



Formula Room Technician

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Prepared by the Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence
for Labor Market Research

Research Summary

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence (COE) compiled this report to provide labor market supply and demand data related to **formula room technician**. Workers are responsible for preparing infant formulas at hospitals or other health care facilities.¹

There is no occupation code nor traditional labor market demand data for formula room technicians. Currently, two community colleges may offer training for this occupation. Columbus State Community College's Center for Workforce Development offers a similar program – Formula/Human Milk Certification Program. A description of the program and curriculum can be found [here](#).

Employer Job Postings

In order to learn more about this field, job postings were collected by using the following keywords: formula room, hospital, and health care. In 2017, there were eight job postings for formula room technicians in California. All of the job advertisements specified an associate degree as the minimum education level required.

Exhibit 1 –Job titles (n=8)

Title	Job Postings, Full Year 2017
Formula Technician	3
Formula Room Human Milk Tech	2
Pediatric Dietetic Technician	2
Formula Room – Pediatric Nutrition	1

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Education

In Los Angeles County, two community college programs may provide students with the training necessary for formula room technician jobs. Between 2014 and 2017, there was an average of 60 community college awards conferred annually across the two programs: dietetic services and management (1306.20) and dietetic technology (1306.60). It is important to note that an award is not equivalent to a single person in search of a job opening, since a student may earn more than one award (e.g. an associate degree and a certificate).

¹ <https://www.mymajors.com/career/formula-technician>

Exhibit 2 – CCC Student Awards (by TOP and College)

TOP Code	Program	College	2014-15 Awards	2015-16 Awards	2016-2017 Awards	3-Year Award Average
1306.20	Dietetic Services and Management	Glendale	7	15	14	12
		LA City	16	13	10	13
		Long Beach	14	16	20	17
Subtotal/Average			37	44	44	42
1306.60	Dietetic Technology	LA City	9	6	6	7
		Long Beach	15	8	10	11
		Subtotal/Average	24	14	16	18
Total			61	58	60	60

Source: California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office MIS Data Mart

Job Description 1: Formula Technician

Ready to be part of the first and largest pediatric hospital in Southern California? This is Children's Hospital Los Angeles. A place where you can make a real difference in the lives of our patients and their families. A big responsibility? Absolutely. But if you're up for the challenge, we're on the lookout for amazing professionals to join our elite teams of talented individuals who can continue our high level of care.

The Formula Technician prepares specialized formulas, labels formula with the following; patient's name, room number, type of formula, date and time of prepared formula and expiration dates. Delivers and stores formulas in unit refrigerator. Takes formula inventory and orders needed formulas, maintains appropriate level of stock. Communicates any errors or discrepancies of formula preparation and recipes to the appropriate manager. Trains employees on formula preparations. Maintains the cleanliness and sanitation of the formula room. Assists in the diet office and on tray line. Employee will follow applicable policies and procedures in handling supplies, pharmaceuticals, and equipment.

Minimum Education: One of the following preferred: AA degrees in nutrition related field or seeking a degree in dietetic fields (enrolled in an accredited school).

Minimum Experience: A minimum of 6 months experience in formula preparation.

Skills: Ability to read and write English. Knowledge of basic math for weights and measures calculation. Ability to follow instruction. Detail oriented. Advanced computer skills, familiar with email and all Microsoft applications. Effective communication skills.

Job Description 2: Formula Room Human Milk Tech

MemorialCare Health System is a nonprofit integrated delivery system that includes five top hospitals – Long Beach Memorial, Miller Children's and Women's Hospital Long Beach, Community Hospital Long Beach, Orange Coast Memorial, and Saddleback Memorial; medical groups – MemorialCare Medical Group and Greater Newport Physicians; a health plan – Seaside Health Plan; and numerous outpatient health centers, imaging centers and surgery centers throughout the Southland (Orange County and Los Angeles County).

Position Summary:

The Formula Room Technician (FRT) is responsible for the safe preparation and delivery of specialized enteral formulas and pasteurized human donor milk (PHDM) as ordered in the electronic medical record (EMR). The FRT adheres to preparation techniques in accordance with all sanitation regulations and standards established by regulating agencies and the medical center, including all policies and procedures. Duties include (1) operating formula mixing related equipment (2) maintaining proper sanitation of the formula room (3) securing the formula room (4) completing all required logs (5) performing mathematical calculations related to formula recipes (6) proper mixing, labeling, and delivery of formula. Contact with others: The FRT will regularly interact with the Formula Room Coordinator, Director of Clinical Nutrition, Registered Dietitians, and Registered Nurses. They may also interact with pharmacists, physicians, unit secretaries, and parents.

Minimum Requirements:

- Experience in a Formula Room is preferred.
- Able to understand and perform algebra.
- Able to work independently.
- Pays close attention to detail.
- Offers to assist others when needed.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Organizational and time management skills.
- Basic computer skills.
- Minimum of an Associate Degree; Nutrition Science focus is preferred.
- Must pass Formula Room mixing competency exam with 90% grade or higher at the end of the training period.

Sources

Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office MIS Data Mart

Notes

Data included in this analysis represents the labor market demand for positions most closely related to formula room technicians.

Real-time labor market information captures job post advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study and should not be used to establish current job openings, because the numbers may include duplicate job postings or postings intended to gather a pool of applicants. Real-time labor market information can signal demand and show what employers are looking for in potential employees, but is not a perfect measure of the quantity of open positions.