

**Program Endorsement Brief: 1099.00/Other Fine and Applied Arts**  
**Acting and Performance Level 2 Certificate**  
**Stage and Screen Combat Level 2 Certificate**  
 Orange County Center of Excellence, January 2021

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**Summary Analysis**

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Program Endorsement:</b>                             | <b>Endorsed:</b><br>All Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Endorsed:</b><br>Some Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <b>Not</b><br>Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Program Endorsement Criteria</b>                     |   |   |   |
| <b>Supply Gap:</b>                                      | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                       | No <input type="checkbox"/>   |   |
| <b>Living Wage:</b><br>(Entry-Level, 25 <sup>th</sup> ) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>                                  | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                    |   |
| <b>Education:</b>                                       | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                       | No <input type="checkbox"/>   |   |
| <b>Emerging Occupation(s)</b>                           |   |   |   |
|   | 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 related to one middle-skill occupation: *actors* (27-2011). Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor's degree.<sup>1</sup>

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.<sup>2</sup> 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 and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists some college/no degree as the typical entry-level education. However, the entry-level wages are below the living wage in Orange County. **Therefore, due to**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

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 **2,386 jobs available annually** in the region due to new job growth and replacements, **which is more than the 983 awards conferred annually** by educational institutions in the region.
- **Living Wage Criteria** – Within Orange County, **typical entry-level hourly wages for actors are \$14.58, which is lower than the California Family Needs Calculator** hourly wage (living wage) for one adult in the region \$17.36 in Orange County).<sup>3</sup>
- **Educational Criteria** – The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists some college/no degree as the typical entry-level education for actors.
  - However, the national-level educational attainment data indicates **19.3% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree**, while 63.2% of actors hold a bachelor's degree or higher level of education.

**Supply:**

- There are **23 community colleges** in the LA/OC region that issue awards related to acting and/or dramatic arts, conferring an average of **253 awards annually** between 2016 and 2019.
- Between 2014 and 2017, there was an average of **730 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 actors. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to increase by 1% through 2024. There will be nearly 2,400 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.*

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<sup>3</sup> Living wage data was pulled from California Family Needs Calculator on 1/20/2021. For more information, visit the California Family Needs Calculator website: <https://insightcced.org/2018-family-needs-calculator/>.

**Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties<sup>4</sup>**

| Geography    | 2019 Jobs     | 2024 Jobs     | 2019-2024 Change | 2019-2024 % Change | Annual Openings |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Los Angeles  | 18,159        | 18,283        | 124              | 1%                 | 2,235           |
| Orange       | 1,141         | 1,209         | 68               | 6%                 | 151             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>19,300</b> | <b>19,492</b> | <b>192</b>       | <b>1%</b>          | <b>2,386</b>    |

**Wages**

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for actors 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 actors are \$14.58, which is below the living wage for one adult (\$17.36 in Orange County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$33.96, which is higher than the living wage estimate. Orange County’s average wages are slightly above the average statewide wage of \$35.05 for this occupation.

**Los Angeles County**— The typical entry-level hourly wages for actors are \$16.39, which is above the living wage for one adult (\$15.04 in Los Angeles County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$33.66, which is higher than the living wage estimate. Los Angeles County’s average wages are below the average statewide wage of \$35.05 for this occupation.

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 roles<sup>5</sup>**

| Role              | Time Commitment                            | Wage    |
|-------------------|--|---------|
| Stunt Performer   | Day Performers                             | \$1,030 |
|                   | Weekly Performers                          | \$3,840 |
|                   | 10 to 19 Weeks Guaranteed (per week)       | \$3,069 |
|                   | 20 Weeks or More Guaranteed (per week)     | \$2,554 |
| Stunt Coordinator | Day Performers                             | \$1,030 |
|                   | Weekly Performers                          | \$3,840 |
|                   | Employed on a "Flat Deal" Basis (per week) | \$6,316 |
|                   | Employed on a "Flat Deal" Basis (per day)  | \$1,601 |

**Job Postings**

<sup>4</sup> Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.sagaftra.org/files/20202023CBAWages.pdf>

There were 746 online job postings related to actors listed in the past 12 months. The highest number of job postings were for actors, casting assistants, casting associates, actor/models, and birthday party/special event performers. The top skills were: music, comedy, social media, budgeting, and scheduling. The top employers, by number of job postings, in the region were: Entertainment Partners and Mad Science of South Orange County.

