

Program Endorsement Brief: 1099.00/Other Fine and Applied Arts
Acting and Performance Level I Certificate
Stage and Screen Combat Level I Certificate
Orange County Center of Excellence, March 2020

Summary Analysis

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 related to one middle-skill occupation: Actors (SOC code 27-2011). Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor's degree.¹

In addition to traditional labor market data for Actors, this report also includes information specifically related to stunt performers. While stunt performers may be employed in different entertainment areas such as amusement parks, dinner theater, and renaissance fairs, this report will focus on information from the Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA). To become a member of SAG-AFTRA, performers must either work as a background actor for three days of work under a SAG-AFTRA collective bargaining agreement or be a paid member of an affiliated performers union for at least one year.² SAG-AFTRA membership allows performers, including stunt performers, to work on projects produced under SAG-AFTRA contracts.

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 there appears to be a supply gap for Actors in the region. However, entry-level wages for this occupation are below the California Family Needs Calculator hourly wage (living wage) for one adult in the region. Additionally, entry-level wages for this occupation in Los Angeles County are below that county's current minimum wage of \$14.25 for employers with 26 or more employees.³ However, wage estimates are based on data collected over the last three years and are considered "point-in-time" estimates.⁴ For this reason, wage data does not reflect recent changes in minimum wage laws. **Therefore, the COE cautiously endorses this proposed program.** Reasons include:

¹ The COE classifies middle-skill jobs as the following:

- All occupations that require an educational requirement of some college, associate degree or apprenticeship;
- All occupations that require a bachelor's degree, but also have more than one-third of their existing labor force with an educational attainment of some college or associate degree; or
- All occupations that require a high school diploma or equivalent or no formal education, but also require short- to long-term on-the-job training where multiple community colleges have existing programs.

² For additional information, please see the SAG-AFTRA website: <https://www.sagaftra.org/membership-benefits/steps-join>

³ For more information, see: http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dca/242546_LACountyMinimumWageOrdinance.pdf

⁴ For more information, see: <https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/data/oes-wages-about-the-data.html>

Demand:

- Over the next five years, there is projected to be **1,699 jobs available annually** in the region due to new job growth and replacements, **which is more than the 254 awards conferred annually** by educational institutions in the region.
- Over the past 12 months, there were **513 online job postings related to Actors**. The highest number of job postings were for actor, casting assistant, and performer.
 - Of the 513 postings, **only 2% (10) included keywords related to stunt coordination, stunt performance, stunt doubles, and combat**.
- The national-level educational attainment data indicates **33.3% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree** as their highest level of education.
 - However, it is worth noting that typical **entry-level hourly wages** for Actors are \$14.17 in Los Angeles County and \$13.64 in Orange County, **which are lower than the California Family Needs Calculator hourly wage (living wage)** for one adult in the region (\$15.04 in Los Angeles County and \$17.36 in Orange County).⁵
 - Additionally, these **typical entry-level hourly wages are below Los Angeles County's current minimum wage of \$14.25**. However, **wage data is based on data collected in the past three years and does not reflect recent changes in minimum wage laws**.
 - **Typical median hourly wages** are \$22.75 in Los Angeles County and \$22.15 in Orange County, **which are above the living wage in each county**.

Supply:

- There are **23 educational institutions, all of which are community colleges**, in the region that have programs related to acting, conferring an average of **254 awards annually** between 2016 and 2019.

Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for Actors. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to decrease by 1% through 2023. However, there will be nearly 1,700 job openings per year through 2023 due to retirements and workers leaving the field.

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties⁶

| Geography | 2018 Jobs | 2023 Jobs | 2018-2023 Change | 2018-2023 % Change | Annual Openings |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Los Angeles | 12,828 | 12,602 | (226) | (2%) | 1,567 |
| Orange | 939 | 1,019 | 80 | 9% | 132 |

⁵ Living wage data was pulled from California Family Needs Calculator on 3/10/20. For more information, visit the California Family Needs Calculator website: <https://insightcced.org/2018-family-needs-calculator/>.

⁶ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

| Geography | 2018 Jobs | 2023 Jobs | 2018-2023 Change | 2018-2023 % Change | Annual Openings |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Total | 13,766 | 13,622 | (144) | (1%) | 1,699 |

Wages—Typical entry-level hourly wages for Actors throughout the region are \$14.17 in Los Angeles County and \$13.64 in Orange County.⁷ Entry-level wages for this occupation are lower than the living wage estimate for one adult in the region (\$15.04 in Los Angeles County and \$17.36 in Orange County). Typical entry-level hourly wages in Los Angeles County are also lower than that county’s current minimum wage of \$14.25 for employers with 26 or more employees. Though these typical entry-level hourly wages are lower than both the living wage and minimum wage for Los Angeles County, it is important to note that wage data is based on data collected over the previous three years. This historical data is a “point-in-time” estimate and does not reflect recent changes in minimum wage laws.

Median wages for this occupation are \$22.75 in Los Angeles County and \$22.15 in Orange County, which is higher than the living wage estimate for both counties. Experienced workers can expect to earn \$40.93 in Los Angeles County and \$43.10 in Orange County. Regional average wages are nearly equivalent to the average statewide wage of \$40.39 for this occupation. Wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

To better understand wages for combat and stunt professionals, Exhibit 2 shows the current wages for SAG-AFTRA theatrical stunt performers and stunt coordinators. It is important to note that these wages reflect daily and weekly rates, so they cannot be compared to the hourly wages listed in Appendix A. Links to SAG-AFTRA’s theatrical and television salary schedules, both of which include stunt performers, are listed in Appendix B.

