



# Advanced Culinary Certificate

April 2018

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

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## Program Recommendation

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence (COE) compiled this report in order to provide regional labor market data for the program recommendation of advanced culinary arts. This report intends to determine whether there is demand in the local labor market that is not being met by the supply from programs of study.

Based on the labor market supply and demand data, **the COE could not conclusively determine that there is an unmet need** for a culinary arts program in the county. Reasons include:

- Culinary-related jobs are expected to increase by 12% over the next five years, resulting in nearly 16,000 annual job openings.
- Between 2014 and 2017, programs related to culinary arts conferred an annual average of 331 community college awards (associate degrees and certificates).
- Between 23% and 39% of the current workforce have completed some community college education as their highest level of education.

## The COE would especially like to highlight the following:

- Three of the occupations studied require an entry-level education of a high school diploma or equivalent, while the remaining two occupations **require no formal education**.
- Of employers that specified an education level, 72% were searching for candidates with a high school education or vocational training.
- The majority of employers of culinary-related jobs are fast food restaurants and a **degree is not typically required** to work in fast food establishments.
- The **median-level hourly wages for two** of the studied occupations are **below** the MIT Living Wage<sup>1</sup> estimate for LA County.

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<sup>1</sup> MIT Living Wage Calculator. <http://livingwage.mit.edu/>

## Occupation Codes and Descriptions

Currently, there are five occupations in the standard occupational classification (SOC) system related to culinary arts. The occupation titles, descriptions, and reported job titles are included in Exhibit 1.

**Exhibit 1 – Occupations, descriptions, and sample job titles**

SOC Code	Title	Description	Sample of Reported Job Titles
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	Direct and may participate in the preparation, seasoning, and cooking of salads, soups, fish, meats, vegetables, desserts, or other foods. May plan and price menu items, order supplies, and keep records and accounts.	Banquet Chef; Certified Executive Chef (CEC); Chef; Chef, Instructor; Cook; Corporate Executive Chef; Executive Chef (Ex Chef); Executive Sous Chef; Head Cook; Line Cook
11-9051	Food Service Managers	Plan, direct, or coordinate activities of an organization or department that serves food and beverages.	Banquet Manager, Catering Manager, Food and Beverage Director, Food and Beverage Manager, Food Service Director, Food Service Manager, Food Service Supervisor, Kitchen Manager, Restaurant General Manager, Restaurant Manager
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	Directly supervise and coordinate activities of workers engaged in preparing and serving food.	Cafeteria Manager, Dietary Supervisor, Food and Nutrition Services Supervisor, Food Production Supervisor, Food Service Director, Food Service Manager, Food Service Supervisor, Kitchen Manager, Kitchen Supervisor, Restaurant Manager
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	Prepare, season, and cook dishes such as soups, meats, vegetables, or desserts in restaurants. May order supplies, keep records and accounts, price items on menu, or plan menu.	Back Line Cook, Banquet Cook, Breakfast Cook, Cook, Fry Cook, Grill Cook, Line Cook, Pastry Baker, Prep Cook (Preparation Cook)
35-2015	Cooks, Short Order	Prepare and cook to order a variety of foods that require only a short preparation time. May take orders from customers and serve patrons at counters or tables.	Caterer, Cook, Deli Cook (Delicatessen Cook), Grill Cook, Line Cook, Pizza Maker, Prep Cook (Preparation Cook), Short Order Cook, Snack Bar Cook

Source: O\*NET Online

## Current and Future Employment

In Los Angeles County, the number of culinary-related jobs are expected to increase by 12% over the next five years. Nearly 16,000 job opportunities will be available annually for the occupations below through 2022 due to new job growth and replacement need (e.g., retirements). Exhibit 2 contains detailed employment projections data for the occupations.

