

## Program Endorsement Brief: 1303.00/Fashion *Fashion Design*

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, January 2020

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### Summary Analysis

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide Los Angeles/Orange County regional labor market supply and demand data related to one middle-skill occupation: fashion designers (27-1022). Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than 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 occupation.

Based on the available data, there does not appear to be a supply gap for fashion designers in the region. **Therefore, the COE recommends further research on potential employers and pathways.** Reasons include:

#### Demand:

- Over the next five years, there is projected to be **527 jobs available annually** in the region due to retirements and workers leaving the field, which is consistent with the **526 awards** conferred annually from regional training programs.
- Although the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a bachelor's degree as the typical entry-level education for fashion designers, **29% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree.**
- Typical entry-level wages for fashion designers throughout the region are \$23.52, which is **higher than the California Family Needs Calculator hourly wage for one adult** (living wage) in Los Angeles County and Orange County (\$15.04 in Los Angeles County and \$17.36 in Orange County).<sup>2</sup>

#### Supply:

- There are **11 community colleges** in the region have fashion programs, conferring **218 awards annually** between 2015 and 2018.
- Between 2013 and 2016, there were an average of **308 awards conferred annually** in related training programs by seven non-community college institutions in the region.
- Combined, training programs in the region confer an average of **526 awards annually.**
- Over the past 12 months, there was one other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

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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.

<sup>2</sup> Living wage data was pulled from California Family Needs Calculator on 1/16/20. For more information, visit the California Family Needs Calculator website: <https://insightcced.org/2018-family-needs-calculator/>.

## Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for fashion designers. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of fashion designer jobs is projected to decrease by 5% through 2023. Despite this, there will be more than 500 job openings per year through 2023 due to retirements and workers leaving the field.

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

Geography	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	4,924	4,664	(260)	(5%)	449
Orange	838	836	(2)	(0%)	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,763</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>(263)</b>	<b>(5%)</b>	<b>527</b>

**Wages** — Typical entry-level hourly wages for fashion designers in the region is \$23.52.<sup>4</sup> This wage is above the California Family Needs Calculator hourly wage for one adult in Los Angeles County (\$15.04) and for one adult in Orange County (\$17.36). Experienced workers can expect to earn \$49.86 per hour. Wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

**Job Postings** — There were 597 online job postings related to fashion designers listed in the past 12 months. The highest number of job postings were for fashion designer, style advisor, and design director. The top skills were: sales, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and customer contact. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region were: Macy's, Justice, and Bloomingdale's. Of the 597 online job postings, 12% list a minimum education requirement.

**Educational Attainment** — The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a bachelor's degree as the typical entry-level education for fashion designers. The national-level educational attainment data indicates 29% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the 12% of job postings for fashion designers listing a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, 26% (19) requested a high school diploma and 74% (54) requested an associate degree.

## Supply

**Community College Supply** — Exhibit 2 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in Fashion (1303.00) and Fashion Design (1303.10). The college with the most completions in the region is LA Trade. Over the past 12 months, there was one other related program recommendation requests from a regional community college.

<sup>3</sup> Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

<sup>4</sup> Entry-level wage is defined as the twenty-fifth percentile hourly wage. Wages for experienced workers are defined as the seventy-fifth percentile hourly wage.

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

<b>TOP Code</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>2015-16 Awards</b>	<b>2016-17 Awards</b>	<b>2017-18 Awards</b>	<b>3-Year Award Average</b>
1303.00	Fashion	Compton	1	-	-	0
		El Camino	2	7	2	4
		Pasadena	27	16	38	27
		<b>LA</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>
		Fullerton	1	-	3	1
		Saddleback	3	2	3	3
		Santa Ana	-	-	4	1
		<b>OC</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>
		<b>Subtotal/Average</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>36</b>
1303.10	Fashion Design	El Camino	-	3	2	2
		LA Trade	106	119	84	103
		Long Beach	9	9	12	10
		Mt San Antonio	16	17	15	16
		Santa Monica	11	19	17	16
		<b>LA</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>146</b>
		Fullerton	6	8	4	6
		Orange Coast	12	12	13	12
		Saddleback	6	11	16	11
		Santa Ana	1	8	9	6
		<b>OC</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>35</b>
		<b>Subtotal/Average</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>182</b>
		<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>218</b>

**Non-Community College Supply** — It is important to consider the supply from non-community college institutions in the region that provide training programs for fashion designers. Exhibit 3 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred in Fashion/Apparel Design (50.0407), and Costume Design (50.0510). Due to different data collection periods, the most recent three-year period of available data is from 2013 to 2016. Between 2013 and 2016, non-community college institutions in the region conferred an average of 308 awards annually in related training programs.

**Exhibit 3: Regional Non-Community College awards, 2013-2016**

<b>CIP Code</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>2013-2014 Awards</b>	<b>2014-2015 Awards</b>	<b>2015-2016 Awards</b>	<b>3-Year Award Average</b>
50.0407	Fashion/Apparel Design	Argosy University-The Art Institute of California-Hollywood	7	20	10	12
		FIDM-Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising-Los Angeles	286	275	218	260
		Fremont College	1	-	-	0
		Virginia Sewing Machines and School Center	4	6	5	5
		Beverly Hills Design Institute	2	-	1	1
50.0510	Costume Design	FIDM-Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising-Los Angeles	10	13	11	11
		Virginia Sewing Machines and School Center	21	26	8	18
<b>Supply Total/Average</b>			<b>331</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>308</b>

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

**Exhibit 4. Los Angeles County**

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 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)
Fashion Designers (27-1022)	4,924	4,664	(260)	(5%)	449	\$23.51	\$37.25	\$49.49

**Exhibit 5. Orange County**

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 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)
Fashion Designers (27-1022)	838	836	(2)	(0%)	78	\$23.53	\$37.55	\$50.57

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

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 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)
Fashion Designers (27-1022)	5,763	5,500	(263)	(5%)	527	\$23.52	\$37.29	\$49.86

## 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)

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