

Glendale Community College



MONTROSE CAMPUS

Overview

- Program demand and development
- Property details
- Program demand
- Planned partnership
- Implementation timeline



Service Area Needs: Aging Population

City of Glendale

- Population: 187,050
- 34,417 (18.4%) of residents are 65+

Surrounding Communities

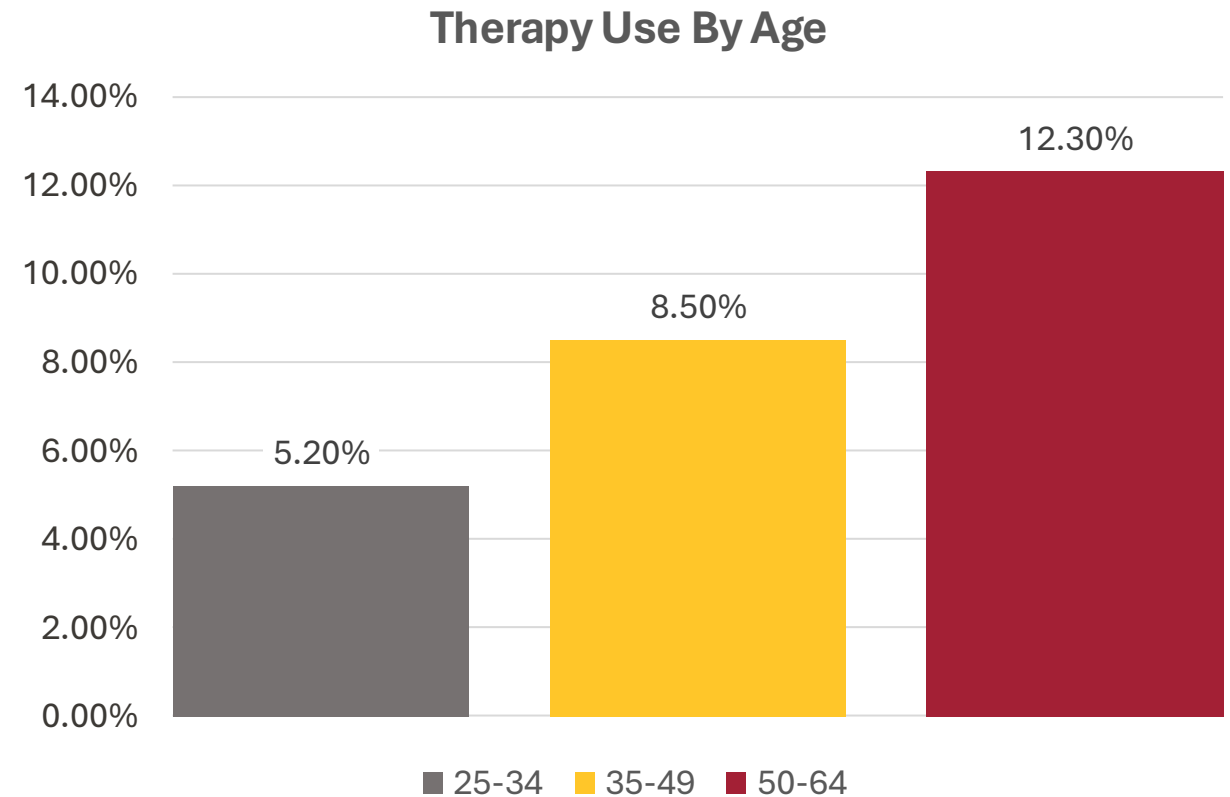
- La Crescenta-Montrose: 18% of residents are 65+
- La Cañada Flintridge: 18.9% of residents are 65+

