup industry but want a more involved career in the health of skin.*



Ever heard of a skin care specialist? Well if you haven't then you should learn what they are, since the field is expected to grow 40 percent from 2012 to 2022, much more than the average occupation. A skin care specialist will work in a salon, health or beauty spa, and even medical offices to cleanse and beautify the face and body in order to enhance a person's appearance, including reducing the signs of aging. They are considered an esthetician.

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In order to become a skin care specialist, one must complete a state-approved esthetician or cosmetology program followed by a state exam for licensure. Connecticut is the only state that does not require a state exam. Quite often, specialists will receive on-the-job training when they work more often with chemicals.

The average pay for a skin care specialist is nothing to get excited over. In May 2012, the average pay per hour was \$13.77. That pay rate seems a little low for someone that helps customers achieve better skin, remove unwanted hair and blemishes, advise customers on proper skincare, and evaluates customers' skin health.



Skin care specialists tend to be self-employed, working nights and weekends in order to see customers on their schedules. There is a great deal of standing required. The work environment has good lighting and clean surroundings. The specialist is required to wear protective clothing when working with chemicals.

Photo: bls.gov