

Occupational Therapy Assistant (9355)

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Occupational therapy assistants work under the supervision of qualified occupational therapists. They collaborate in the formulation of a treatment plan, deliver therapeutic interventions to address various disabilities, advocate for the rehabilitation needs of their patients and clients, educate patients and families on effective therapy participation, and accurately document occupational therapy services for reimbursement. They work with people of all ages in a variety of work settings which include hospitals, nursing homes, school systems, outpatient centers, specialized rehabilitation facilities, and mental health programs.

Lakeland's Occupational Therapy Assistant degree program prepares students to be competent entry-level therapy assistants. Upon satisfactory completion of the program requirements, graduates are eligible to apply for certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) and licensure through the appropriate state agency. Students convicted of any felony or misdemeanor may be prohibited from applying for the certification examination.

Students must be admitted to the Occupational Therapy Assistant program to enroll in OTAS courses. Other courses may be taken prior to admission to the program.

All students enrolled in a nursing or allied health program/certificate must complete a criminal background check. In accordance with clinical site requirements, students with a criminal record may be ineligible to participate in a clinical fieldwork rotation. Delays, for any reason, in obtaining background results may cause an interruption in the clinical rotation sequence or inability to complete program requirements. Additional background screening may be required by individual facilities.

Drug testing may be requested in accordance with clinical affiliation requirements and/or for patient/ student health and safety.

A minimum GPA of 2.0 and a "C" grade or higher is required in all occupational therapy assistant and general education courses as listed in the curriculum guide for the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Occupational Therapy Assisting.

OTA PROGRAM ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

The occupational therapy assistant program has applied for accreditation and has been granted Candidacy Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is <http://acoteonline.org>. The program must have a preaccreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates 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, all 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.

Admission Procedures

Students must meet specific admission requirements for this program. Listed below are requirements for admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant program:

Option 1: High School Option

This option is for current high school seniors or high school graduates who apply to the program within two years of high school graduation.

- Complete college application(s).
- Composite score of 21 or higher on the American College Test (ACT) or combined score of 940 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).
- Place into MATH 1330 Statistics for the Health Sciences or higher or pass MATH 0850 Beginning Algebra.
- Complete high school algebra, chemistry, and biology with a "C" grade or higher.
- An overall high school GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent.
- Meet with a counselor to review program prerequisites and requirements.
- Complete a minimum of 20 hours of observation in an occupational therapy department under the supervision of a licensed OT or OTA. The hours must be in a minimum of two different occupational therapy settings, ten hours at each site. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact an occupational therapy department to arrange for this observation. It is advisable to begin your observation experiences as soon as possible to ensure this career path is the most appropriate for you.

Upon successful completion of the above criteria, the applicant will be admitted into the program. Students must complete HLTH 1215 Medical Terminology for Health Professions with a "C" grade or higher prior to enrolling in their first health technology course.

Option 2: College Option

This option is for students who do not qualify for admission under Option 1.

- Complete college application(s).
- Submit high school transcript as well as any college transcript(s).
- Successful passing score on the required program pre-admission test.
- Meet with a counselor to review program prerequisites and requirements.
- Complete a minimum of 20 hours of observation in an occupational therapy department under the supervision of a licensed OT or OTA. The hours must be in a minimum of two different occupational therapy settings, ten hours at each site. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact an occupational therapy department to arrange for this observation. It is advisable to begin your observation experiences as soon as possible to ensure this career path is the most appropriate for you.
- The following courses, or equivalent courses from other regionally accredited colleges, must be completed with a "C" grade or higher and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher:
 - HLTH 1215 Medical Terminology for Health Professions
 - BIOL 2210 Anatomy and Physiology I

NOTE: Students must meet one of these requirements to take BIOL 2210 Anatomy and Physiology I with a "C" or higher:

1. High school biology within last five years and high school chemistry.
2. High school biology within last five years and CHEM 1100 Elementary Chemistry.
3. BIOL 1200 Fundamentals of Biology for the Health Technologies

Students are required to take the Math Placement Test and be placed into MATH 1330 Statistics for the Health Sciences or higher or complete MATH 0850 Beginning Algebra with a "C" grade or higher.




Option 3: Advanced Education Option














Students pursuing this option must have an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing or Allied Health, Bachelor of Science Degree in a natural science, or an Associate of Science Degree to be waived from the preadmission testing. All other Option 2 requirements apply.

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Curriculum Plan for students entering the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program in 2018-19:

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Semester		
BIOL 2210	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
ENGL 1110 or ENGL 1111	English Composition I (A) ¹ or English Composition I (B)	3
FYEX 1000	First Year Experience	1
HLTH 1215	Medical Terminology for Health Professions	3
OTAS 1100	Foundations of Occupational Therapy 	2
OTAS 1130	Special Topics in OT I: Activity and Occupation 	2
OTAS 1140	Special Topics in OT II: Documentation 	1
Credit Hours		16
Second Semester		
BIOL 2220	Anatomy and Physiology II	4

		3
OTAS 1200	Foundations of Development Disabilities 	3
OTAS 1210	Techniques in Developmental Disabilities 	2
OTAS 1230	Functional Anatomy and Kinesiology for the OTA 	3
PSYC 1500	Introduction to Psychology	3
2nd 8 weeks		
OTAS 1220	Level I Fieldwork and Seminar: Developmental Disabilities 	1
	Credit Hours	16
Summer Semester 1		
COMM 1000 or COMM 1100	Effective Public Speaking or Effective Interpersonal Communications	3
MATH 1330	Statistics for the Health Sciences ²	3
PSYC 2100	Lifespan Development for Nursing	3
	Credit Hours	9
Third Semester		
OTAS 2100	Foundations of Physical Dysfunction 	3
OTAS 2110	Techniques in Physical Dysfunction 	2
OTAS 2130	Foundations and Techniques of Neurological Rehabilitation 	3
PSYC 2700	Abnormal Psychology	3
2nd 8 weeks		
OTAS 2120	Level I Fieldwork and Seminar: Physical Dysfunction 	1
	Credit Hours	12
Fourth Semester		
1st 8 weeks		
OTAS 2200	Foundations of Psychosocial Dysfunction 	2
OTAS 2210	Techniques and Fieldwork in Psychosocial Dysfunction 	1
OTAS 2230	Special Topics in OT III: Professional Development and Management 	1
2nd 8 weeks		
OTAS 2250	Level IIA Fieldwork 	4
	Credit Hours	8
Summer Semester 2		
8 Week Session		
OTAS 2350	Level IIB Fieldwork 	4
	Credit Hours	4
	Total Credit Hours	65

¹ English course selection is based on placement test results (ENGL 1111 English Composition I (B) is 4 credits, only 3 credits apply to the degree).

² Students planning to transfer to a four-year college should take a sequence of math as advised by their counselor.

 This course is designated as a technical course in the program. Students must earn a "C" grade or higher in the course to fulfill the college's graduation requirements policy.

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