

Labor Market Analysis: 0802.00/Educational Aide (Teacher Assistant)

Educational Aide - Certificate requiring 8 to fewer than 16 semester units

Los Angeles Center of Excellence, June 2023

Summary

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25th)	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 Los Angeles Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to one middle-skill occupation:

- **Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary (25-9045)** This occupation includes the 2018 SOC occupations:¹
 - **Teaching Assistants, Preschool, Elementary, Middle, and Secondary School, Except Special Education (25-9042)** Assist a preschool, elementary, middle, or secondary school teacher with instructional duties. Serve in a position for which a teacher has primary responsibility for the design and implementation of educational programs and services.
 - **Teaching Assistants, Special Education (25-9043)** Assist a preschool, elementary, middle, or secondary school teacher to provide academic, social, or life skills to students who have learning, emotional, or physical disabilities. Serve in a position for which a teacher has primary responsibility for the design and implementation of educational programs and services.
 - **Teaching Assistants, All Other (25-9049)** All teaching assistants not listed separately.

Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor's degree.² This report is intended to help determine whether there is demand in the local

¹ [Teacher Assistants : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics \(bls.gov\)](#)

² 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.

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 *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* in the region. While entry-level wages are lower than the self-sufficiency standard wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a postsecondary non-degree award as the typical entry-level education. **Therefore, due to some of the criteria being met, the LA COE endorses this proposed program.** Detailed reasons include:

Demand:

- **Supply Gap Criteria** – Over the next five years, **6,446 jobs are projected to be available annually** in the region due to new job growth and replacements, **which is more than the three-year average of 114 awards conferred** by educational institutions in the region.
- **Living Wage Criteria** – Within Los Angeles County, **typical entry-level hourly wages** for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* are **\$17.72, which is lower than the self-sufficiency standard** hourly wage (living wage) for one adult in the region (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County).³
- **Educational Criteria** – The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a **postsecondary non-degree award as the typical entry-level education** for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary*.
 - Furthermore, the national-level educational attainment data indicates **39% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree.**

Supply:

- There are **8 community colleges** in the greater LA/OC region that issue awards training for educational aides, conferring an average of **111 awards annually** between 2018 and 2021.
- Between 2017 and 2020, there was an average of **3 awards conferred annually** in related training programs by non-community college institutions throughout the greater LA/OC region.

Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary*. In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to increase by 8% through 2026. There will be more than 6,400 job openings per year through 2026 due to job growth and replacements.

³ Self-Sufficiency Standard wage data was pulled from The Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool for California. For more information, visit: <http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/california>.

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties⁴

Geography	2021 Jobs	2026 Jobs	2021-2026 Change	2021-2026 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	36,175	38,932	2,757	8%	4,961
Orange	10,465	11,499	1,034	10%	1,485
Total	46,640	50,431	3,792	8%	6,446

Wages

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* in Los Angeles County as they relate to the county’s self-sufficiency standard wage. Orange County wages are included below in order to provide a complete analysis of the greater LA/OC region. Detailed wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

Los Angeles County

The typical entry-level hourly wages for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* are \$17.72, which is below the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$22.79, which is higher than the self-sufficiency standard.

Exhibit 2: Earnings in LA County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary (25-9045)	\$17.72	\$18.36	\$22.79	\$38,200

*rounded to the nearest \$100

Orange County

The typical entry-level hourly wages for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* are \$17.41, which is below the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$20.63 in Orange County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$22.36, which is higher than the self-sufficiency standard.

Exhibit 3: Earnings in Orange County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary (25-9045)	\$17.41	\$17.96	\$22.36	\$37,400

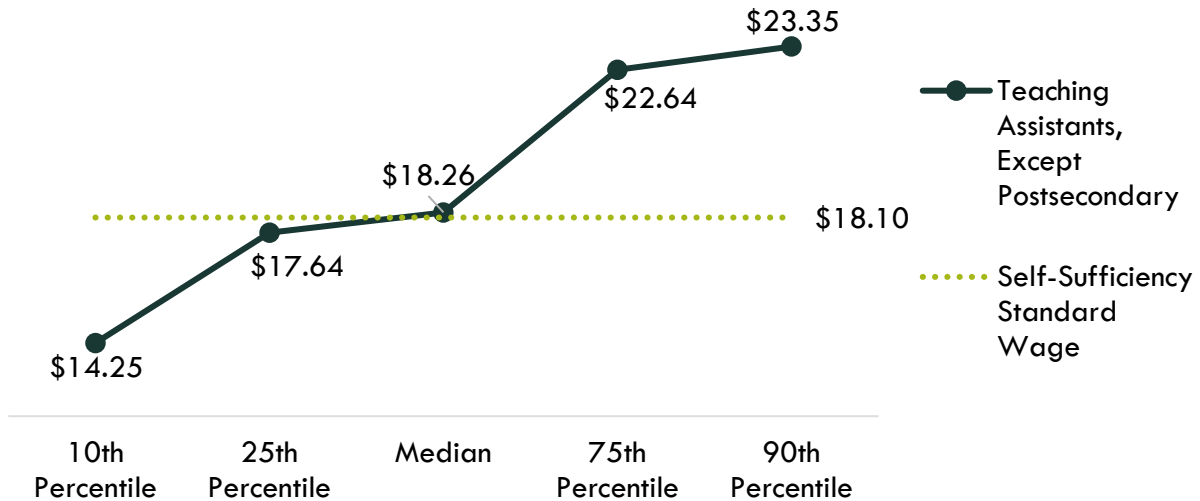
*rounded to the nearest \$100

On average, the entry-level earnings for the occupation in this report is \$17.64; this is below the living wage for one single adult in Los Angeles County (\$18.10). Exhibit 4 shows the average

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

hourly wage for the occupation in this report, from entry-level to experienced workers, across the greater LA/OC region.

