

Program Endorsement Brief: 1305.00/Child Development/Early Care & Education Nature-Based Pedagogy

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, June 2019

Summary

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 nature-based pedagogy and early childhood education. 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 relevant occupations.

The following summarizes key findings from this data brief:

- The number of jobs for early childhood education occupations is projected to decrease by 1% through 2023; however, nearly 10,500 job openings will be available annually due to retirements and workers leaving the field.
- In the past 12 months, there have been 175 online job postings for early childhood education occupations in Los Angeles and Orange Counties that also mention *nature-based pedagogy*.
- Nine other related program recommendation requests were received in the past 12 months from regional community colleges.
- Twenty-four colleges in the region have existing child development/early care and education programs.
- Between 2015 and 2018, community colleges in the region conferred an average of 2,647 awards annually (associate degrees and certificates) in related training programs.

Occupational Demand — In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to early childhood education is projected to decrease by 1%. However, due to retirements and workers leaving the field, there will be nearly 10,500 job openings per year through 2023 (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties¹

Geography	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	63,714	62,346	(1,368)	(2%)	8,582
Orange	14,061	14,542	481	3%	1,913
Total	77,775	76,888	(887)	(1%)	10,494

Wages — Entry-level wages for early childhood education occupations in the region are nearly \$11. Entry-level wages for these occupations are lower than the MIT Living hourly wage for one adult in the region (\$14.36 in Los Angeles County and \$15.85 in Orange County). Preschool teachers earn higher median wages than childcare workers (\$15.23/hr.) – which is higher than the living wage for Los Angeles County, but lower than the living wage for Orange County.

¹ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Job Postings — In the past 12 months, there have been 175 online job postings for early childhood education occupations that specifically mentioned *nature-based pedagogy and/or education*. The majority of job postings are for preschool teacher, early childhood teacher, child care assistant, bilingual Spanish child development specialist, and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) child care. Top specialized skills are: teaching, child development, early childhood education, and child care. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region are: Center for Autism and Related Disorders, Every Child Achieves, and YMCA.

Educational Attainment — The BLS lists an associate degree as the typical entry-level education for preschool teachers, and a high school diploma as the typical entry-level education for childcare workers. The national-level educational attainment data indicates between 37% and 38% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree.

Community College Supply — Appendix A shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in Child Development/Early Care and Education (1305.00). The colleges with the most completions in the region are: Rio Hondo, LA Trade-Tech and LA City. Last year, there were nine other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

Appendix A: 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
1305.00	Child Development/Early Care and Education	Cerritos	73	85	108	89
		Citrus	93	109	174	125
		Compton	52	75	50	59
		East LA	220	156	200	192
		El Camino	122	170	166	153
		Fullerton	8	25	27	20
		Glendale	20	21	19	20
		Irvine	44	95	72	70
		LA City	181	298	201	227
		LA Harbor	23	24	39	29
		LA Mission	60	155	210	142
		LA Pierce	68	95	104	89
		LA Southwest	81	62	65	69
		LA Trade-Tech	268	223	190	227
		LA Valley	90	104	71	88
		Long Beach	114	160	148	141
		Mt San Antonio	127	65	82	91
		Pasadena	26	64	83	58
Rio Hondo	181	207	1071	486		
Saddleback	31	52	84	56		

TOP Code	Program	College	2015-16 Awards	2016-17 Awards	2017-18 Awards	3-Year Award Average
		Santa Ana	23	32	37	31
		Santa Monica	84	176	179	146
		Santiago Canyon	-	-	1	1
		West LA	41	46	30	39
Total/Average			2,030	2,499	3,411	2,647

Appendix B: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 2. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Childcare Workers (39-9011)	48,213	45,763	(2,450)	(5%)	6,823	\$10.50	\$12.12	\$17.20
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education (25-2011)	15,501	16,583	1,082	7%	1,758	\$10.85	\$15.21	\$27.19
Total	63,714	62,346	(1,368)	(2%)	8,582			

Exhibit 3. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Childcare Workers (39-9011)	9,176	9,357	181	2%	1,370	\$10.64	\$13.08	\$19.47
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education (25-2011)	4,885	5,185	300	6%	543	\$11.25	\$15.22	\$23.39
Total	14,061	14,542	481	3%	1,913			

Exhibit 4. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Childcare Workers (39-9011)	57,389	55,119	(2,270)	(4%)	8,193	\$10.51	\$12.29	\$17.40
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education (25-2011)	20,386	21,768	1,382	7%	2,301	\$10.91	\$15.23	\$25.91
Total	77,775	76,888	(887)	(1%)	10,494			

Appendix C: Sources

- O*NET Online
- Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)
- Economic Modeling Specialists, International (EMSI)
- 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)
- MIT Living Wage
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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