The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

A-B Tech Community College

Who we are

Heather Hall MPPA, MS, OTR/L Christine Lomax BFA, COTA/L Courses and Curriculum

Fieldwork

The Certification Exam

The Admissions Process

General Requirements **Prerequisites**

Should I Be an OTA Practitioner Quiz?

1. Are you a good listener?

- 1. Yes! Friends and family often come to me either for advice or just to use me as a sounding board.
- 2. Sort of, I enjoy talking to others, but I don't know whether I'd be considered a good listener.
- 3. No, I don't communicate well with others or I tend to talk over them.

2. Do you mind close physical contact with others?

- 1. No problem.
- 2. It's ok, as long as they aren't sick.
- 3. No way! I need my personal space.

3. How patient are you?

- 1. Somewhat. I like to keep to a schedule though, and get thrown off if things don't stay on track.
- 2. I am very patient. I am willing to take the time to work through any issues that arise in life and my profession.
- 3. Not at all. I'm always in a hurry!

4. Do you enjoy helping others?

- 1. Yes! I have always been drawn to helping others with problems.
- 2. Sort of, and I think I've gotten better at helping others over time or it is something I'd like to get better at.
- 3. No, I can't help but feel a little annoyed when people can't just help themselves.

5. Are you organized?

- 1. Yes, I like things to be neat and organized.
- 2. Sort of, but please don't look at my room in my house.
- 3. No way. I'm a mess.

6. How creative are you?

- 1. Very. I'm crafty, creative, and can come up with new ideas quickly.
- 2. Somewhat. I tend to follow directions, but I can be creative as well.
- 3. Not at all. I need every step of a process spelled out to get things done.

7. Do you have enough physical strength to help others complete complex tasks?

- 1. Yes. I don't mind bending, stooping, lifting,- sounds like a great way to get exercise in!
- 2. I think so.
- 3. No, I am basically a couch potato.

8. Are you punctual?

- 1. Yes, I always show up on time for appointments.
- 2. I try to be, but sometimes things come up.
- 3. No, I'm always running late.

9. How to you deal with bodily fluids?

- 1. I am completely fine with them.
- 2. Ok. Sometimes I can get nauseous, but I get over it.
- 3. I can't, I have a very sensitive stomach.

10. Can you handle most noxious smells?

- 1. Yes, most of the time.
- 2. Yes, but only for short period and then I get nauseas.
- 3. No, absolutely not. I get sick and have to flee the area.

Results: Add up your scores

>15 points — You have what it takes!

15 — 20 points- You will have to modify some characteristics, traits, and/or behaviors and do a little more research to see if this is the right career for you.

20-30 points — This probably isn't the career choice for you, you might want to research other Allied Health programs.

What does it take to become an OT Practitioner?

- Exceptional Communication Skills
- Outstanding Personal Skills
- Problem Solving Abilities
- Physical Strength
- Possess a Helpful Nature

- Organization Skills
- Compassion and Empathy
- Creativity
- Good Writing Skills
- Adequate Mental Wellness

OTAs Are Not...

Hypersensitive

Stubborn

Rigid

Inpatient

Pessimistic

Afraid

Intolerant

Judgmental

OTA 135 Kinesiology OTA 130 Assessment Skills OTA 170
Physical
Conditions

OTA 110 Fundamentals of OT

OTA 120 OT Media 1 OTA 140 Professional Skills 1 OTA 220 OT Media II OTA 245 Professional Skills III OTA 250 Adult Concepts and Interventions

OTA 240 Professional Skills II OTA 150
Peds Concepts
and
Interventions

OTA 180
Psychosocial
Conditions

Fieldwork

Designed to develop and polish observation skills

Following completion of Level II, students should be entry level practitioners, but not specialized

Requires:

Traveling

Childcare

Finances

Transportation

*Due to COVID 19, graduation may be delayed secondary to the lack of sites

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Fieldwork Cont.

CastleBranch

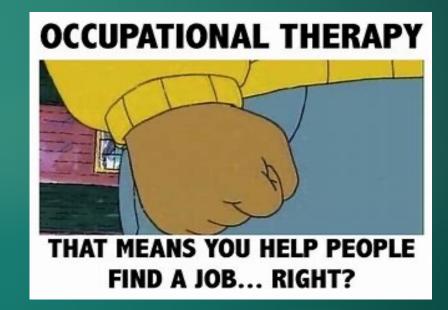
Schedule (occurs over the summer) and includes the

last 2 Level I FW placements

Will have the opportunity to experience different

settings

*Due to COVID 19, Level I FW placements may be provided through a virtual format



Practice Settings

OT's and OTA's work with individuals across the lifespan.



Practice Settings

Occupational Therapists work in 3 primary areas:

Physical Dysfunction

Psychosocial

Pediatrics



The Nuts and Bolts

Self Care is important! Must be emotionally equipped to work and give 100% to clients and their families.

Refer to AOTA's website <u>acta.org</u> for resources and learn about why others chose OT as a career.