**Exhibit 2 – Five-year projections for culinary-related occupations**

SOC	Occupation	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	2017 - 2022 Change	2017 - 2022 % Change	Annual Openings
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	40,515	46,478	5,963	15%	7,211
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	27,956	31,712	3,756	13%	4,920
11-9051	Food Service Managers	15,052	15,919	867	6%	1,806
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	6,484	7,192	708	11%	980
35-2015	Cooks, Short Order	6,022	6,316	294	5%	919
	<b>Total</b>	<b>96,029</b>	<b>107,617</b>	<b>11,588</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>15,836</b>

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

## Earnings

In Los Angeles County, the median hourly wage for culinary-related occupations is between \$11.41 and \$17.59 per hour; two occupations have median hourly wages below the MIT Living Wage<sup>2</sup> estimate of \$13.54 per hour for a single adult in the region. The average annual earnings for the occupations in the region are between \$24,675 and \$41,933 per year, assuming full-time employment.

Exhibit 3 contains hourly wages and annual average earnings for culinary-related occupations. The 50th percentile of wages represents median hourly earnings, while the 90th percentile of wages represents experienced hourly earnings.

**Exhibit 3 – Earnings for culinary-related occupations**

SOC	Occupation	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings	Average Annual Earnings
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	\$17.59	\$33.98	\$41,933
11-9051	Food Service Managers	\$14.83	\$33.30	\$39,024
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	\$14.52	\$26.38	\$34,484

<sup>2</sup> MIT Living Wage Calculator. <http://livingwage.mit.edu/>

35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	\$12.25	\$17.43	\$27,045
35-2015	Cooks, Short Order	\$11.41	\$14.59	\$24,675

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

## Employer Job Postings

In this research brief, real-time labor market information is used to provide a more nuanced view of the current job market, as it captures job advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study. Employer job postings are consulted to understand who is employing culinary-related positions, and what they are looking for in potential candidates. To identify culinary-related job postings the SOC codes searched include: food service managers (11-9051), chefs and head cooks (35-1011), first-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers (35-1012), cooks, restaurant (35-2014) and cooks, short order (35-2015).

In 2017, there were 15,151 ads for culinary-related jobs. There were 19,672 job postings for the same occupations in 2016, and 15,713 job postings in 2015.

### Top Titles

The most common job titles for culinary-related jobs are listed in Exhibit 4. Line cook is the job title mentioned in 18% of all relevant job postings (2,694 out of 15,151 postings).

**Exhibit 4 –Job titles (n=15,151)**

Title	Job Postings, Full Year 2017
Line Cook	2,694
Cook	2,361
Restaurant Manager	1,418
Assistant Manager	985
General Manager	858
Shift Leader	682
Chef	651
Sous Chef	615
Kitchen Manager	346
Store Supervisor	273
Dish Washer	155

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

### Top Employers

Exhibit 5 lists the major employers hiring culinary-related workers. The majority of employers are fast food restaurants and hotel chains. The top worksite cities in the region for these occupations studied were Los Angeles, Glendale, Santa Monica, Long Beach and Beverly Hills.

**Exhibit 5 – Top employers (n=15,151)**

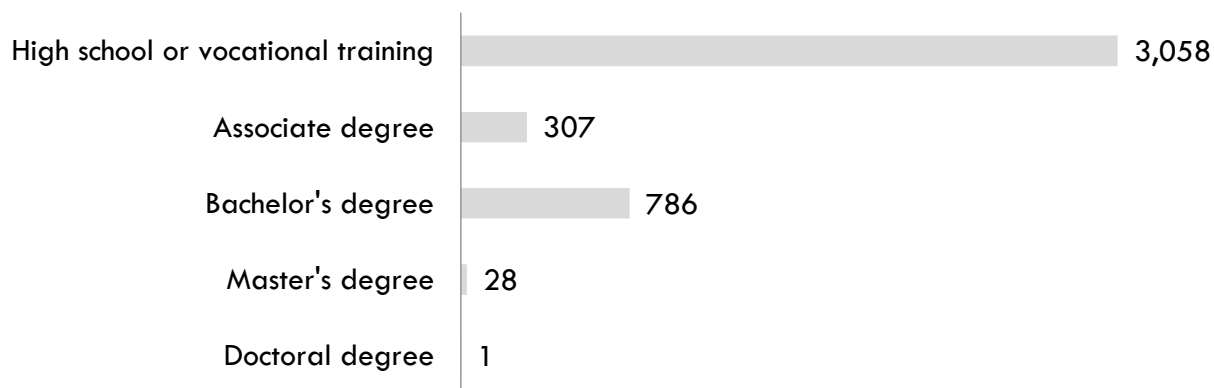
<b>Employer</b>	<b>Job Postings, Full Year 2017</b>
Marriott International Incorporated	552
Starbucks Coffee Company	347
BJs Restaurants Incorporated	319
Del Taco	285
Carl's Jr	264
El Pollo Loco	243
Panda Express	208
The Cheesecake Factory	195
Hilton Hotel Corporation	174
Jack in the Box	169
Compass Group PLC United States	163
Pizza Hut	157
Boston Market	153
Benihana	140
Interstate Hotels & Resorts	129
Restaurant Depot	128
Terranea	116
Bon Appetit	115
Aramark	114
Destination Hotels & Resorts	110
Panera Bread	107
Intercontinental Hotels Group	103
Sodexo	103
Bon Appétit Management Company	98

