



Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Advising Form

Admissions:

- Applications accepted online March 1 – June 1 <https://healthsciences.jsc.edu/login.php>
- Must be accepted to JSCC in order to apply to the online OTA application <https://www.jsc.edu/admissions/apply.html>

Program Requirements:

- 2.5 GPA required to apply (3.0 or higher preferred)
- Anatomy and Physiology I must be completed prior to applying to the program (current 5 years)
- 8 observation hours must be completed under the supervision of an OT or OTA <https://www.jsc.edu/academics/divisions/allied-health/occupational-therapy-assistant/documents/ota-observation-form.pdf>

General Education Coursework

- BIOL 2010 Anatomy and Physiology I (with lab) must be completed with a grade of “C” or better before applying to the OTA program. Anatomy and Physiology must have been completed within the past five years.
- PSYC 1030 – Introduction to Psychology must be completed no later than the first fall semester in the program.
- Humanities elective-available courses www.jsc.edu
- Speech class COMM 2025 or COMM 2045
- ENGL 1010 English Composition I
- The Humanities elective, Speech, and English courses may be completed before beginning the program, or at any time during the first three program semesters. All courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better before students participate in the second year spring semester fieldwork experiences.

Courses to Consider:

The following courses are not required, but are strongly recommended and considered during the program admissions process:

- COL 1030
- Anatomy & Physiology II
- Medical Terminology
- PSYC 2130 Life Span Psychology
- American Heart Association CPR Certification



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Recommendations:

- Strongly encouraged to have English Comp I, General Psychology, Communications, and a humanities completed prior to applying to the program.
- All courses must be completed with a “C” or higher (strongly recommend an “A” or “B”)

Special Information:

~Level II fieldwork experiences may be in a location outside the West Tennessee area, requiring the student to relocate for one (8 weeks) or both (16) week experiences.

~OTA courses are offered Monday-Friday, daytime only. Some courses may have web-based activities, but each semester schedule requires students to be on campus during the week. Class schedules vary from semester to semester.

~Level II fieldwork experiences are full-time, un-paid, mostly work-week internships. Some evening or weekend work may be required. Due to the level of student work required during these experiences, students should plan to not work other jobs their last semester in the program. Students must complete Level II fieldwork within 12 months following completion of didactic portion of the program

Criminal Background Check: Admitted student will be required to provide a copy of a background check. Background checks are required by some clinical experiences to successfully complete the program. If a student is unable to participate in clinical experiences due to the results of the criminal background check, he/she may not be able to complete the degree requirements and would not graduate from the 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 20852-4929. ACOTE’s telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is www.acoteonline.org. Graduates of the program will be 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, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). In addition, all 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.