Of the 746 postings, only 3 job postings 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 typically 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.

*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 some college/no degree as the typical entry-level education for actors. However, the national-level educational attainment data indicates 19.3% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree, while 63.2% of actors hold a bachelor’s degree or higher level of education. Of the 8% of actor job postings listing a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, all (58) requested a high school diploma.

**Educational 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 colleges with the most completions in the region are: LA City, Santa Monica, and Citrus. 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), 2016-2019**

| 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               | 10               | 10                   |
|          |               | Glendale   | 3                | 5                | 4                | 4                    |
|          |               | LA City    | 28               | 6                | 108              | 47                   |
|          |               | LA Mission | -                | -                | 4                | 1                    |

| TOP Code | Program                     | College                        | 2016-2017 Awards | 2017-2018 Awards | 2018-2019 Awards | 3-Year Award Average |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
|          |                             | LA Pierce                      | 7                | 9                | 7                | 8                    |
|          |                             | LA Southwest                   | 1                | 2                | 2                | 2                    |
|          |                             | LA Valley                      | 14               | 14               | 15               | 14                   |
|          |                             | Long Beach                     | 4                | 6                | 7                | 6                    |
|          |                             | 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                | 1                    |
|          |                             | <b>LA Subtotal</b>             | <b>141</b>       | <b>139</b>       | <b>268</b>       | <b>183</b>           |
|          |                             | Cypress                        | 11               | 4                | 11               | 9                    |
|          |                             | Fullerton                      | 10               | 21               | 9                | 13                   |
|          |                             | Golden West                    | 3                | 8                | 11               | 7                    |
|          |                             | Irvine                         | 4                | 3                | 4                | 4                    |
|          |                             | Orange Coast                   | 7                | 7                | 14               | 9                    |
|          |                             | Saddleback                     | 1                | 7                | 3                | 4                    |
|          |                             | Santa Ana                      | 5                | 4                | 12               | 7                    |
|          |                             | <b>OC Subtotal</b>             | <b>41</b>        | <b>54</b>        | <b>64</b>        | <b>53</b>            |
|          |                             | <b>Supply Subtotal/Average</b> | <b>182</b>       | <b>193</b>       | <b>332</b>       | <b>236</b>           |
| 1099.00  | Other Fine and Applied Arts | El Camino                      | 1                | 6                | 3                | 3                    |
|          |                             | LA Mission                     | 2                | -                | -                | 1                    |
|          |                             | Santa Monica                   | -                | 13               | 22               | 12                   |
|          |                             | <b>LA Subtotal</b>             | <b>3</b>         | <b>19</b>        | <b>25</b>        | <b>16</b>            |
|          |                             | Irvine                         | 5                | 1                | -                | 2                    |
|          |                             | <b>OC Subtotal</b>             | <b>5</b>         | <b>1</b>         | <b>0</b>         | <b>2</b>             |
|          |                             | <b>Supply Subtotal/Average</b> | <b>8</b>         | <b>20</b>        | <b>25</b>        | <b>18</b>            |
|          |                             | <b>Supply Total/Average</b>    | <b>190</b>       | <b>213</b>       | <b>357</b>       | <b>253</b>           |

**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 acting and/or dramatic arts. Exhibit 4 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by these institutions in the related Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Codes: Drama and Dramatics/Theatre Arts, General (50.0501), and Visual and Performing Arts, Other (50.9999). Due to different data collection periods, the most recent three-year period of available data is from 2014 to 2017. Between 2014 and 2017, four-year colleges in the region conferred an average of 730 awards annually in related training programs.

