

Program Endorsement Brief: 1306.00/Nutrition, Foods, and Culinary Arts
Geriatric Nutrition Certificate of Achievement
Sports Nutrition Certificate of Achievement
 Orange County Center of Excellence, June 2021

Summary Analysis

Program Endorsement:	Endorsed: All Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program Endorsement Criteria			
Supply Gap:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (see comments below)	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25 th)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

The 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 for two occupations related to geriatric and sports nutrition. To illuminate which occupation is immediately accessible to community college graduates, these nutrition occupations have been divided into middle-skill and above middle-skill occupation groups. Middle-skill occupations typically accommodate community college graduates, while above middle-skill occupations typically require a four-year degree and/or prior work experience. The **middle-skill** nutrition occupation in this report is *dietetic technicians (29-2051)*, while the **above middle-skill** nutrition occupation is *dietitians and nutritionists (29-1031)*. 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 occupations.

Based on the available data, supply is within the COE’s acceptable margin (25% over or under the number of annual job openings) to be considered “supply met” rather than a “supply gap” for *dietetic technicians* in the region. While the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists an associate degree as the typical entry-level education for this occupation, entry-level wages are lower than the living wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties. **Therefore, due to some of the criteria being met, the COE endorses this proposed program.** Detailed reasons include:

Demand:

- **Supply Gap Criteria** – Over the next five years, there is projected to be **181 dietetic technician jobs available annually** in the region due to new job growth and replacements, **which is slightly more than the 155 awards conferred annually** by educational institutions in the region.
 - However, the labor market information suggests that the **supply has been met for this occupation within the LA/OC region** since the average number of annual awards (supply) is within the COE’s 25% margin of annual job openings (demand).

- **Living Wage Criteria** – Within Orange County, *typical entry-level hourly wages* for dietetic technicians are **\$13.45, which is lower than the California Family Needs Calculator** hourly wage (living wage) for one adult in the region. (\$17.36 in Orange County).¹
- **Educational Criteria** – The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists an **associate degree** as the **typical entry-level education for dietetic technicians**.
 - Furthermore, the national-level educational attainment data indicates **42.5% of dietetic technicians in the field have completed some college or an associate degree**.

Supply:

- There are **15 community colleges** in the LA/OC region that issue awards related to nutrition and dietetics, conferring an average of **151 awards annually** between 2017 and 2020.
- Between 2016 and 2019, there was an average of **4 awards conferred annually** in related training programs by non-community college institutions throughout the region.

Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *dietetic technicians*, the sole middle-skill occupation in this report. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to increase by 5% through 2024. There will be nearly 200 job openings per year through 2024 due to job growth and replacements.

This report includes employment projection data by Emsi which uses EDD information. Emsi’s projections are modeled on recorded (historical) employment figures and incorporate several underlying assumptions, including the assumption that the economy, during the projection period, will be at approximately full employment. To the extent that a recession or labor shock, such as the economic effects of COVID-19, can cause long-term structural change, it may impact the projections. At this time, it is not possible to quantify the impact of COVID-19 on projections of industry and occupational employment. Therefore, the projections included in this report do not take the impacts of COVID-19 into account.

Exhibit 1: Middle-skill occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties²

Geography	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	2019-2024 Change	2019-2024 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	1,636	1,732	96	6%	144
Orange	440	455	14	3%	37
Total	2,076	2,186	110	5%	181

¹ Living wage data was pulled from California Family Needs Calculator on 6/2/2021. For more information, visit the California Family Needs Calculator website: <https://insightcced.org/2018-family-needs-calculator/>.

² Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Exhibit 2 shows the five-year occupational demand projections *dietitians and nutritionists*, the above middle-skill occupation in this report. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to increase by 8% through 2024. There will be more than 250 job openings per year through 2024 due to job growth and replacements.

Exhibit 2: Above middle-skill occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties³

Geography	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	2019-2024 Change	2019-2024 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	2,514	2,728	214	9%	205
Orange	741	799	59	8%	60
Total	3,255	3,528	273	8%	264

Wages

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for both of the nutrition occupations in this report (both middle-skill and above middle-skill) in Orange County as they relate to the county’s living wage. Los Angeles County wages are included below in order to provide a complete analysis of the LA/OC region. Detailed wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

Orange County— The typical entry-level hourly wages for *dietetic technicians* are \$13.45, which is below the living wage for one adult (\$17.36 in Orange County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$20.74, which is higher than the living wage estimate. Orange County’s average wages are below the average statewide wage of \$17.25 for this occupation.

Typical entry-level hourly wages for the above middle-skill occupation, *dietitians and nutritionists*, are \$28.19, which is above the living wage for one adult in Orange County. Experienced workers in this occupation can expect to earn \$43.19. Orange County’s average wages are above the average statewide wage of \$37.43 for this occupation.

Los Angeles County— The typical entry-level hourly wages for *dietetic technicians* are \$13.11, which is below the living wage for one adult (\$15.04 in Los Angeles County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$20.21, which is higher than the living wage estimate. Los Angeles County’s average wages are below the average statewide wage of \$17.25 for this occupation.

Typical entry-level hourly wages for the above middle-skill occupation, *dietitians and nutritionists*, are \$28.77, which is above the living wage for one adult in Los Angeles County. Experienced workers in this occupation can expect to earn \$43.86. Los Angeles County’s average wages for this occupation are below the statewide wage of \$37.43 for this occupation.

