

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM

Occupational Therapy is a health and wellness profession whose goal is to help people achieve independence and satisfaction an everyday life, no matter the barrier. Occupational Therapy helps people across the lifespan participate in the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of meaningful occupations. The Occupation Therapy practitioner provides “skills for the job of living” -those skills necessary to function where people live, learn and play. KVCC has the only OTA program in the State of Maine.

Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929, Telephone: 301-652-2682, Website: <https://www.acoteonline.org>

“I’ve dreamed of being in the occupational therapy field for almost 10 years and am so thrilled to have found this program. The OTA program at KVCC has exceeded my expectations. I am getting a high quality education from competent professors who are passionate about what they do. I know that I am getting a first class, relevant education that is preparing me to be a fully competent COTA.”



Help people regain function and independence



What Occupational Therapy Assistant graduates do:

- Create Occupation-based interventions
- Restore function through rehabilitation activities
- Teach Independent living skills/acquisition
- Analyze occupational performance
- Customize treatment programs
- Recommend environmental modifications
- Provide neuromuscular and sensory techniques
- Assess/train assistive technology
- Promote health and wellness

Career Opportunities:

- Hospitals
- Schools and early intervention settings
- Mental health inpatient/outpatient services
- Brain injury rehabilitation
- Inpatient/outpatient physical rehabilitation
- Workplace health centers
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Home health and in-home modifications

For further questions about this program, please contact: enrollment@kvcc.me.edu

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Associate in Applied Science Degree

First Semester

BIO213	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
ENG101	College Composition	3
OTS101	Introduction to Occupational Therapy and Human Occupation	7
PSY101	Introduction to Psychology	3

Second Semester

BIO214	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
OTS103	Functional Kinesiology	3
OTS104	Interpersonal Skills for the Practicing	1
OTS110	Occupational Therapy for Adults with Physical Disabilities I	3
OTS122	Occupational Therapy for Children and Youth	4
PSY215	Developmental Psychology	3

Summer Session (5 Weeks)

COM104	Introduction to Communication	3
OTS105	Fieldwork Education I	2
OTS107	Assistive Technology in OT Practice	1
OTS109	Group Process	1

Third Semester

OTS201	Practice Environments Seminar	2
OTS210	Occupational Therapy for Adults with Physical Disabilities II	4
OTS216	Occupational Therapy with Special Populations	2
OTS222	Psychosocial Aspects of Occupational Therapy Across the Life Span	5
SOC101	Introduction to Sociology	3

Fourth Semester

OTS206	OTA Fieldwork Education II, A	6
OTS208	OTA Fieldwork Education II, B	6

Total Credits **70**

CRITERIA FOR GRADUATION

Students must complete 70 credits in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, achieve a minimum grade of “C,” or “PASS” criteria, in all courses, and attain a final GPA of 2.00 or higher.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Associate in Applied Science Degree

DESCRIPTION

This two-year program prepares students to become entry-level Occupational Therapy Assistants in the Occupational Therapy profession. The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA/COTA) provides comprehensive OT services under the supervision of an occupational therapist (OT/OTR). OTA’s are valued members of the health care team. They assist people of all ages and walks of life to maximize engagement and participation in desired and expected daily life activities through the use of occupations. KVCC has the only OTA program in the State of Maine. Graduates are eligible to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam. Occupational Therapy Assistants must attain and maintain their own license in Maine.

PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is to prepare students to become competent Occupational Therapy Assistants who will provide Maine with a cadre of qualified and dedicated occupational therapy practitioners to assist its citizens

in achieving independence, wellness, and quality of life while maintaining individual choice, human dignity, and personal satisfaction.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Program Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, a graduate is expected to:

1. Successfully pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam.
2. Demonstrate the use of professional values, consistent with the Occupational Therapy Core Values and Ethics, that allow them to function ethically and responsibly by demonstrating tolerance and respect for diversity of culture, age, gender, and ability.
3. Demonstrate effective communication with clients, families, supervisors, and other members of their work environment using cultural competence.

