



Labor Market Analysis: 1215.00 – Electrocardiography 51.0902 – Electrocardiograph Technology/Technician EKG Technician

Los Angeles Center of Excellence, August 2026

Program Endorsement:	Endorsed: All Criteria Met	☐	Endorsed: Some Criteria Met	☒	Not Endorsed	☐
Program Endorsement Criteria						
Supply Gap:	Yes	☐	No	☒	(See below)	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25 th)	Yes	☒	No	☐		
Education:	Yes	☒	No	☐		
Emerging Occupation(s)						
Yes		☐	No	☒		

SUMMARY

This report analyzes whether local labor market demand is being met by community college programs aligned with the identified middle-skill occupation¹ or whether a shortage of workers exists. Labor market demand is measured by annual job openings while education supply is measured by the number of awards (degrees and certificates) conferred on average each year.

Based on the available data, there does not appear to be a supply gap for the one identified middle-skill occupation in the region. While this program does not meet the traditional supply/demand endorsement criteria, there may be demand for these workers from local employers that is not reflected in traditional labor market data. For this reason, real-time labor market data is included in this report as well – to provide a more nuanced view of the regional job market for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians*. Furthermore, 290 out of the 331 annual average awards (88%) included in the supply analysis were issued by proprietary training institutions. With regional community colleges only issuing 41 related awards, there may be an opportunity to attract a larger portion of prospective students to community colleges if program offerings are expanded. In addition, this occupation's entry-level wages exceed the self-sufficiency standard wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties, and the typical entry-level education level is an associate degree.

Recommendation: Due to two of the three endorsement criteria being met, the Los Angeles Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA COE) endorses this proposed program.

¹ Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor's degree. 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.

Key Findings

Supply Gap

- 142 annual job openings are projected in the region through 2030. This number is less than the three-year average of 331 awards conferred by educational institutions in the region.
 - However, over the past 12 months, there were 2,273 online job postings for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* in the Los Angeles/Orange County region.
 - The largest number of job postings were for travel cath lab technologists, EKG technicians, cath lab technologists, cath lab radiology technologists, and cardiac cath lab technologists.

Living Wage

- \$31.85 is the typical entry-level hourly wage for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians*, which is higher than Los Angeles County's self-sufficiency standard hourly (\$24.03/hour).²

Educational Attainment

- An associate degree is the typical entry-level education for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians*, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).
- 43% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree, according to national educational attainment data.

Community college supply

- 2 community colleges issued awards related to cardiovascular technology in the greater LA/OC region.
- 41 awards (degrees and certificates) were conferred on average each year between 2023 and 2025.

Other postsecondary supply

- 4 educational institutions in the LA/OC region have conferred awards in programs related to cardiovascular technology over the past three years.
- 290 awards were conferred on average each year by other postsecondary institutions throughout the greater LA/OC region between 2022 and 2024.

TARGET OCCUPATION

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market and postsecondary supply data related to one middle-skill occupation:

- **Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians (29-2031)** Conduct tests on pulmonary or cardiovascular systems of patients for diagnostic, therapeutic, or research purposes. May conduct or assist in electrocardiograms, cardiac catheterizations, pulmonary functions, lung capacity, and similar tests.³

² Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington. (2024). *The self-sufficiency standard for California 2024*. <http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/California>.

³ [Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov/occupations/cv-tech)

OCCUPATIONAL DEMAND

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians*. In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to slightly decrease by less than 1% through 2030. However, there will be nearly 150 job openings per year through 2030 due to retirements and workers leaving the field. Most jobs in 2025 for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* (77%) were located in Los Angeles County.

Exhibit 1: Current employment and occupational demand, Los Angeles and Orange counties⁴

Geography	2025 Jobs	2030 Jobs	2025-2030 Change	2025-2030 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	1,967	1,948	(18)	(1%)	106
Orange	604	619	16	3%	36
Total	2,570	2,568	(3)	(0%)	142

Detailed Occupation Data

Exhibit 2 displays the current employment and projected occupational demand for the target occupation in Los Angeles County. The average percentage of workers aged 55+ across all occupations in the Los Angeles/Orange County region is 26%; occupations with a larger share of workers aged 55 and older typically have greater replacement needs to offset the amount of impending retirements. On average, 81% of workers across all occupations in California are employed full-time.