**Exhibit 4: Regional non-community college awards, 2014-2017**

| <b>CIP Code</b>                            | <b>Program</b>                                   | <b>College</b>                                 | <b>2014-2015 Awards</b> | <b>2015-2016 Awards</b> | <b>2016-2017 Awards</b> | <b>3-Year Award Average</b> |
|--|--|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 50.0501                                    | Drama and Dramatics/<br>Theatre Arts,<br>General | American Academy of Dramatic Arts-Los Angeles  | 135                     | 126                     | 148                     | 136                         |
|  |  | Biola University                               | 8                       | 5                       | 2                       | 5                           |
|  |  | California State Polytechnic University-Pomona | 14                      | 17                      | 24                      | 18                          |
|  |  | CSU-Dominguez Hills                            | 11                      | 12                      | 15                      | 13                          |
|  |  | CSU-Fullerton                                  | 65                      | 84                      | 93                      | 81                          |
|  |  | CSU-Long Beach                                 | 70                      | 82                      | 82                      | 78                          |
|  |  | CSU-Los Angeles                                | 24                      | 28                      | 26                      | 26                          |
|  |  | CSU-Northridge                                 | 47                      | 52                      | 63                      | 54                          |
|  |  | Chapman University                             | 39                      | 23                      | 33                      | 32                          |
|  |  | Claremont McKenna College                      | -                       | 1                       | -                       | 0                           |
|  |  | Concordia University-Irvine                    | 4                       | 6                       | 2                       | 4                           |
|  |  | Loyola Marymount University                    | 32                      | 40                      | 35                      | 36                          |
|  |  | Occidental College                             | 11                      | 8                       | 14                      | 11                          |
|  |  | Pitzer College                                 | 2                       | -                       | 1                       | 1                           |
|  |  | Pomona College                                 | 3                       | 2                       | 5                       | 3                           |
|  |  | Scripps College                                | 3                       | 4                       | 1                       | 3                           |
|  |  | UC-Irvine                                      | 77                      | 65                      | 67                      | 70                          |
|  |  | UC-Los Angeles                                 | 69                      | 60                      | 62                      | 64                          |
|  |  | University of La Verne                         | 6                       | 9                       | 7                       | 7                           |
|  |  | University of Southern California              | 93                      | 74                      | 63                      | 77                          |
| Vanguard University of Southern California | 6  | 3  | 4                       | 4                       |                         |                             |
| Whittier College                           | 7  | 9  | 7                       | 8                       |                         |                             |
| 50.9999                                    | Visual and Performing Arts, Other                | UC-Los Angeles                                 | 1                       | -                       | -                       | 0                           |
| <b>Supply Total/Average</b>                |  |  | <b>727</b>              | <b>710</b>              | <b>754</b>              | <b>730</b>                  |

## 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 <sup>th</sup> Percentile) | Median Hourly Earnings | Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile) |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Actors (27-2011) | 1,141     | 1,209     | 68          | 6%            | 151             | \$14.58   | \$21.59                | \$33.96   |

### Exhibit 6. Los Angeles County

| Occupation (SOC) | 2019 Jobs | 2024 Jobs | 5-Yr Change | 5-Yr % Change | Annual Openings | Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile) | Median Hourly Earnings | Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile) |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Actors (27-2011) | 18,159    | 18,283    | 124         | 1%            | 2,235           | \$16.39   | \$23.47                | \$33.66   |

### Exhibit 7. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

| Occupation (SOC) | 2019 Jobs | 2024 Jobs | 5-Yr Change | 5-Yr % Change | Annual Openings |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Actors (27-2011) | 19,300    | 19,492    | 192         | 1%            | 2,386           |

## 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
- 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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