

Program Endorsement Brief: 3020.20 – Piloting *Pilot Training*

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, February 2022

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

The Los Angeles/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 occupation: *commercial pilots* (53-2012). Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor’s degree.¹ 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 occupation.

Based on the available data, there appears to be a supply gap for *commercial pilots* in the region. Although the entry-level wage for *commercial pilots* exceeds the self-sufficiency standard wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties, only 20% of incumbent workers have completed some college or an associate degree. **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 **225 jobs available annually** in the region due to new job growth and replacements, **which is more than the 136 awards conferred annually** by educational institutions in the region.
- **Living Wage Criteria** – In Los Angeles County, the **typical entry-level hourly wage** for *commercial pilots* is **\$39.84, which is above the self-sufficiency standard wage** (living wage) for one adult in the region (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County).²

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

- **Educational Criteria** – The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists a **high school diploma or equivalent** as the **typical entry-level education** for *commercial pilots*.
 - National-level educational attainment data indicates that **20% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree.**

Supply:

- Between 2017 and 2020, **four community colleges** in the LA/OC region issued awards in piloting, conferring **an average of 136 awards.**
- Currently, there are no non-community college institutions in the LA/OC region that have conferred awards in relevant programs.

Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *commercial pilots*. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to increase by 5% through 2025. There will be more than 200 job openings per year through 2025 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 full impact of COVID-19 on projections of industry and occupational employment. Therefore, the projections included in this report do not take the full impacts of COVID-19 into account.

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties³

Geography	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	2020-2025 Change	2020-2025 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	1,713	1,779	66	4%	176
Orange	436	471	35	8%	49
Total	2,149	2,250	101	5%	225

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.

Wages

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the hourly wages for *commercial pilots* 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 LA/OC region. Detailed wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

Los Angeles County – The typical entry-level hourly wage for *commercial pilots* is \$39.84, which is **above** the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County). Experienced workers can expect to earn \$95.40/hour.

Orange County – The typical entry-level hourly wage for *commercial pilots* is \$38.09, which is **above** the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$20.63 in Orange County). Experienced workers can expect to earn \$91.92/hour.

Job Postings

Over the past 12 months, there have been 192 online job postings related to *commercial pilots*. The top skills were Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, flight planning, patient transportation and transfer and ground control. The top employers, by number of job postings, in the region were Federal Aviation Administration, Air Methods Corporation, Clay Lacy Aviation, and General Atomics.

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 full 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 a high school diploma or equivalent as the typical entry-level education for *commercial pilots*. However, national-level educational attainment data indicates that 20% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree.

Educational Supply

Community College Supply – Exhibit 2 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in Piloting (TOP 3020.20). The colleges with the most completions in the region are Mt. San Antonio and Cypress.

Exhibit 2: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2017-2020

TOP Code	Program	College	2017-18 Awards	2018-19 Awards	2019-20 Awards	3-Year Average
3020.20	Piloting	Glendale	4	4	14	7
		Mt San Antonio	41	75	50	55
		LA Subtotal	45	79	64	63
		Cypress	45	69	36	50
		Orange Coast	1	18	51	23
		OC Subtotal	46	87	87	73
Supply Total/Average			91	166	151	136

Non-Community College Supply – Currently, there are no non-community college institutions in the LA/OC region that have conferred awards in relevant programs.

Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 3. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75th Percentile)
Commercial Pilots (53-2012)	1,713	1,779	66	4%	176	\$39.84	\$61.62	\$95.40

Exhibit 4. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75th Percentile)
Commercial Pilots (53-2012)	436	471	35	8%	49	\$38.09	\$59.23	\$91.92

Exhibit 5. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Typical Entry-Level Education
Commercial Pilots (53-2012)	2,149	2,250	101	5%	225	High school diploma or equivalent

Appendix B: Sources

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