Job Postings

There were 1,488 online job postings related to *dietetic technicians* and *dietitians and nutritionists* listed in the past 12 months. The majority of job postings (83%) were *dietitians and nutritionists*

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

(1,237 postings), while *dietetic technicians* comprised 17% of postings (251). The highest number of job postings were for dietary aides, registered dietitians, clinical dietitians, dietitians, and nutrition assistants. The top skills were: dietetics, food preparation, acute care, cleaning, and nutrition services. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region were: Sodexo, Compass Group North America, and DaVita Incorporated.

It is important to note that the job postings data included in this section reflects online job postings listed in the past 12 months and does not yet demonstrate the impact of COVID-19. While employers have generally posted fewer online job postings since the beginning of the pandemic, the long-term effects are currently unknown.

Educational Attainment

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists an associate degree as the typical entry-level education for *dietetic technicians*, and a bachelor's degree for *dietitians and nutritionists*. In the LA/OC region, the majority of annual job openings for these two occupations (59%) typically require a bachelor's degree. The national-level educational attainment data indicates 42.5% of *dietetic technicians* in the field have completed some college or an associate degree, while only 10.3% of *dietitians and nutritionists* have completed some college or an associate degree, and 77% of *dietitians and nutritionists* hold a bachelor's degree or more education. Of the 43% of these nutrition job postings listing a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, 78% (496) requested a bachelor's degree, 20% (125) requested a high school diploma and 2% (12) requested an associate degree.

Educational Supply

Community College Supply—Exhibit 3 shows the three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP codes: Nutrition, Foods, and Culinary Arts (1306.00), Dietetic Services and Management (1306.20), and Dietetic Technology (1306.60). The colleges with the most completions in the region are: Orange Coast, Long Beach, and Saddleback. Over the past 12 months, there were five other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

Exhibit 3: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2017-2020

TOP Code	Program	College	2017-2018 Awards	2018-2019 Awards	2019-2020 Awards	3-Year Award Average
1306.00	Nutrition, Foods, and Culinary Arts	East LA	7	14	23	15
		Glendale	4	3	6	4
		LA City	-	-	1	0
		LA Mission	3	4	4	4
		Long Beach	2	8	8	6
		Mt San Antonio	10	15	15	13
		Pasadena	-	2	2	1
		Rio Hondo	-	-	1	0
		Santa Monica	5	3	5	4
		West LA	1	4	2	2
		LA Subtotal	32	53	67	51
		Cypress	-	-	2	1
		Fullerton	9	6	8	8
		Orange Coast	9	17	20	15
		Saddleback	23	26	19	23
		Santa Ana	3	3	3	3
OC Subtotal	44	52	52	49		
Supply Subtotal/Average			76	105	119	100
1306.20	Dietetic Services and Management	Glendale	7	14	16	12
		LA City	7	7	7	7
		Long Beach	12	8	5	8
		LA Subtotal	26	29	28	28
		Orange Coast	3	11	3	6
		OC Subtotal	3	11	3	6
Supply Subtotal/Average			29	40	31	33
1306.60	Dietetic Technology	Long Beach	11	13	12	12
		LA Subtotal	11	13	12	12
		Orange Coast	2	13	2	6
		OC Subtotal	2	13	2	6
Supply Subtotal/Average			13	26	14	18
Supply Total/Average			118	171	164	151

Non-Community College Supply—For a comprehensive regional supply analysis, it is also important to consider the supply from other institutions in the region that provide training programs for middle-skill nutrition occupations. Exhibit 4 shows the annual and three-year

average number of awards conferred by this institution in the related Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code: Foods, Nutrition, and Wellness Studies, General (19.0501), and Dietetics/Dietitian (51.3101). Due to different data collection periods, the most recent three-year period of available data is from 2016 to 2019. Between 2016 and 2019, four-year colleges in the region conferred an average of 94 awards annually in related training programs.

Exhibit 4: Regional non-community college awards, 2016-2019

CIP Code	Program	College	2016-2017 Awards	2017-2018 Awards	2018-2019 Awards	3-Year Award Average
19.0501	Foods, Nutrition, and Wellness Studies, General	Brandman University	8	1	3	4
Supply Total/Average			8	1	3	4

Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 5. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)
Dietetic Technicians (29-2051)	440	455	14	3%	37	\$13.45	\$15.06	\$20.74
Middle-Skill Total	440	455	14	3%	37			
Dietitians and Nutritionists (29-1031)	741	799	59	8%	60	\$28.19	\$36.08	\$43.18
Above Middle-Skill Total	741	799	59	8%	60			
Total	1,181	1,254	73	6%	97			

Exhibit 6. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)
Dietetic Technicians (29-2051)	1,636	1,732	96	6%	144	\$13.11	\$14.68	\$20.21
Middle-Skill Total	1,636	1,732	96	6%	144			
Dietitians and Nutritionists (29-1031)	2,514	2,728	214	9%	205	\$28.77	\$36.71	\$43.86
Above Middle-Skill Total	2,514	2,728	214	9%	205			
Total	4,150	4,460	310	7%	348			

Exhibit 7. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings
Dietetic Technicians (29-2051)	2,076	2,186	110	5%	181
Middle-Skill Total	2,076	2,186	110	5%	181
Dietitians and Nutritionists (29-1031)	3,255	3,528	273	8%	264
Above Middle-Skill Total	3,255	3,528	273	8%	264
Total	5,331	5,714	383	7%	445

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
- 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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