



Labor Market Analysis for Program Recommendation Physical Therapy Aide Occupations Las Positas College

Prepared by Bay Regions Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research

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Recommendation

Based on all available data, there appears to be an “undersupply” of Physical Therapy Aide workers compared to the demand for this cluster of occupations in the Bay Region and in the East Bay sub-region (Alameda, Contra Costa counties). There is a projected annual gap of about 497 students in the Bay Region and 150 students in the East Bay Sub-Region.

Introduction

This report provides student outcomes data on employment and earnings for TOP 1222.00 - Physical Therapist Assistant programs in the state and region. It is recommended that these data be reviewed to better understand how outcomes for students taking courses on this TOP code compare to potentially similar programs at colleges in the state and region, as well as to outcomes across all CTE programs at Las Positas College and in the region.

This report profiles Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in the 12 county Bay Region and in the East Bay sub-region for regional program recommendation at Las Positas College.

- **Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021):** Assist physical therapists in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with state laws, assist in the development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, document the progress of treatment, and modify specific treatments in accordance with patient status and within the scope of treatment plans established by a physical therapist. Generally requires formal training.
Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Associate’s degree
Training Requirement: None
Percentage of Community College Award Holders or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 59%
- **Physical Therapist Aides (31-2022):** Under close supervision of a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant, perform only delegated, selected, or routine tasks in specific situations. These duties include preparing the patient and the treatment area.
Entry-Level Educational Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
Training Requirement: Short-term on-the-job training
Percentage of Community College Award Holders or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 59%

Occupational Demand

Table 1. Employment Outlook for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in Bay Region

Occupation	2023 Jobs	2028 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	5-yr Total Openings	Annual Openings	25% Hourly Earning	Median Hourly Wage
Physical Therapist Assistants	1,519	1,896	377	25%	1,526	305	\$35	\$44
Physical Therapist Aides	1,365	1,447	82	6%	1,054	211	\$17	\$18
Total	2,884	3,343	459	16%	2,580	516	\$26	\$32

Source: Lightcast 2024.3

Bay Region includes: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano and Sonoma Counties

Table 2. Employment Outlook for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in East Bay Sub-Region

Occupation	2023 Jobs	2028 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	5-yr Total Openings	Annual Openings	25% Hourly Earning	Median Hourly Wage
Physical Therapist Assistants	481	618	137	28%	506	101	\$35	\$44
Physical Therapist Aides	423	463	39	9%	341	68	\$18	\$18
Total	904	1,081	177	20%	847	169	\$27	\$32

Source: Lightcast 2024.3

East Bay Sub-Region includes: Alameda, Contra Costa Counties

Job Postings in Bay Region and East Bay Sub-Region

Table 3. Number of Job Postings by Occupation for latest 12 months (Sep. 2023 - Aug. 2024)

Occupation	Bay Region	East Bay
Physical Therapist Assistants	1,617	651
Physical Therapist Aides	359	132

Source: Lightcast

Table 4a. Top Job Titles for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations for latest 12 months (Sep. 2023 - Aug. 2024) Bay Region

Title	Bay	Title	Bay
Physical Therapist Assistants	648	Therapy Aides	29
Physical Therapy Assistants	500	Outpatient Travel Physical Therapists	27
Physical Therapy Aides	262	Home Health Physical Therapists	23
Skilled Nursing Facility Physical Therapy Assistants	74	Travel Physical Therapist Assistants	16
Home Health Physical Therapy Assistants	68	Licensed Physical Therapy Assistants	13
Licensed Physical Therapist Assistants	44	Rehabilitation Physical Therapy Assistants	11
Physical Therapy Technicians	40	Outpatient Registered Nurses	9
Travel Physical Therapists	40	Rehabilitation Therapy Aides	8
Outpatient Physical Therapists	32	Resident Aides	8

Source: Lightcast

Table 4b. Top Job Titles for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations for latest 12 months (Sep. 2023 - Aug. 2024) East Bay Sub-Region

Title	East Bay	Title	East Bay
Physical Therapist Assistants	282	Travel Physical Therapist Assistants	12
Physical Therapy Assistants	178	Therapy Aides	10
Physical Therapy Aides	98	Licensed Physical Therapy Assistants	8
Home Health Physical Therapy Assistants	26	Home Health Physical Therapists	6
Skilled Nursing Facility Physical Therapy Assistants	25	Outpatient Registered Nurses	6
Outpatient Travel Physical Therapists	21	Physical Therapy Managers	6
Outpatient Physical Therapists	20	Physical Therapy Technicians	6
Licensed Physical Therapist Assistants	18	Resident Aides	5
Travel Physical Therapists	16	Center Therapy Directors	3