Exhibit 2: Detailed employment and occupational demand, Los Angeles County⁵

Occupation	2025 Jobs	2030 Jobs	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	% Aged 55 and older	% Full Time Workers
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	1,967	1,948	(1%)	106	22%	100%

WAGES

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* 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 Los Angeles/Orange County region.

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.

⁵ Ibid.

Los Angeles County

The typical entry-level hourly wages for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* are \$31.85, which is above the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$24.03 in Los Angeles County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$49.72 (Exhibit 3).

Exhibit 3: Earnings for occupation in Los Angeles County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	\$31.85	\$32.02	\$49.72	\$66,600

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Orange County

The typical entry-level hourly wages for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* are \$31.50, which is above the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$27.13 in Orange County). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages of \$49.43 (Exhibit 4).

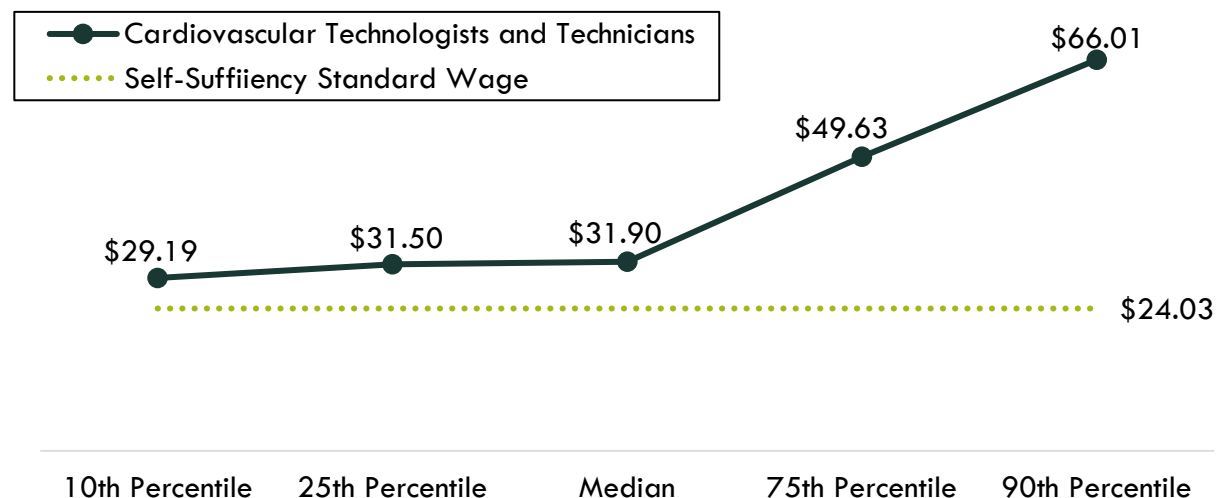
Exhibit 4: Earnings for occupation in Orange County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	\$31.50	\$31.50	\$49.43	\$65,500

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Across the greater Los Angeles and Orange County region, the average entry-level hourly earnings for the occupation in this report are \$31.50; this is above the living wage for one single adult in Los Angeles County (\$24.03). Exhibit 5 shows the average hourly wage for the occupation in this report, for entry-level to experienced workers.

Exhibit 5: Average hourly earnings for target occupation, Los Angeles and Orange counties



JOB POSTINGS

There were 2,273 online job postings related to *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* listed in the past 12 months in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Job postings were analyzed for the most common job titles, skills, and employers associated with the target occupation in this report (Exhibit 6).

Exhibit 6: Most commonly requested job titles, skills and employers in job postings, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Top Job Titles	Top Skills	Top Employers
• Travel cath lab technologists • EKG technicians • Cath lab technologists • Cath lab radiology technologists • Cardiac cath lab technologists • Echo technologist/ cardiac sonographers	• Cath lab • Radiology • Cardiology • Cardiac catheterization • Electrocardiography • Medical ultrasonography • Electrophysiology • Pediatrics • Hemodynamics	• Aya Healthcare* • University of California • Providence* • Cedars-Sinai • St. Francis Medical Center • PIH Health • Zenex Partners* • Stability Healthcare*

*Staffing company

In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, 20% of the target job postings listed a minimum educational requirement. Exhibit 7 details the number and percentage of job postings by educational level.

