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Career Fact Sheet *Energy Efficiency Tools for the Career Counselor*

Los Angeles County

This data was prepared for California Community Colleges and pertains to community college-level coursework as a resource for counselors to share with students.

The Bottom Line

California has moved aggressively to establish a legislative and policy framework that puts energy efficiency at the forefront, in an effort to meet the state's increasing energy needs and fight global warming. Firms that hire energy efficiency workers are found in multiple industries. The following are five industry groups with the greatest concentration of energy efficiency occupational opportunities. This information comes from a Los Angeles study of energy efficiency conducted by the COE in 2009. More information on this study, including other regions within California, can be found at www.coecc.net/energy.

Utilities & Resource Management

Includes occupations that are engaged in assessment and planning for energy efficiency.

Design & Construction of New Buildings

Includes occupations that are focused on building and designing new energy efficient structures (residential and commercial focus, new structures only).

Retrofitting Homes

Includes occupations that are focused on building and designing energy efficient homes (residential focus, existing buildings only).

Retro-commissioning Buildings

Includes occupations that are focused on building and designing energy efficient facilities (commercial focus, existing buildings only).

Facility or Building Operation & Maintenance

Includes occupations focused on repair and maintenance of new energy efficiency systems that are used in new and retrofitted buildings and facilities.

Regional Snapshot

Eight energy efficiency occupations were identified as high-growth and can be trained for at community colleges. Below is a table that details these occupations and their growth potential in Los Angeles County. More detailed occupational information is available in the complete environmental scan (see Appendix J) at www.coecc.net/energy or visit online.onetcenter.org.

Energy Efficiency Occupations	2009 Employment Estimate	3-year Projected Growth	Growth Rate	Entry Level Median Annual Wage	Experienced Level Median Annual Wage
Project managers for construction or design work	5,000	970	19%	\$50,000	\$75,000
Building performance or retrofitting specialists	2,710	1,870	69%	\$40,000	\$60,000
HVAC mechanics, technicians or installers	3,010	1,020	34%	\$50,000	\$75,000
Energy auditors or home energy raters	1,340	520	39%	\$41,600	\$59,800
Resource conservation or energy efficiency managers	1,820	480	26%	\$55,000	\$66,300
Building controls systems technician	1,970	410	21%	\$41,600	\$70,000
Compliance analyst or energy regulation specialists	1,670	370	59%	\$52,000	\$76,500
Building operators or building engineers	3,280	710	23%	\$42,900	\$55,300
Total, All Occupations (totals may not add due to rounding)	20,730	6,580			

Student Tips

- **Skills Employers Seek:** Employers emphasize that communication skills [written and verbal] are the most important skills they value in new employees.
- **Internships Encouraged:** A recent survey of energy efficiency firms in Los Angeles revealed that 71% of employers expressed interest in working with colleges to provide four to six month internships for students. Some of the key associations connected to employers working within the energy efficiency sector include:
 - Building Owners and Managers Association [BOMA], www.bomagla.org
 - US Green Building Council, Los Angeles Chapter, www.usgbc-la.org
 - International Facility Management Association [IFMA], www.ifmala.org
 - American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers [ASHRAE], www.ashrae.org

For an expanded list of community support and resources in Los Angeles, download the complete environmental scan at www.coecc.net/energy.

Educational Track

Here is a listing of community colleges in the Los Angeles area offering energy efficiency industry programs. For more information, access the complete environmental scan at www.coecc.net/energy.

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COLLEGE	Energy Efficiency Occupations							
	Energy Auditor or Home Energy Rater	Building Performance or Retro-fitting Specialist	Compliance Analyst or Energy Regulation Specialist	Project Manager for Construction or Design Work	HVAC Mechanic, Technician or Installer	Resource Conservation or Energy Efficiency Manager	Building Controls Systems Technician	Building Operator or Building Engineer
	Level of Preparation for and Programs Related to Each Occupation							
Citrus				C – X	C – X		D – C – X	
East Los Angeles	X		X			X		
El Camino	P	P	P		D – C – X			
Glendale	P							
LA Trade Tech	C – X	C – X			D – C – X	X	X	C – X
Mt. San Antonio					D – C – X		D – C – X	
Pierce	P							

Types of Education/Training Program

P = Courses or Programs Planned For but not Currently Offered

X = Course; C = Certificate Program(s); D = Degree Program(s)