

Program Endorsement Brief: 1205.10/Phlebotomy

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, March 2019

Summary

The Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to two occupations: **phlebotomists and clinical laboratory technologists and technicians**. 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 phlebotomists and clinical laboratory technologists and technicians is projected to **increase by 7% through 2022**. Over **1,500 job openings** will be available annually due to new job growth and replacement need.
- In the past 12 months, there were **4,204 online job postings** for both occupations, phlebotomists and laboratory technologists and technicians, in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.
- **Zero related program recommendation requests under the same TOP Code (1025.10)** were received between January and December 2018.
- **Three community colleges** in the region have phlebotomy programs. Two colleges are located in Los Angeles County and one college is located in Orange County.
- Between 2014 and 2017, community colleges in the region **conferred an average of two awards annually** (associate degrees and certificates) in related training programs under the same TOP Code.

Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five year occupational demand projections for both occupations, phlebotomists and laboratory technologists and technicians. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to phlebotomists and laboratory technologists and technicians is projected to increase by 7% through 2022. There will be 1,540 job openings per year through 2022.

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties¹

Geography	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	2017-2022 Change	2017-2022 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	13,458	14,253	795	6%	1,159
Orange	3,978	4,385	407	10%	382
Total	17,436	18,638	1,202	7%	1,540

Wages—Average entry-level and median hourly wages for phlebotomists and clinical laboratory technologists and technicians are \$14.32 and \$23.15, respectively. Average entry-level wages for these occupations are higher than the MIT Living hourly wage estimate for one adult in Los

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.

Angeles County (\$13.54), but lower than the MIT living hourly wage estimate for Orange County (\$15.31). On average, experienced workers earn between \$28.43 and \$47.67, which is higher than the living wage estimate. Regional average wages are below the average statewide wage of \$26.74 for these occupations. Wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

Job Postings—There were 4,204 online job postings related to phlebotomists and clinical laboratory technologists and technicians listed in the past 12 months. The highest number of job postings are for laboratory technician, phlebotomist, and lab assistant. The top specialized skills are: phlebotomy, venipuncture, and quality assurance and control. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region are: Quest Diagnostics Incorporated, Laboratory Corporation of America, and University of California.

Educational Attainment—The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists postsecondary nondegree award as the typical entry-level education required for phlebotomists and associate degree as the typical entry-level education required for clinical laboratory technologists and technicians. The national-level educational attainment data indicates that between 40% and 64.4% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the 55% of job postings listing a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, 84% (1,936) request a high school diploma or vocational training and 16% (368) request an associate degree.

Community College Supply—Three community colleges in the region (LA Pierce, Long Beach City, and Saddleback), currently offer phlebotomy programs. Of these colleges, Long Beach and Saddleback have conferred awards in the past three years. Exhibit 2 shows the three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP code: Phlebotomy (1205.10). Between January and December 2018, there were zero related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges. In addition to community colleges, other institutions, such as adult schools and for-profit colleges, also offer phlebotomy programs.

According to the California Department of Public Health, there are 80 phlebotomy training programs offered by entities other than community colleges throughout the region. Forty-eight programs are offered in Los Angeles County and 12 programs are offered in Orange County.² However, program completion data is not available for all training programs, so supply cannot be determined.

Exhibit 2: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2014-2017

TOP Code	Program	College	2014-15 Awards	2015-16 Awards	2016-2017 Awards	3-Year Award Average
1205.10	Phlebotomy	Long Beach	0	0	1	0
		Saddleback	3	2	1	2
Total/Average			3	2	2	2

² “List of Approved Phlebotomy Training Schools,” California Department of Public Health, last modified February 12, 2019, accessed March 25, 2019, <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OSPHLD/LFS/Pages/Approved-Phlebotomy-Training-Schools.aspx>.

Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 3. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians (29-2018)	9,593	10,089	496	5%	696	\$13.73	\$23.49	\$47.72
Phlebotomists (31-9097)	3,865	4,164	299	8%	462	\$14.23	\$20.45	\$28.74
Total	13,458	14,253	795	6%	1,159			

Exhibit 4. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians (29-2018)	2,838	3,079	241	8%	227	\$15.81	\$27.21	\$47.52
Phlebotomists (31-9097)	1,140	1,306	166	15%	155	\$15.31	\$19.70	\$27.56
Total	3,978	4,385	407	10%	382			

Exhibit 5. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2017 Jobs	2022 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians (29-2018)	12,431	13,168	737	6%	923	\$14.21	\$24.31	\$47.67
Phlebotomists (31-9097)	5,005	5,470	465	9%	617	\$14.59	\$20.26	\$28.43
Total	17,436	18,638	1,202	7%	1,540			

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)
- MIT Living Wage
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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