

# Occupational Therapy Assistant

## Associate of Applied Science

An Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) works under the direction of an Occupational Therapist to provide rehabilitative services to persons with mental, physical, emotional or developmental impairments with the ultimate goal to improve the client's quality of life and ability to perform daily activities.

In 2018, occupational therapy assistants held approximately 51,700 jobs. The median annual wage for occupational therapy assistants was \$61,510 in May 2019. Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019.

### Prerequisites

The student will need to demonstrate proficiencies in reading, English, and mathematics based on the Mandatory Placement Policy, or by taking the recommended/ required classes. Some of the courses in this curriculum have specific prerequisites.

### Program Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the history and philosophical base of the profession of occupational therapy.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the dynamics of occupation and activity, including the interaction of areas of occupation, performance skills and patterns, activity demands, context, and client factors.
3. Describe models of practice and frames of reference that are used in occupational therapy.
4. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of occupational therapy interventions and procedures to enhance safety, wellness, and performance in activities of daily living (ADL).
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the occupational therapy assistant in care coordination, case management, and transition services in traditional and emerging practice environments.
6. Demonstrate the ability to effectively interact through written, oral, and nonverbal communication with the client, family, significant others, colleagues, other health providers, and the public in a professionally acceptable manner.
7. Describe the contexts of health care, education, community, and social models or systems as they relate to the practice of occupational therapy.
8. Identify the varied roles of the occupational therapy assistant as a practitioner, educator, and research assistant.

### For More Information Contact:

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### Program Prerequisites General Education

		Cr. Hrs
*CURR 100	First Year Seminar	1
ENGL 101	English Composition I	3
ALHE 105	Medical Terminology	3
CSIS 105	Computer Literacy	1
PSYC 155	General Psychology	3
BIOL 257	Human Anatomy and Physiology	3
BIOL 258	Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab	2
All A & P courses must be taken within 5 years of starting OTA courses.		
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>

The above general education courses must be completed with a grade of A, B, or C prior to taking OTA courses.

\*Students entering NCCC direct from high school are required to enroll in CURR 100. Students transferring in 15 or more credits from an accredited post-secondary institution are exempt from enrolling in CURR 100.

### Program Requirements

#### Spring Semester

OTA 100	Principles of Occupational Therapy	3
OTA 102	Occupational Therapy Skills Through the Lifespan	3
OTA 103	Fieldwork and Practice – Level I-A	1
OTA 104	Occupational Disruption & Activity Analysis	3
OTA 110	Kinesiology for the OTA	2
OTA 111	Kinesiology for the OTA Lab	1
**PSYC 263	Developmental Psychology	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>

#### Summer Semester

OTA 200	Mental Health and Psychosocial Practice	2
OTA 202	Documentation Guidelines	1
OTA 204	Pediatric Practice for OTA	3
**COMM 207	Fundamentals of Speech OR	3
**COMM 213	Interpersonal Communication	
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>

#### Fall Semester

OTA 205	Fieldwork and Practice – Level I-B	1
OTA 206	Core Skills & Modalities in Occupational Therapy	3
OTA 208	Clinical Applications Physiological Diagnosis	3
OTA 210	Clinical Applications Neurological Diagnosis	3
OTA 212	Management and Legal Issues in Occupational Therapy	2
**SOSC 100	Introduction to Sociology	3

\*\*General education program requirements can be taken any time before OR during semesters of OTA coursework (excluding Fieldwork-Level II semester).

**Total** **15**

#### Spring Semester (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)

OTA 214	Fieldwork – Level II-A	6
OTA 216	Fieldwork – Level II-B	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>

**Total Program Credits** **68**

The occupational therapy assistant program has full accreditation status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Blvd., Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and the website link is [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org). Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). In addition, most states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.



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