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

### Advertised Education Levels

Exhibit 6 displays the education level requested by employers in online job ads. The majority of employers were looking for a candidate with high school or vocational training. Approximately 72% of job postings did not specify a level of education.

**Exhibit 6 – Education requirements for culinary-related jobs (n=4,180)**



Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

### Education and Training

Exhibit 7 shows the typical entry-level education requirement for the occupations of interest, along with the typical on-the-job training, and percentage of workers in the field who hold a community college award or have completed some postsecondary courses. Between 23% and 39% of the workforce in the occupations has completed some community college education as their highest level of education.

**Exhibit 7 – Education and training requirements, 2017**

SOC	Description	Typical entry-level education	Typical on-the-job Training	% of Community College Award Holders or Some Postsecondary Coursework
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	HS diploma/equivalent	None	39%
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	HS diploma/equivalent	None	38%
11-9051	Food Service Managers	HS diploma/equivalent	None	38%
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	No formal educational credential	Moderate-term	23%
35-2015	Cooks, Short Order	No formal educational credential	Short-term	23%

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International, Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Projections (Educational Attainment)

In Los Angeles County, eight community colleges have programs training for the occupations studied in this report. Exhibit 8 displays the annual awards conferred for each of the colleges training in these fields. 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).

Between 2014 and 2017, the total annual average community college awards conferred was 331 across one program: Culinary Arts (1306.30).

**Exhibit 8 – CCC Student Awards (by TOP and College)**

TOP Code	Program	College	2014-15 Awards	2015-2016 Awards	2016-17 Awards	3-Year Award Average
1306.30	Culinary Arts	Cerritos	49	44	72	55
		Glendale	3	N/A	1	2
		LA Harbor	23	34	33	30
		LA Mission	14	5	84	34
		LA Trade	148	169	174	164
		Long Beach	23	33	35	30
		Mt San Antonio	20	16	11	16
		Pasadena	1	N/A	N/A	1
		<b>Total</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>331</b>

### Student Outcomes

The CTE LaunchBoard provides student outcome data on the effectiveness of CTE programs. The following student outcome information was collected from exiters of the Culinary Arts Taxonomy of Program (TOP) code (1306.30) in Los Angeles County for the 2015-16 academic year.

- 26% of students are earning a living wage
- 64% of students are employed within six months after completing a program

Source: CTE LaunchBoard

### Sources

O\*Net Online, Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass), Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI), MIT Living Wage Calculator, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Education Attainment, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office Management Information Systems (MIS) Data Mart, CTE LaunchBoard, Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey, Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

## Notes

Data included in this analysis represents the labor market demand for positions most closely related to culinary arts. Standard occupational classification (SOC) codes were chosen based on the national education level required for employment (associate degree and postsecondary certificate) as well as the proportion of current workers who hold a community college award or have had some community college training. This selection process narrows the labor market analysis to the most relevant employment opportunities for students with community college education and/or training.

Traditional labor market information was used to show current and projected employment based on data trends, as well as annual average awards granted by regional community colleges. 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.