Source: Lightcast

Industry Concentration

Table 5. Industries hiring Physical Therapy Aide Workers in Bay Region

Industry - 6 Digit NAICS (No. American Industry Classification) Codes	Jobs in Industry (2023)	Jobs in Industry (2028)	% Change (2023-28)	% Occupation Group in Industry (2023)
Offices of Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapists, and Audiologists	1,447	1,740	20%	50%
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	348	347	-1%	12%
Hospitals (Local Government)	197	236	19%	7%
Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists)	168	167	-1%	6%
Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)	165	188	14%	6%
Home Health Care Services	117	168	43%	4%
HMO Medical Centers	82	96	17%	3%
Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	80	97	22%	3%
Hospitals (State Government)	34	38	14%	1%
All Other Outpatient Care Centers	25	31	23%	1%

Source: Lightcast 2024.3

Table 6. Top Employers Posting Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in Bay Region and East Bay Sub-Region (Sep. 2023 - Aug. 2024)

Employer	Bay	Employer	East Bay
Consonus Healthcare Services	72	ProMedica	39
Jackson Therapy Partners	65	Jackson Therapy Partners	37
ProMedica	52	Vibrantcare Rehabilitation	35
Vibrantcare Rehabilitation	47	Consonus Healthcare Services	24
Sutter Health	42	Empowerme Wellness	24
DRG Home Therapies	41	AccentCare	17

Source: Lightcast

Educational Supply

There is one community college in the Bay Region issuing 19 awards on average annually (last 3 years ending 2021-23) on TOP 1222.00 - Physical Therapist Assistant. In the East Bay Sub-Region, there is one community college that issued 19 awards on average annually (last 3 years) on this TOP code.

Table 7. Community College Awards on TOP 1222.00 - Physical Therapist Assistant in Bay Region

College	Subregion	Associate Degree	Total
Ohlone	East Bay	19	19
Total	-	19	19

Source: Data Mart

Note: The annual average for awards is 2020-21 to 2022-23.

Gap Analysis

Based on the data included in this report, there is a labor market gap in the Bay region with 516 annual openings for the Physical Therapy Aide occupational cluster and 19 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 497 students. In the East Bay Sub-Region, there is also a gap with 169 annual openings and 19 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 150 students.

Student Outcomes

Table 8. Four Employment Outcomes Metrics for Students Who Took Courses on TOP 1222.00 - Physical Therapist Assistant

Metric Outcomes	Bay All CTE Program	Las Positas College All CTE Program	State 1222.00	Bay 1222.00	East Bay 1222.00	Las Positas College 1222.00
Students with a Job Closely Related to Their Field of Study	74%	69%	90%	100%	100%	NA
Median Annual Earnings for SWP Exiting Students	\$53,090	\$49,986	\$39,405	\$48,707	\$48,707	NA
Median Change in Earnings for SWP Exiting Students	24%	27%	52%	39%	39%	NA

Metric Outcomes	Bay All CTE Program	Las Positas College All CTE Program	State 1222.00	Bay 1222.00	East Bay 1222.00	Las Positas College 1222.00
Exiting Students Who Attained the Living Wage	54%	56%	58%	53%	53%	NA

Source: Launchboard Strong Workforce Program Median of 2018 to 2021.

Skills, Certifications and Education

Table 9. Job Postings Top Skills for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in Bay Region (Sep. 2023 - Aug. 2024)

Skill	Posting	Skill	Posting
Physical Therapy	1,518	Nursing	130
Rehabilitation	539	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	120
Treatment Planning	330	Medical Records	120
Patient Treatment	326	Caregiving	118
Patient Assistance	270	Kinesiology	114
Home Health Care	193	Program Development	113
Exercise Therapy	175	Medical Terminology	104
Patient Education And Counseling	159	Linens	98
Orthopedics	138	Direct Patient Care	95
Anatomy	136	Patient Preparation	94

Source: Lightcast

Table 10. Job Postings Certifications for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in Bay Region (Sep. 2023 - Aug. 2024)

Certification	Posting	Certification	Posting
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification	276	Personal Trainer Certification	12
Physical Therapy Assistant License	230	Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Certification	8
Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification	213	Athletics and Fitness Association of America (AFAA) Certification	3

Source: Lightcast

Table 11. Education Requirements for Physical Therapy Aide Occupations in Bay Region

Education Level	Job Postings	% of Total
High school or GED	179	23%
other	354	46%
Bachelor's degree & higher	239	31%

Source: Lightcast

Note: 65% of records have been excluded because they do not include a degree level. As a result, the chart above may not be representative of the full sample.

Methodology

Occupations for this report were identified by use of job descriptions and skills listed in O*Net. Labor demand data is sourced from Lightcast occupation and job postings data. Educational supply and student outcomes data is retrieved from multiple sources, including CCCCCO Data Mart and CTE Launchboard.

Sources

O*Net Online

Lightcast

CTE LaunchBoard www.calpassplus.org

Launchboard

Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey

Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development

Chancellor's Office MIS system

Contacts

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