Exhibit 2: SAG-AFTRA theatrical daily/weekly wages for stunt roles⁸

| Role | Time Commitment | Wage |
|-------------------|--|---------|
| Stunt Performer | Day Performers | \$1,005 |
| | Weekly Performers | \$3,746 |
| | 10 to 19 Weeks Guaranteed (per week) | \$2,994 |
| | 20 Weeks or More Guaranteed (per week) | \$2,492 |
| Stunt Coordinator | Day Performers | \$1,005 |
| | Weekly Performers | \$3,746 |
| | Employed on a "Flat Deal" Basis (per week) | \$6,162 |
| | Employed on a "Flat Deal" Basis (per day) | \$1,562 |

Job Postings—There were 513 online job postings related to actors listed in the past 12 months throughout the region. The highest number of job postings were for actor, casting assistant,

⁷ Entry-level wage is defined as the twenty-fifth percentile hourly wage. Wages for experienced workers are defined as the seventy-fifth percentile hourly wage.

⁸ https://www.sagaftra.org/files/20172020wagesthatrical11_28_18_1.pdf

performer, and entertainer. The top skills were: scheduling, social media, music, and customer service. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region were: Trampoline Jumpers of Anaheim, Thirteenth Floor Entertainment Group, and Disney. Of the 513 online job postings, 12% (63) listed a minimum education requirement.

Of the 513 postings, only 2% (10) included keywords related to stunt coordination, stunt performance, stunt doubles, and combat. However, it is important to note that acting jobs are typically found through casting agencies, which do not usually post jobs online. Performers also find work through word of mouth and network connections developed while working on other productions. Additionally, stunt teams and organizations, such as Stunts Unlimited, Brand Stunts, and the Stuntmen’s and Stuntwomen’s Association have lists of qualified stunt performers with various specialties. It is common for these organizations to provide stunt performers for productions, eliminating the need for jobs to be posted online.

Educational Attainment—The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists some college, no degree as the typical entry-level education for Actors. The national-level educational attainment data indicates 33.3% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the 12% of job postings listing a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, 97% (61) requested a high school diploma or equivalent and 3% (2) requested an associate degree.

Supply

Community College Supply—Exhibit 3 shows the three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP codes: Dramatic Arts (1007.00) and Other Fine and Applied Arts (1099.00). The college with the most completions in the region is LA City, which conferred a three-year average of 47 awards. While all these programs are related to acting, none of them have a specific emphasis on stunts or stage and screen combat. Over the past 12 months, there were no other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

Exhibit 3: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2015-2018

| TOP Code | Program | College | 2016-2017 Awards | 2017-2018 Awards | 2018-2019 Awards | 3-Year Award Average |
|----------|---------------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1007.00 | Dramatic Arts | Cerritos | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | | Citrus | 22 | 24 | 25 | 24 |
| | | East LA | 5 | 5 | 22 | 11 |
| | | El Camino | 5 | 14 | 11 | 10 |
| | | Glendale | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| | | LA City | 28 | 6 | 108 | 47 |
| | | LA Mission | - | - | 4 | 4 |
| | | LA Pierce | 7 | 9 | 7 | 8 |
| | | LA Swest | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | | LA Valley | 14 | 14 | 15 | 14 |
| | | Long Beach | 4 | 6 | 7 | 6 |

| TOP Code | Program | College | 2016-2017 Awards | 2017-2018 Awards | 2018-2019 Awards | 3-Year Award Average |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| | | Mt San Antonio | 6 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| | | Pasadena | 10 | 15 | 17 | 14 |
| | | Rio Hondo | 7 | 2 | 7 | 5 |
| | | Santa Monica | 28 | 26 | 27 | 27 |
| | | West LA | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| | | LA Subtotal | 141 | 139 | 269 | 183 |
| | | Cypress | 11 | 4 | 11 | 9 |
| | | Fullerton | 10 | 21 | 9 | 13 |
| | | Golden West | 3 | 8 | 11 | 7 |
| | | Irvine Valley | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| | | Orange Coast | 7 | 7 | 14 | 9 |
| | | Saddleback | 1 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| | | Santa Ana | 5 | 4 | 12 | 7 |
| | | OC Subtotal | 41 | 54 | 64 | 53 |
| | | Subtotal/Average | | | 182 | 193 |
| 1099.00 | Other Fine and Applied Arts | El Camino | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| | | LA Mission | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| | | Santa Monica | - | 13 | 22 | 18 |
| | | LA Subtotal | 3 | 19 | 25 | 16 |
| | | Irvine Valley | 5 | 1 | - | 3 |
| | | OC Subtotal | 5 | 1 | - | 3 |
| Subtotal/Average | | | 8 | 20 | 25 | 18 |
| Total/Average | | | 190 | 213 | 358 | 254 |

Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 4. Los Angeles County

| Occupation (SOC) | 2018 Jobs | 2023 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) |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Actors (27-2011) | 12,828 | 12,602 | (226) | (2%) | 1,567 | \$14.17 | \$22.75 | \$40.93 |

Exhibit 5. Orange County

| Occupation (SOC) | 2018 Jobs | 2023 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) |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Actors (27-2011) | 939 | 1,019 | 80 | 9% | 132 | \$13.64 | \$22.15 | \$43.10 |

Exhibit 6. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

| Occupation (SOC) | 2018 Jobs | 2023 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) |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Actors (27-2011) | 13,766 | 13,622 | (144) | (1%) | 1,699 | \$14.23 | \$22.71 | \$40.75 |

Appendix B: SAG-AFTRA Wage Tables

- [Theatrical Wage Table](#)
- [Television Agreement Wage Tables](#)

Appendix C: 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)
- California Family Needs Calculator, Insight Center for Community Economic Development
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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