Healthcare Needs

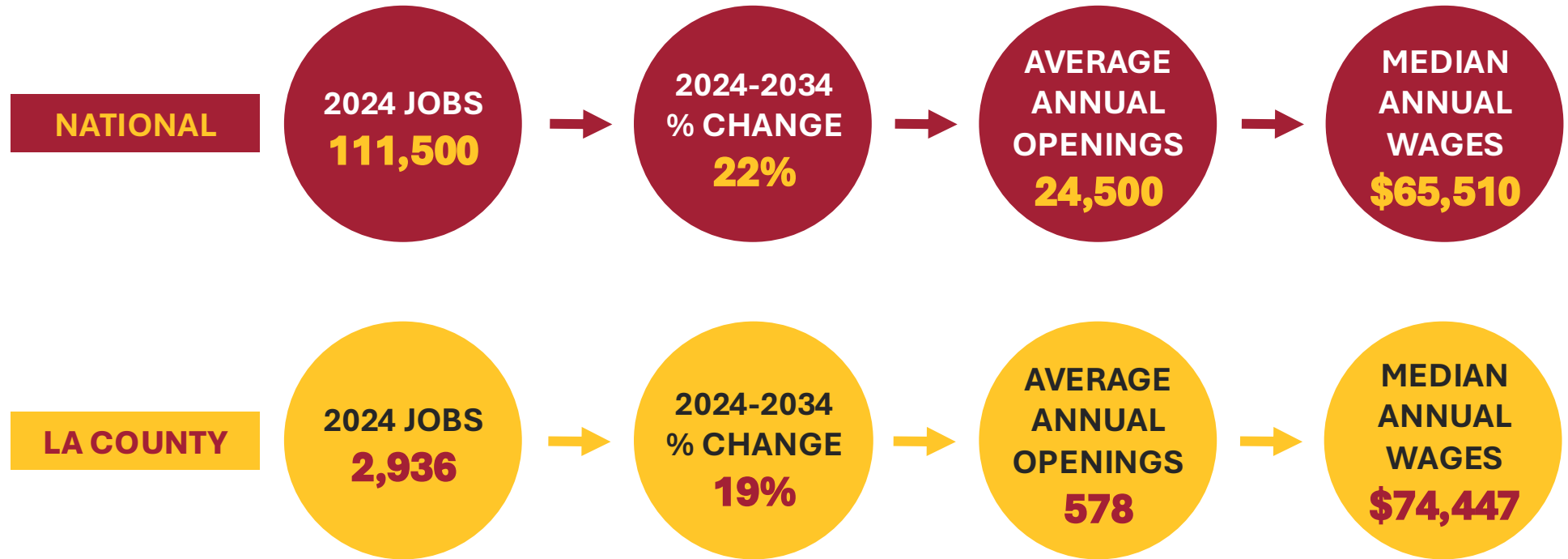
The National Center for Health Statistics (2022) found that use of therapy services increases with age, including:

- Physical therapy
- Speech therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Occupational therapy

CDC/NCHS, Boersma & Cohen. *Physical, speech, rehabilitative, or occupational therapy use among adults aged 25–64, by veteran status: U.S., 2019–2020*. Data Brief No. 439, 2022. Chart reflects non-veteran populations.



Physical Therapy Assistant Employment Outlook



Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm> (visited November 16, 2025).

