

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

## ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is designed to prepare successful graduates for entry-level employment in the field of as Occupational Therapy Assistants. A Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA), under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist, provides rehabilitative services to individuals with mental, physical, emotional, or developmental disabilities.

The COTA's purpose is to improve a client's quality of life and enhance his/her ability to perform daily activities. COTAs provide clients with adaptive skills that enable them to reenter the workforce, instruct clients in compensating for a loss of motor skill function, and plan activities that increase the independence of those with disabilities.

The OTA program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org).

Graduates of this program will be able to sit for the national certification examination for occupational therapy assistants administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a 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.

Prior to admission to the technical phase of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, students must complete a platform of 28 hours which includes general education and medical courses. Students must also hold a current CPR for Health Care Providers certification prior to the first day of class. Students must submit an application to the program and meet entrance requirements for acceptance into the technical phase of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

*Students who are pursuing a program of study where admission is limited (Cardiac Sonography, Cosmetology, Medical Assistant, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Paramedic/Emergency Medical Services, Physical Therapist Assistant, Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing), will be assigned a major of Associate of General Studies until admitted into their selected program.*

Students are advised that the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program (OTA) is strenuous in nature. Students are therefore not allowed to take additional course work that is not directly related to their degree plan while in the OTA Program. If a student has completed all general education course requirements prior to entering the program, the student may not have a full load of twelve credit hours or more (which could affect financial aid eligibility).

The OTA Program is very intense and requires approximately 30-36 hours per week of theory /lab/fieldwork. This does not include prep or study time. The hours ascribed to each semester while in the OTA Program are considered by the program to be full time.

### Curriculum

The matrix below is a sample plan for all coursework required for this program.

(71 Semester Hours)

#### Fall

Course Number and Name	Credits
BST 1303 Introduction to Computers or CIS 1113 Fundamental Computer Operation	3
ENGL 1013 <i>Must pass with a "C" or better</i>	3
HSCI 1113 Medical Terminology <i>Must pass with a "C" or better</i>	3
HSCI 1123 Human Anatomical Structure I <i>Must pass with a "C" or better</i>	3
MATH 1003 or MATH 1113 <i>Must pass with a "C" or better</i>	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

**Spring**

Course Number and Name	Credits
BIOL 1014 or PHSC 1013 and PHSC 1021	4
ENGL 1023 <i>Must pass with a "C" or better</i>	3
HSCI 1243 Human Anatomical Structure II <i>(prerequisite: HIT 1123)</i> <i>Must pass with a "C" or better</i>	3
PSY 2003	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13</b>

Students must apply to and be admitted into the technical phase of the program before taking any of the OTA courses below.

**Fall**

Course Number and Name	Credits
OTA 2102 Foundations of Occupational Therapy	2
OTA 2111 Level I Field Work A	1
OTA 2112 Modalities for Human Conditions I with Laboratory	2
OTA 2122 Human Movement and Activity Analysis for Occupational Therapy Laboratory	2
OTA 2132 Human Movement and Activity Analysis for Occupational Therapy	2
OTA 2142 Medical Conditions for the Occupational Therapy Assistant	2
OTA 2152 Theory and Treatment for Human Conditions I	1
OTA 2221 Documentation for Occupational Therapy	1
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>14</b>

**Spring**

Course Number and Name	Credits
OTA 2162 Management and Licensure for the Occupational Therapy Assistant	2
OTA 2202 Human Occupation and Clinical Reasoning	2
OTA 2211 Level I Field Work B	1
OTA 2212 Modalities for Human Conditions II with Laboratory	2
OTA 2232 Group Processes and Dynamics	2
OTA 2242 Human Occupation and Clinical Reasoning Laboratory	2
OTA 2252 Theory and Treatment for Human Conditions II	2
OTA 2262 Assistive Technology and Environmental Adaptations	2

Course Number and Name	Credits
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

**Summer**

Course Number and Name	Credits
OTA 2302 Occupational Therapy Assistant Professional Development	2
OTA 2312 Modalities for Human Conditions III with Laboratory	2
OTA 2352 Theory and Treatment for Human Conditions III	2
OTA 2412 Level II Field Work A-1	2
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>8</b>

**Fall**

Course Number and Name	Credits
OTA 2422 Level II Field Work A-2	2
OTA 2424 Level II Field Work B	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>6</b>