



**Labor Market Assessment: 1228.00 – Athletic Training and Sports Medicine**  
**Athletic Training and Sports Medicine (Associate of Science and Certificate)**  
 Los Angeles Center of Excellence, April 2022

**Summary**

<b>Program Endorsement:</b>	<b>Endorsed: All Criteria Met</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Endorsed: Some Criteria Met</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Not Endorsed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Program Endorsement Criteria</b>			
<b>Supply Gap:</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Education:</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Emerging Occupation(s)</b>			
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Los Angeles Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to one above middle-skill occupation: *athletic trainers* (29-9091), and one middle-skill occupation: *exercise trainers and group fitness instructors* (39-9031). Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor’s degree, while above middle-skill occupations usually require a bachelor’s degree.<sup>1</sup> 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 programs that align with the relevant occupations.

Based on the available data, there appears to be a supply gap in the region for the two occupations of interest. Although the majority of job openings studied in this report have entry-level wages below the self-sufficiency standard wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties, nearly one-third of *exercise trainers and group fitness instructors*, the occupation with the majority of job openings, of incumbent workers have completed some college or an associate degree. **Due to some of the criteria being met, the COE endorses this proposed program.** Detailed reasons include:

**Demand:**

- **Supply Gap Criteria** – Over the next five years, there is projected to be **2,563 jobs available annually** in the region due to new job growth and replacements, which is more than the 225 openings projected annually by educational institutions to the

**more than the 225 awards conferred annually by educational institutions in the region.**

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

Page 1 | 7

1 of 7

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- **Living Wage Criteria** – In Los Angeles County, the majority (96%) of annual job openings for the occupations of interest have entry-level wages below the self-sufficiency standard wage (\$18.10/hour).<sup>2</sup>
- **Educational Criteria** – Within the LA/OC region, **97% of the annual job openings** for the occupations of interest **typically require a high school diploma or equivalent.**
  - National-level educational attainment data indicates that between 20% and 29% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree.

**Supply:**

- Between 2017 and 2020, **15 community colleges** in the LA/OC region issued awards in programs that have historically trained for the occupations of interest, conferring an average of **71 awards.**
- Between 2016 and 2019, non-community college institutions in the region conferred an

average of 154 awards in relevant programs.

### Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for the two occupations of interest. In the Los Angeles/Orange County region, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to increase by 7% through 2025. There will be more than 2,500 job openings per year through 2025 due to job growth and replacements.

*This report includes employment projection data by Emsi which uses EDD information. Emsi's projections are modeled on recorded (historical) employment figures and incorporate several underlying assumptions, including the assumption that the economy, during the projection period, will be at approximately full employment. To the extent that a recession or labor shock, such as the economic effects of COVID-19, can cause long-term structural change, it may impact the projections. At this time, it is not possible to quantify the full impact of COVID-19 on projections of industry and occupational employment. Therefore, the projections included in this report do not take the full impacts of COVID-19 into account.*

**Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties<sup>3</sup>**

Geography	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	2020-2025 Change	2020-2025 % Change	Annual Openings
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### Wages

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the hourly wages for the two occupations of interest in Los Angeles County, as they relate to the county's self-sufficiency standard wage. Orange County wages are included below in order to provide a complete analysis of the greater LA/OC region. Detailed wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

**Los Angeles County** – The majority (96%) of annual openings for the two occupations of interest have entry-level wages **below** the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County). While *athletic trainers* typically earn entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage (\$22.28), *exercise trainers and group fitness instructors* typically earn below the self-sufficiency standard wage (\$15.49). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$32.35 and \$33.95, which are above the self-sufficiency standard wage estimate.

**Orange County** – The majority (98%) of annual openings for the two occupations of interest have

entry-level wages **below** the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$20.63 in Orange County). While *athletic trainers* typically earn entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard (\$22.06), *exercise trainers and group fitness instructors* typically earn below the self-sufficiency standard wage (\$14.70). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$30.60 and \$34.13, which are above the self-sufficiency standard wage estimate.

**Job Postings**

Over the past 12 months, there have been 3,827 online job postings related to the two occupations studied in this report. The highest number of job postings were for swim instructors, personal trainers, group fitness instructors, pilates instructors, and fitness trainers. The top skills were cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), teaching, fitness/group fitness, cleaning, and customer service. The top employers, by number of job postings, in the region were YMCA, Planet Fitness, and LA Fitness.