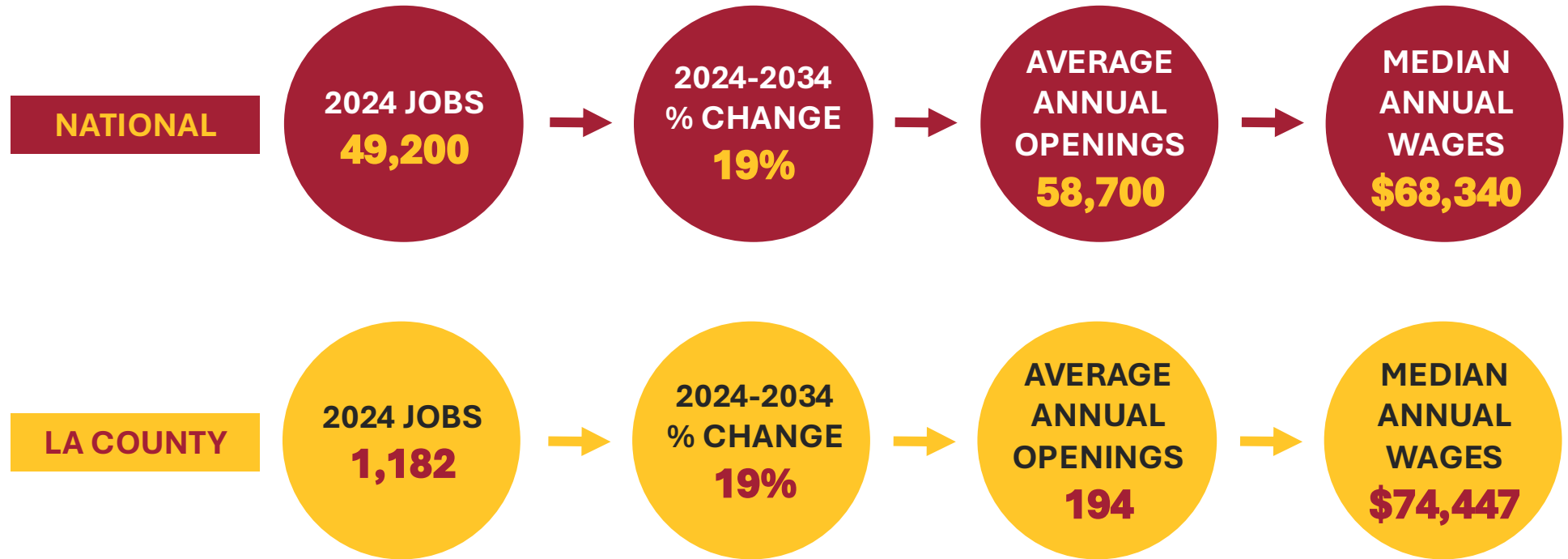
Centers of Excellence California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. (n.d.). *Data tools*. COECCC. Retrieved from <https://coeccc.net/data-tools/>

Physical Therapy Assistant Programs

- Regional schools produce only an average 27 program completers per year, including non-degree certificate programs.¹
- Most PTA programs in California are private, for-profit, with much higher tuition than public options.
- The state's largest AA-granting PTA program charges nearly \$50,000 in tuition.
- Only 11 California community colleges offer Physical Therapy coursework; the closest is Cerritos College in Norwalk.

¹California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. (n.d.). Data tools. <https://coeccc.net/data-tools/>

Occupational Therapy Assistant Employment Outlook



Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Physical Therapist Assistants and Aides, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm> (visited November 16, 2025).

Centers of Excellence California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. (n.d.). *Data tools*. COECCC. Retrieved from <https://coeccc.net/data-tools/>

Occupational Therapy Assistant Programs

- Regional schools produce only an average 10 Occupational Therapy Technology program completers per year, including non-degree certificate programs.¹
- No public programs in Los Angeles County currently produce graduates.
- For-profit colleges in LA cost about \$50,000—similar to PTA program costs.
- The state's largest OTA program charges over \$50,000 per semester, totaling more than \$200,000 for an AA degree.
- Only four community colleges offer Occupational Therapy coursework; the closest is Santa Ana College in Orange County.

¹California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. (n.d.). Data tools. <https://coeccc.net/data-tools/>

PTA/OTA Need

- Demand for PTA and OTA services is expected to increase as the local population ages.
- There is a need for more education and training options for PTA and OTA degrees and certifications.
- Community-based OT and PT services offer flexibility and support for residents and clinical partners.



Initial Sponsoring Faculty



PHYSICAL THERAPY

Dr. Sara Hirahara

Doctor of Physical Therapy
Mount Saint Mary's University

BA Anthropology
University of California, Los Angeles



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Laura Matsumoto

MA Occupational Therapy
University of Southern California

BA Sociology
Wilamette University

Program Accreditation

Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)

- Nationally recognized accrediting agency approved by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).
- CAPTE accredits entry-level programs for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.
- Accreditation is a voluntary, non-governmental, peer-reviewed process that occurs on a regular basis ensuring educational quality.
- CAPTE accreditation is required for graduates to be eligible for licensure.

