

Program Endorsement Brief: Commercial Music

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, August 2019

Summary Analysis

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to commercial music occupations, audio and video equipment technicians (27-4011) and sound engineering technicians (27-4014). Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but not a bachelor's degree.¹ This report is intended to help determine whether there is demand in the local labor market that is not being met by the supply from community college program that aligns with relevant occupations.

Based on the available data, it appears that there is a supply gap for audio and video equipment technicians and sound engineering technicians in the region. **Therefore, the COE endorses this proposed program for the following reasons.**

Demand:

- Over the next five years, there is projected to be **1,362 jobs available annually** in the region due to retirements and workers leaving the field, **which is more than the 353 awards conferred annually** by community colleges in the region.

Supply:

- There are **12 community colleges** in the region that have commercial music programs (TOP 1005.00), conferring an average of **353 awards** annually between 2015 and 2018.

¹ The COE classifies middle-skill jobs as the following:

- All occupations that require an educational requirement of some college, associate degree or apprenticeship;
- All occupations that require a bachelor's degree, but also have more than one-third of their existing labor force with an educational attainment of some college or associate degree; or
- All occupations that require a high school diploma or equivalent or no formal education, but also require short- to long-term on-the-job training where multiple community colleges have existing programs.

Occupational Demand — Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for commercial music occupations. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of new commercial music jobs is projected to decrease by 2%. However, there will be nearly 1,400 job openings per year through 2023 (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties²

Geography	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	13,107	12,745	(362)	(3%)	1,202
Orange	1,479	1,590	111	8%	160
Total	14,586	14,336	(250)	(2%)	1,362

Wages — Typical entry-level wages for the commercial music occupations in the region are between \$14.84 and \$17.92. Median wages for the two occupations of interest are higher than the California Family Needs Calculator hourly wage for one adult in the region (\$15.04 in Los Angeles County and \$17.36 in Orange County). Wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

Job Postings — In the past 12 months, there have been 1,235 online job postings for the two commercial music occupations. The majority of job postings were for audio visual technicians, video technicians, and theater technicians. Top specialized skills included: repair, operations management, customer service, and audio/visual knowledge. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region are: PSAV, Freeman, Five-Star Audio Visual. Of the 1,235 online job postings, 52% list a minimum education requirement.

Educational Attainment — The BLS lists a postsecondary certificate as the typical entry-level education for the two commercial music occupations. The national-level educational attainment data indicates 44% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the 52% of commercial music job postings listing a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, 40% (261) request Bachelor’s degree or higher, 9% (55) request an associate degree, and 51% (325) request a high school diploma or vocational training.

Community College Supply — Exhibit 2 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community college commercial music programs (1005.00). The colleges with the most completions in the region were LA City and Citrus. In the past 12 months, there were three other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

² Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Exhibit 2: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2015-2018

TOP Code	Program	College	2015-16 Awards	2016-17 Awards	2017-18 Awards	3-Year Award Average
1005.00	Commercial Music	Cerritos	6	4	9	6
		Citrus	71	40	58	56
		Cypress	13	13	15	14
		Fullerton	7	12	6	8
		Glendale	-	-	3	1
		LA City	276	212	183	224
		LA Harbor	10	9	2	7
		LA Valley	17	18	21	19
		Long Beach	7	7	4	6
		Orange Coast	4	7	3	5
		Saddleback	-	1	11	4
		Santa Ana	4	2	5	4
		Total/Average		415	325	320

Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 3. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)
Audio and Video Equipment Technicians (27-4011)	9,150	9,049	(101)	(1%)	849	\$16.41	\$22.66	\$36.07
Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)	3,957	3,697	(260)	7%	353	\$17.92	\$31.33	\$51.94
Total	13,107	12,475	(362)	(3%)	1,202			

Exhibit 4. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)
Audio and Video Equipment Technicians (27-4011)	1,177	1,276	99	8%	130	\$14.84	\$20.49	\$32.63
Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)	303	314	11	4%	30	\$16.61	\$29.16	\$47.99
Total	1,479	1,590	111	8%	160			

Exhibit 5. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)
Audio and Video Equipment Technicians (27-4011)	10,326	10,324	(2)	(0%)	979	\$16.23	\$22.42	\$35.68
Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)	4,260	4,011	(249)	(6%)	383	\$17.82	\$31.17	\$51.65
Total	14,586	14,336	(250)	(2%)	1,362			

Appendix B: Sources

- O*NET Online
- Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)
- Economic Modeling Specialists, International (EMSI)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- Employment Development Department, Unemployment Insurance Dataset
- Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- California Family Needs Calculator, Insight Center for Community Economic Development
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

For more information, please contact:

Juan Madrigal, Assistant Director
Center of Excellence, Los Angeles/Orange County Region
jmadrigal@mtsac.edu
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