*It is important to note that the job postings data included in this section reflects online job postings listed in the past 12 months and does not yet demonstrate the full impact of COVID-19. While employers have generally posted fewer online job postings since the beginning of the pandemic, the long-term effects are currently unknown.*

**Educational Attainment**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a bachelor's degree as the typical entry-level education for *athletic trainers*. and a high school diploma or equivalent for *exercise trainers and group fitness*

**Educational Supply**

**Community College Supply** – Exhibit 2 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in programs that have historically trained for the occupations of interest. The colleges with the most completions in the region are Orange Coast and Mt. San Antonio.

**Exhibit 2: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2017-2020**

TOP Code	Program	College	2017-18 Awards	2018-19 Awards	2019-20 Awards	3-Year Average
		Cerritos	-	-	3	1
		East LA	-	-	1	0
		Glendale	5	3	2	3
		LA Harbor	-	-	1	0
		Pasadena	-	2	3	2
		Pio Honda	4	6	1	4

0835.20	Fitness Trainer	<b>LA Subtotal</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
		Cypress	-	-	1	0
		Fullerton	5	3	4	4
		Irvine Valley	13	4	4	7
		Orange Coast	9	5	32	15
		Santa Ana	-	2	2	1
		<b>OC Subtotal</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>28</b>
		<b>Supply Subtotal/Average</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>38</b>
0835.60	Coaching	Citrus	3	8	-	4
		Rio Hondo	-	1	-	0
		Santa Monica	7	14	9	10
		<b>LA Subtotal</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>
		Cypress	3	1	2	2
		Fullerton	-	3	1	1
		Irvine Valley	-	1	-	0
		<b>OC Subtotal</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

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**Non-Community College Supply** – For a comprehensive regional supply analysis, it is important to consider the supply from other institutions in the region that may provide training programs for the occupations of interest. Exhibit 3 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred in relevant programs. Due to different data collection periods, the most recent three-year period of available data is from 2016 to 2019. Between 2016 and 2019, non-community college institutions in the region conferred an average of 154 awards.

**Exhibit 3: Regional non-community college awards, 2016-2019**

CIP Code	Program	Institution	2016-17 Awards	2017-18 Awards	2018-19 Awards	3-Year Average
31.0504	Sport and Fitness Administration/Management	Pepperdine University	21	9	25	18
		American Fitness and				

31.0507	Physical Fitness Technician	American Fitness and Nutrition Academy	-	-	23	8
		California Healing Arts College	16	11	6	11
		Pepperdine University	1	-	-	0
		Southern California Health Institute	46	66	49	54
51.0913	Athletic Training/Trainer	CSU-Fullerton	8	8	6	7
		CSU-Long Beach	19	22	21	21
		CSU-Northridge	10	15	15	13
		Concordia University - Irvine	6	8	12	9
		Glendale Career College	5	6	-	4
		University of La Verne	9	11	7	9
<b>Supply Total/Average</b>			<b>141</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>154</b>

**Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county**

**Exhibit 4. Los Angeles County**

Occupation (SOC)	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)
Athletic Trainers (29-9091)	574	666	92	16%	61	\$22.28	\$27.94	\$33.95
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors (39-9031)	9,839	9,572	(267)	(3%)	1,536	\$15.49	\$24.59	\$32.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,413</b>	<b>10,238</b>	<b>(175)</b>	<b>(2%)</b>	<b>1,597</b>			



**Exhibit 5. Orange County**

Occupation (SOC)	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75th Percentile)
Athletic Trainers (29-9091)	172	198	26	15%	18	\$22.06	\$27.86	\$34.13
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors (39-9031)	4,218	5,379	1,161	28%	947	\$14.70	\$23.35	\$30.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,390</b>	<b>5,578</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>965</b>			

**Exhibit 6. Los Angeles and Orange Counties**

Occupation (SOC)	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Typical Entry-Level Education
Athletic Trainers	746	864	118	16%	80	Bachelor's degree

**Appendix B: Sources**

- O\*NET Online
- Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)
- Economic Modeling Specialists, International (Emsi)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- Self-Sufficiency Standard at the Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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Page 7 | 7