Physical Therapy Board of California (PTBC)

- State regulatory agency responsible for protecting the public by overseeing the practice of physical therapy in California.
- Licenses and regulates physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)

- Nationally recognized accrediting agency approved by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).
- ACOTE accredits entry-level programs for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.
- Graduates from ACOTE-accredited programs are eligible to sit for the state licensure exam.

California Board of Occupational Therapy (CBOT)

- State agency responsible for regulating the practice of occupational therapy in California.
- Licenses occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants.

Clinical Fieldwork

Program Requirements

- Physical Therapist Assistant Program – up to 520 clinical fieldwork hours
- Occupational Therapy Assistant Program – up to 640 clinical fieldwork hours
- A strong clinical partner is essential as these hours cannot be replaced or substituted with any type of virtual or simulation training

Partnership with USC

- Two-year program
- Starting cohort of 15 students in each program for a total of 60 students
- 20,000 hours of clinical rotations through a year-long period
- Approximately 35-40 hours per week for 16 weeks for each student.
- Student clinical rotations conducted with Keck Medicine on the clinical floor of the Montrose facility.

Instructional Facilities

Learning Spaces

- Lecture
- Lab
 - Hospital / clinical setting
 - Home setting (kitchen, bedroom, bathroom)
 - Specialized equipment

Clinical Spaces





GCC Montrose Campus

2350 Honolulu Avenue, Montrose

- Purchased in 2018 for \$3,350,000
- Built in 1956; last renovation 1974
- ~11,300 usable square footage

Professional Development Center

2340 Honolulu Avenue, Montrose

- Opened in 1985
- ~11,300 usable square footage



Montrose Community

- Residential neighborhood behind the campus facility.
- Commercial properties nearby including restaurants, shopping, medical, and financial.
- Need for an academic footprint that benefits the community and provides support beyond class offerings.



Clinical Partner: USC Verdugo Hills Hospital

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital was established in 1947 as Behrens Memorial Hospital. Instead of attempting to expand the Behrens facility, a new hospital was built on the hilltop land donated by the Greene family. In 1972, Verdugo Hills Hospital was created as an independent, 158-bed acute care facility serving patients in Glendale, La Cañada Flintridge, and the surrounding Foothill communities.

USC offers nationally-ranked programs in physical and occupational therapy.





- Partnership to develop GCC Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) and Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) programs with support from USC.
- Joint use facility agreement with GCC and USC.
- Clinical floor to support the community with occupational and physical therapy provided through Keck Medicine.
- Educational floor for GCC program offerings and faculty offices.
- Student clinical rotations conducted on the clinical floor.
- Streamlined pathway for student career opportunities.

License Agreement

- Determination of mutual benefit from the program and use of facilities
- Determination of market rate for property using original assessment and local comparisons
- Establishment of license for use agreement with USC
 - Allows use of the facility for the purpose of OT/PT clinical service
 - Charges fair market rate
 - Service agreement with USC that will include graduate level faculty supporting the development of the College OTA and PTA program, including support in accreditation processes and recruitment of faculty.

USC Support

- Curriculum development
- Accreditation review
- Faculty recruitment
- Clinical placements for students



Creative Ideation

- Community offerings
- Sports medicine
- Aquatic therapy
- Pediatric specialties
- Supportive training opportunities



Implementation Timeline

2026

USC Verdugo Hills Hospital moves physical and occupational therapy clinics to current PDC site in Montrose allowing for expansion of community emergency services at the hospital.



2026-2029

USC supports GCC with curriculum development and accreditation processes for PTA and OTA programs.

USC and GCC develop program and site plans for Montrose Campus.



2029-2031

Construction of Montrose Campus and opening of the GCC PTA/OTA programs.