Exhibit 4: Average Hourly Earnings for Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary in LA/OC



Job Postings

There were 3,902 online job postings related to *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* listed in the past 12 months. The highest number of job postings were for teacher assistants, instructional aides, paraprofessionals, assistant teachers, and instructional assistants. The top skills were special education, child development, working with children, autism spectrum disorder, and individualized education programs (IEPs). The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region were Stepping Stones, Center for Autism & Related Disorders, and HeyTutor.

Educational Attainment

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a postsecondary non-degree award as the typical entry-level education for *teaching assistants, except postsecondary*. Furthermore, the national-level educational attainment data indicates 39% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the 65% of *teaching assistants, except postsecondary* job postings listing a minimum education requirement in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, 82% (2,077) requested high school or vocational training, and 18% (442) requested an associate degree.

Educational Supply

Community College Supply

Exhibit 5 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in programs that have historically trained for the occupation of interest. The colleges with the most completions in the region are Santa Ana, Mt. San Antonio, and Santiago Canyon.

Exhibit 5: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2018-2021

TOP	Program	College	2018-19 Awards	2019-20 Awards	2020-21 Awards	3-Year Average
0802.00	Educational Aide (Teacher Assistant)	Mt San Antonio	23	21	21	22
		LA Subtotal	23	21	21	22
		Coastline	3	2	6	4
		Fullerton	7	-	-	2
		Santa Ana	30	11	80	40
		Santiago Canyon	6	7	20	11
		OC Subtotal	46	20	106	57
Supply Subtotal/Average			69	41	127	79
0802.10	Educational Aide (Teacher Assistant), Bilingual	LA Mission	-	1	-	0
		LA Subtotal	-	1	-	0
		Santa Ana	-	-	3	1
		Santiago Canyon	-	1	4	2
		OC Subtotal	-	1	7	3
Supply Subtotal/Average			-	2	7	3
0809.00	Special Education	Compton	-	-	2	1
		Long Beach	2	1	1	1
		LA Subtotal	2	1	3	2
		Santa Ana	27	16	31	25
		Santiago Canyon	-	2	6	3
		OC Subtotal	27	18	37	27
Supply Subtotal/Average			29	19	40	29
Supply Total/Average			98	62	174	111

Non-Community College Supply

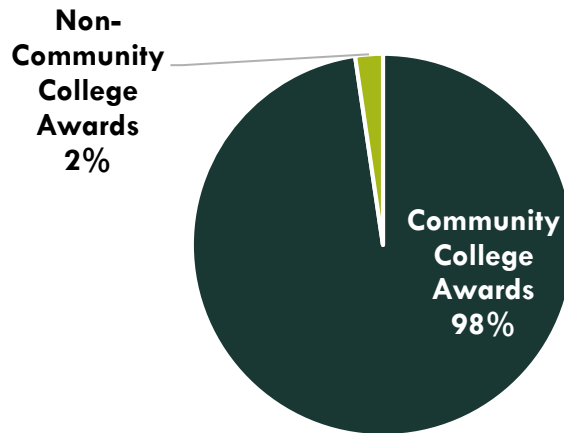
For a comprehensive regional supply analysis, it is important to consider the supply from other institutions in the region that provide training programs for *teaching assistants*, except *postsecondary*. Exhibit 6 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by this institution in relevant programs. Due to different data collection periods, the most recent three-year period of available data is from 2017 to 2020. Between 2017 and 2020, non-community college institutions in the region conferred an average of 3 sub-baccalaureate awards. Sub-baccalaureate awards include associate degrees, postsecondary awards, and other academic awards that typically take fewer than four years to complete. The vast majority of teacher preparation programs in the region issue bachelors or masters degrees, which are not included in this report because the occupation of interest typically only requires some college, but no degree.

Exhibit 6: Regional non-community college awards, 2017-2020

CIP	Program	Institution	2017-18 Awards	2018-19 Awards	2019-20 Awards	3-Year Average
13.1001	Special Education and Teaching, General	Mount Saint Mary's University	-	6	2	3
Supply Total/Average			-	6	2	3

Exhibit 7 shows the proportion of community college awards conferred in LA/OC compared to the number of non-community college awards for the programs in this report. Nearly all the awards conferred in these programs are awarded by community colleges in the LA/OC region.

Exhibit 7: Community College Awards Compared to Non-Community College Awards in LA/OC Region, 3-Year Average



Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 8. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2021 Jobs	2026 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)
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary (25-9045)	36,175	38,932	2,757	8%	4,961	\$17.72	\$18.36	\$22.79

Exhibit 9. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2021 Jobs	2026 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)
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary (25-9045)	10,465	11,499	1,034	10%	1,485	\$17.41	\$17.96	\$22.36

Exhibit 10. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2021 Jobs	2026 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	% Age 55 and older*	Typical Entry-Level Education
Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary (25-9045)	46,640	50,431	3,792	8%	6,446	23%	Some college, no degree

*The average percentage of workers age 55 and older across all occupations in the greater LA/OC region is 27%. This occupation has a smaller share of older workers, which typically indicates fewer replacements needs to offset the amount of impending retirements.

Appendix B: Sources

- O*NET Online
- Lightcast (formerly Emsi)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- Self-Sufficiency Standard at the Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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