4. Employ logical thinking, critical analysis, problem solving, and creativity within their scope of professional practice.
5. Participate in lifelong learning and professional competency activities as they relate to occupational therapy practice and professional choices.
6. Demonstrate entry level competence as a licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant

- Students who are transferring must have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.5 at their previous educational institution.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please refer to the General admission guidelines which can be found on [page 34](#) in the catalog. Additional admission requirements are as follows:

1. Job Shadows and Personal Reflection Statement (OTA Essay)
 - Completion of one (1) job shadow.
 - Completion of personal reflection statements.
2. Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)
 - May be taken a total of three times – original test session plus two retakes.
 - Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) may be taken twice in an academic year (November to July).
 - Each re-take includes all subtest scores and may only be taken after a 45-day waiting period.
 - Exam consists of Reading, Math, Science, and English and Language Usage.
 - Free preparatory sessions are offered through the Student Success Center.
 - Registration for the TEAS is completed in the MYKV Student Portal – Admission>My Application.
 - Required Minimum composite score 61st percentile rank.
 - Minimum reading 71st percentile rank.
 - Minimum math 65th percentile rank.
 - Minimum science 51st percentile rank.
 - Minimum English 62nd percentile rank.
3. Academic Standing
 - Students currently matriculated at KVCC must hold a cumulative GPA of 2.5 at the start of their first semester of program study.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Criminal Background Checks

Applicants to certain programs need to note that a criminal background check will likely be required while enrolled in the program or as a condition of employment in the field. Certain internship and/or practicum sites, such as health care facilities, may limit or deny clinical privileges to those students who have a prior or current criminal record.

- Should a clinical facility refuse to permit a student to complete a clinical rotation based upon the student's criminal background check, the student may not be able to complete the program. In the event a student is denied placement at a clinical site the College will likely be required to enter an academic dismissal from the program.
- Finger printing may be required by certain clinical or fieldwork placements. Students are responsible for the cost associate with securing fingerprints.
- Additionally, certain licensing boards may refuse to issue a license to practice based upon prior or current criminal offense (s). To learn more about whether the program or profession in which you are interested has such requirements or limitations, contact the appropriate Department Chair.

Infectious Diseases

Applicants who consider a career in Nursing or the Allied Health professions should be aware that during the course of their education and subsequent employment, they will be working in situations where exposure to infectious diseases is probable. This is an occupational risk for all health care workers. Persons should not become health care workers unless they recognize and accept this risk. Proper education and strict adherence to well-established infection control guidelines, however, can reduce the risk to a minimum. Thorough education in infection control procedures is an integral part of each health care program.

Exposure to Latex

Additionally, applicants should be aware that exposure to natural rubber latex (NRL) is likely. Individuals exposed to NRL products may develop allergic reactions such as skin rashes; hives; nasal, eyes, or sinus symptoms; and, rarely, shock.

Costs

Costs associated with required immunizations, criminal background checks, finger printing (when applicable) and admission testing are the responsibility of the applicant.

Clinical/Fieldwork Placement

Students may be scheduled for day, evening and night clinical/fieldwork experiences in some programs. It is expected that the student is able to make the necessary arrangements in order to complete all scheduled times.

Placement is statewide. The student is responsible for all travel and/or living related to the clinical or fieldwork experience.

Drug Testing

Drug testing may be a requirement of clinical/fieldwork education sites. Students will be responsible for the cost of such testing if required by the site.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Students who have been accepted into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program must:

1. Agree to work with an outside agency to collect, document, and track required personal healthcare information (immunization status, BLS/CPR, healthcare background checks, and fingerprinting) as required by the OTA program. Each student is responsible for the cost of this service.
2. Assume personal responsibility for attaining and maintaining the necessary requirements for fieldwork:
 - immunizations, CPR, background check, and fingerprinting
 - transportation including travel up to 1.5 hours (to and from) fieldwork sites
 - other living costs to and from statewide fieldwork education sites.

3. Meet the OTA program's deadlines for developing and maintaining a current personal healthcare information portfolio.
4. Have professional liability insurance and healthcare insurance.
5. Purchase required books and a KVCC/OTAS identification pin.
6. Perform the Essential Performance Skills of the OTA student at KVCC, including professional and critical thinking skills with or without reasonable accommodations.

Note: Applicants to the OTA program should be aware that a national criminal background check and Maine Department of Education fingerprinting are required while they are enrolled in the program, and as a condition of employment in the field. Certain service learning/fieldwork/ practicum sites, such as health care facilities, will most likely limit or deny clinical privileges to those who have a prior or current felony criminal record. State licensing boards may refuse to issue a license based upon prior or current criminal offense(s).

GRADUATE INFORMATION

Upon completing the OTA program, graduates:

- are required to be licensed to work in the State of Maine. {Board of OT Practice, Office of Licensing and Registration, 35 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333; (207) 624-8603; www.maine.gov} (A felony conviction may restrict an individual from obtaining certification and/or licensure.)