

Program Endorsement Brief: Architecture/Interior Design

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, May 2019

Summary

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to architecture/interior design. 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 occupations related to architecture/interior design is projected to increase by 2% through 2023; more than 1,250 job openings will be available annually due to new job growth and replacement need.
- Over the past 12 months, there have been 812 online middle-skill job postings related to architecture/interior design in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.
- Eight other related program recommendation requests were received in 2018 from regional community colleges.
- Twenty-two colleges in the region have existing applied design, architectural drafting, architecture and architectural technology, drafting technology, and interior design and merchandising programs.
- Between 2015 and 2018, community colleges in the region conferred an average of 660 awards annually (associate degrees and certificates) in related training programs.

Occupational Demand — In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs for occupations related to architecture/interior design is projected to increase by 2% through 2023. There will be more than 1,250 job openings per year due to new job growth and replacement need (retirements).

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties¹

Geography	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	9,390	9,649	259	3%	894
Orange	3,960	4,015	55	1%	363
Total	13,350	13,663	313	2%	1,257

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.

Wages — Entry-level wages for occupations related to architecture/interior design in the region are approximately \$18/per hour. Entry-level wages are higher than the MIT Living hourly wage for one adult in the region (\$14.36 in Los Angeles County and \$15.85 in Orange County). Appendix B shows hourly wages for each occupation and by county.

Job Postings — There were 812 online middle-skill postings for jobs related to architecture/interior design listed in the past 12 months. The majority of job postings were for interior designers, design consultants, and CAD drafters. Top specialized skills include: interior design, AutoCAD, and Revit. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region are: The Home Depot, West Coast Living Thomasville and Bassett Furniture.

Educational Attainment — The BLS lists an associate degree as the typical entry-level education for architectural drafters, and a Bachelor’s degree as the entry-level education for interior designers. National-level educational attainment data indicates between 30% and 62% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the job postings listing high school/vocational training or associate degree as an education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange County, 65% request an associate degree.

Community College Supply — Appendix A shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in Architecture and Architectural Technology (0201.00), Drafting Technology (0935.00), Architectural Drafting (0935.10), Applied Design (1009.00) and Interior Design and Merchandising (1302.00). The colleges with the most architecture and architectural technology completions in the region are: East LA, Mt San Antonio, and Orange Coast. Last year, there were eight other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

Appendix A: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2015-2018

TOP Code	Program	College	2015-16 Awards	2016-17 Awards	2017-18 Awards	3-Year Award Average
0201.00	Architecture and Architectural Technology	Cerritos	16	20	17	18
		Citrus	0	0	2	1
		Compton	2	0	0	1
		East LA	103	25	34	54
		El Camino	18	21	35	25
		Fullerton	8	9	8	8
		Glendale	4	3	4	4
		LA Harbor	14	10	5	10
		LA Pierce	7	4	8	6
		LA Trade-Tech	8	9	8	8
		LA Valley	3	2	4	3
		Long Beach	6	12	10	9
		Mt San Antonio	19	67	82	56
		Orange Coast	34	43	82	53
		Pasadena	7	5	11	8
Rio Hondo	17	13	19	16		

TOP Code	Program	College	2015-16 Awards	2016-17 Awards	2017-18 Awards	3-Year Award Average
		Saddleback	6	14	12	11
		Subtotal/Average	272	257	341	290
0953.00	Drafting Technology	Cerritos	45	41	48	45
		Citrus	7	2	6	5
		East LA	41	33	38	37
		El Camino	14	11	15	13
		Fullerton	8	8	11	9
		Golden West	16	17	18	17
		Irvine	3	5	0	3
		LA Harbor	5	2	1	3
		LA Pierce	3	8	7	6
		LA Valley	1	2	4	2
		Mt San Antonio	30	45	34	36
		Pasadena	2	0	21	8
		Rio Hondo	19	9	93	40
		Saddleback	2	0	2	1
Santa Ana	8	20	23	17		
		Subtotal/Average	204	203	321	243
0953.10	Architectural Drafting	Citrus	0	1	0	0
		Fullerton	0	0	4	1
		Long Beach	4	12	8	8
		Santa Ana	1	3	3	2
		Subtotal/Average	5	16	15	12
1009.00	Applied Design	Compton	1	0	0	0
		Subtotal/Average	1	0	0	0
1302.00	Interior Design and Merchandising	Fullerton	17	15	34	22
		LA Mission	1	3	7	4
		Long Beach	1	0	0	0
		Mt San Antonio	13	16	19	16
		Orange Coast	27	32	34	31
		Saddleback	29	6	32	22
		Santa Monica	14	15	30	20
		Subtotal/Average	102	87	156	115
		Total/Average	584	563	833	660

Appendix B: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 3. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Interior Designers (27-1025)	5,118	5,289	171	3%	513	\$18.05	\$23.36	\$72.61
Architectural and Civil Drafters (17-3011)	4,272	4,360	88	2%	381	\$18.49	\$28.47	\$41.27
Total	9,390	9,649	259	3%	894			

Exhibit 4. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Interior Designers (27-1025)	2,015	2,031	16	1%	189	\$18.32	\$22.83	\$41.11
Architectural and Civil Drafters (17-3011)	1,945	1,984	39	2%	174	\$18.86	\$27.92	\$39.18
Total	3,960	4,015	55	1%	363			

Exhibit 5. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Interior Designers (27-1025)	7,133	7,319	186	3%	702	\$18.20	\$23.17	\$63.49
Architectural and Civil Drafters (17-3011)	6,217	6,344	127	2%	555	\$18.62	\$28.31	\$40.75
Total	13,350	13,663	313	2%	1,257			

Appendix C: Sources

- O*NET Online
- Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)
- Economic Modeling Specialists, International (EMSI)
- 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

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