

OTA Program Goals

1. In conjunction with the Mission Statement of Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus: To prepare students who demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to provide occupational therapy services to diverse populations in current and emerging settings and to become contributing members of the workforce and society.
2. To provide an educational program that admits students using procedures and practices which assure nondiscrimination and equal opportunity.
3. To provide an educational program that is compliant with the accreditation criteria established by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE).
4. To partner with the community in order to provide the most geographically relevant lab and fieldwork placements for the Ozark Campus' OTA students.
5. For graduates of the OTA program to pass the National OTA Certification Exam and become certified Occupational Therapy Assistants (COTAs).
6. For employers of the Ozark Campus' OTA program to be satisfied with the entry-level job skills of graduates.

OTA Student Outcomes

Each course on the OTA curriculum has specific outcomes that will be measured through ongoing assessment. We expect that through successful completion of the entire OTA course sequence including Fieldwork completion, the following student outcomes will be achieved:

1. For students to have a sound theoretical knowledge base in the basic tenants of occupational therapy and demonstrate competence in clinical skills.
2. For students to, under the supervision of an OTR, demonstrate the following skills:
 - a. assist with data collection and evaluation
 - b. administer standardized tests once competency has been established
 - c. develop and modify intervention and treatment
 - d. select, adapt and implement intervention
 - e. adapt environments, materials or activities for intervention
 - f. communicate and collaborate with team members, patients, family members or caregivers
 - g. maintain records and documentation
 - h. assist with discharge planning and home programs
 - i. the ability to function effectively as a group leader
 - j. teach processes involved in tasks and activities useful for attaining and maintaining functional skills

3. For students to develop an appreciation for and desire to participate in life-long learning for the betterment of himself and the profession. For the student to understand evidence-based practice and use research and theoretical knowledge to help determine best practice.
4. For students to remain current with the latest technology available to the profession.
5. For the student to take the unique cultural, socioeconomic, geographic characteristics of an individual and family and center OT intervention on the client.
6. For the student to understand a client's age and generational differences and be a provider of OT services throughout the lifespan.
7. For the student to demonstrate the understanding of and ability to apply the "therapeutic use of self" in practice.
8. For the student to function as a professional according to the AOTA Code of Ethics (AOTA, 2010) and Standards of Practice (AOTA, 2010) and the Arkansas State Medical Board Practices Acts and Regulations (2011).