

Occupational Therapy Assistant

The Occupational Therapy Assistant curriculum prepares individuals to work under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist in screening, assessing, planning, and implementing treatment as well as documenting progress for clients receiving occupational therapy services.

Course work focuses on human growth and development, conditions that interfere with activities of daily living, theory, and process of occupational therapy, individual or group treatment activities, the therapeutic use of self, activity analysis as well as grading or adapting activities and environments.

Graduates may be eligible to take the national certification examination for practice as a certified occupational therapy assistant. Employment opportunities include hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, long-term or extended care facilities, sheltered workshops, schools, outpatient clinics, home health programs, and community programs.

For specific information about potential positions and wages in occupational therapy assistant employment, visit the Central Piedmont Career Coach website.

Occupational Therapy Assistant (A45500) Degree Awarded

An Associate in Applied Science Degree is awarded by the college upon completion of this program.

Admissions

- A high school diploma or equivalent is required.
- Complete a general admission application to Central Piedmont.
- Take the required placement tests.
- Meet with an academic advisor or counselor for preliminary counseling.
- Take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS).
- Submit all official high school and college transcripts to Admissions, Records & Registration.
- Complete any required preparatory courses with a grade of "C" or better.
- Upon acceptance and enrollment in the program, students must take all courses as scheduled and sequenced.
- Continued progression in the program requires a grade of "C" or better in every course.
- Complete a physical examination (including drug screen) documenting the ability to complete all program requirements.
- Many courses have prerequisites or co-requisites; check the Courses section for details.
- Fieldwork II placements must be completed within 12 months of completion of didactic course work.

Program Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Assistant 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 20852-49299.

The council may be contacted online in the care of AOTA or by phone at 301.652.AOTA (2682).

Notes

Students spend more than 600 hours of supervised training in hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, pediatric, mental health, and other settings to gain invaluable hands-on experience that supplements and complements traditional classroom learning.

Graduates of the program are 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, individuals are Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants (COTA).

In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice. Eligibility for state licenses usually is based on results of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

Please Note: a felony conviction may affect a graduate's eligibility to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or to attain state licensure.

Contact Information

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is in the Therapy and Acute Care Division. For more information, visit the Occupational Therapy Assistant. For further assistance, contact the Program Chair at 704.330.6756.

General Education Requirements

ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	3.0
PSY 150	General Psychology	3.0
ACA 122	College Transfer Success	1.0
Take 3 credits from the following:		3.0
COM 110	Introduction to Communication	
COM 231	Public Speaking	
Take 3 credits from the following:		3.0
MAT 110	Mathematical Measurement and Literacy	
MAT 143	Quantitative Literacy	
MAT 152	Statistical Methods I	
MAT 171	Precalculus Algebra	
Select 3 credits of the following:		3.0
ART 111	Art Appreciation	
ART 114	Art History Survey I	
ART 115	Art History Survey II	
DRA 111	Theatre Appreciation	
HUM 120	Cultural Studies	
HUM 130	Myth in Human Culture	
MUS 110	Music Appreciation	
MUS 112	Introduction to Jazz	
PHI 215	Philosophical Issues	
PHI 240	Introduction to Ethics	
REL 110	World Religions	

Major Requirements

OTA 110	Fundamentals of OT	3.0
OTA 120	OT Media I	2.0
OTA 130	Assessment Skills	3.0
OTA 140	Professional Skills I	1.0

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OTA 150	Pediatric Concepts and Interventions	3.0
OTA 161	Fieldwork I-Placement 1	1.0
OTA 162	Fieldwork I-Placement 2	1.0
OTA 163	Fieldwork I-Placement 3	1.0
OTA 170	Physical Conditions	3.0
OTA 180	Psychosocial Conditions	3.0
OTA 220	OT Media II	3.0
OTA 240	Professional Skills II	1.0
OTA 250	Adult Concepts and Interventions	3.0
OTA 260	Level II Fieldwork Placement 1	6.0
OTA 261	Level II Fieldwork Placement 2	6.0
PSY 241	Developmental Psychology	3.0
PSY 281	Abnormal Psychology	3.0
BIO 168	Anatomy and Physiology I	4.0
or BIO 165	Anatomy and Physiology I	
Other Major Requirements:		
OTA 280	Professional Transitions	1.0
OTA 135	Kinesiology	1.0
BIO 169	Anatomy and Physiology II	4.0
or BIO 166	Anatomy and Physiology II	
MED 120	Survey of Medical Terminology	2.0
or MED 121	Medical Terminology I	
Total Credits		74

No diplomas are offered for Occupational Therapy Assistant.

No certificates are offered for Occupational Therapy Assistant.

Occupational Therapy Assistant Suggested Course Sequence

The following is the suggested plan for when to take each course to complete the Associate in Applied Science degree, based on the program requirements of the 2024-2025 catalog. This is only a recommendation — you may take courses in another order upon consultation with your advisor. This plan is based on you starting with college-level math and English courses, starting your program in the fall, and attending full-time. You can also follow this sequence if you attend part-time. Speak with your academic advisor about the plan and any questions. This program might also offer diplomas or certificates; visit the catalog or contact the program for details. Visit the Academic Advising page for instructions on locating your assigned advisor: <https://www.cpcc.edu/academics/academic-advising>

Term I		Credits
OTA 110	Fundamentals of OT	3.0
OTA 120	OT Media I	2.0
OTA 140	Professional Skills I	1.0
BIO 168	Anatomy and Physiology I	4.0
MED 120	Survey of Medical Terminology	2.0
ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	3.0
ACA 122	College Transfer Success	1.0
Credits		16
Term II		
BIO 169	Anatomy and Physiology II	4.0
PSY 150	General Psychology	3.0

COM 110	Introduction to Communication	3.0
Credits		10
Term III		
OTA 130	Assessment Skills	3.0
OTA 135	Kinesiology	1.0
OTA 170	Physical Conditions	3.0
PSY 281	Abnormal Psychology	3.0
OTA 161	Fieldwork I-Placement 1	1.0
Credits		11
Term IV		
OTA 150	Pediatric Concepts and Interventions	3.0
OTA 180	Psychosocial Conditions	3.0
OTA 250	Adult Concepts and Interventions	3.0
OTA 240	Professional Skills II	1.0
OTA 162	Fieldwork I-Placement 2	1.0
PSY 241	Developmental Psychology	3.0
Credits		14
Term V		
OTA 220	OT Media II	3.0
OTA 163	Fieldwork I-Placement 3	1.0
Humanities/Fine Arts		3.0
MAT 110	Mathematical Measurement and Literacy	3.0
Credits		10
Term VI		
OTA 260	Level II Fieldwork Placement 1	6.0
OTA 261	Level II Fieldwork Placement 2	6.0
OTA 280	Professional Transitions	1.0
Credits		13
Total Credits		74