Exhibit 7: Education levels requested in job postings for target occupation, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Education Level	Job Postings	% of Job Postings
Bachelor's degree	58	13%
Associate degree	114	25%
High school diploma or vocational training	277	62%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists an associate degree as the typical entry-level education for *cardiovascular technologists and technicians* (Exhibit 8). Furthermore, the national-level data indicates 43% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of educational attainment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists the following typical entry-level education levels for the occupation in this report:

Exhibit 8: Entry-level education preferred by employers nationally, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Occupation	Education Level
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians	Associate degree

EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY**Community College Supply**

Exhibit 9 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in programs that have been historically trained for the occupation of interest. The only two colleges with completions in the region are Orange Coast and LA Mission.

Exhibit 9: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2023-2025

TOP Code	Program	College	2022-23 Awards	2023-24 Awards	2024-25 Awards	3-Year Average
1213.00	Cardiovascular Technician	Orange Coast	14	8	25	16
		LA Subtotal	14	8	25	16
Supply Subtotal/Average			14	8	25	16
1215.00	Electro-cardiography	LA Mission	-	23	37	20
		LA Subtotal	-	23	37	20
		Orange Coast	2	14	-	5
		OC Subtotal	2	14	-	5
Supply Subtotal/Average			2	37	37	25
Supply Total/Average			16	45	62	41

Exhibit 10 displays the community college awards broken down by award type. In this case, the majority of awards issued by community colleges are noncredit awards (49%).

Exhibit 10: Community college awards by award type, 2023-2025

Award Type	# of Awards	% of Awards
A.A./A.S. degrees	12	29%
Certificates	9	22%
Noncredit awards	20	49%
Total	41	100%

Other Postsecondary 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 *cardiovascular technologists and technicians*. Exhibit 11 shows the number of awards conferred by these institutions in relevant programs. Due to different data collection periods, the most recent data is from 2022 to 2024. Between 2022 and 2024, other postsecondary college institutions in the region conferred an

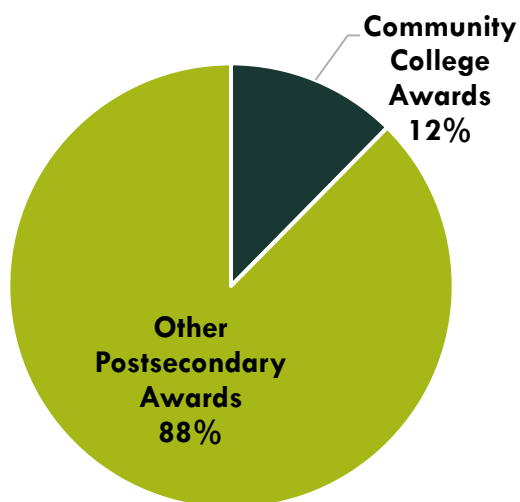
average of 290 sub-baccalaureate awards. Sub-baccalaureate awards include associate degrees, postsecondary awards, and other academic awards that typically take fewer than four years to complete.

Exhibit 11: Other regional postsecondary awards, 2022-2024

CIP Code	Program	Postsecondary Institution	2021-22 Awards	2022-23 Awards	2023-24 Awards	3-Year Average
51.0901	Cardiovascular Technology/ Technologist	Associated Technical College-Los Angeles	132	137	156	142
		ATI College-Whittier	5	13	2	7
		Smith Chason College	127	142	150	140
51.0902	Electrocardiograph Technology/ Technician	Downey Adult School	-	-	5	2
Supply Total/Average			264	292	313	290

Exhibit 12 shows the proportion of community college awards conferred in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region compared to the number of other postsecondary awards for the programs in this report. The majority of awards conferred in these programs are awarded by other institutions in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

Exhibit 12: Percentage of community college awards compared to other postsecondary institution awards in the Los Angeles/Orange County region



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DATA SOURCES

POWERED BY



- 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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