

The practice of OT utilizes the therapeutic use of purposeful and meaningful occupations in treatment, as well as focusing on these occupations as the goal of treatment. OT intervention may include restoration of performance abilities; instruction in compensatory techniques; adaptation of tasks, processes, or environments; disability prevention techniques; and health promotion strategies. Occupational therapy assistants, under the supervision of an occupational therapist, will directly work with persons of all ages to achieve a maximum level of independent living by developing the capacities that remain after disease, accident, or other disability. OT serves a diverse population in a wide variety of settings such as hospitals, clinics, facilities for rehabilitation, extended and long-term care, sheltered workshops, schools, camps, private homes, physician's offices, community programs, and private practice.

Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) courses have both lecture and hands-on laboratory components. Portions of the lecture section of some OTA courses are web-based. During the program, students will develop entry-level competencies necessary to provide services to persons of all ages who have functional loss due to physical, neurological, social/emotional, cognitive, or developmental disabilities. Clinical classes include opportunities for students to attend clinical practicum/internships at local facilities where OT services are provided.

Accreditation Status

Program graduates will qualify to sit for the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT) national certification examination. This computer-delivered examination will be delivered on-demand, after determining eligibility. Successful completion of this exam confers the title of Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA), Illinois and most states additionally require licensure to practice, usually basing this on the NBCOT exam results. A felony conviction may adversely affect ability to sit for the NBCOT exam and/or attain state licensure. The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 652-6611 <https://acoteonline.org/>

CLASS	1 ST YEAR FALL SEMSTER	CREDIT HOURS	CLASS	2 ND YEAR FALL SEMESTER	CREDIT HOURS
ENG 111	English Composition I	3	OTA 200	Psychosocial Therapy & Practice	3
HIT 100	Medical Terminology	3	OTA 205	OT in Pediatrics	4
OTA 100	Intro to Occupational Therapy	2	OTA 230	Clinical Rotation II	2
OTA 110	Clinical Observation	2	OTA 231	Occupational Therapy Theory II	1.5
OTA 131	Disease & Impact on Occupation	3	PSY 218	Child Psychology	3
OTA 132	Occupational Development	1		TOTAL HOURS	15
OTA 210	OT Theory I	4			
	TOTAL HOURS	18			
	SPRING SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER	
BIO 222	Anatomy & Physiology II*	4	***OTA 217	Fieldwork Experience I	4.5
OTA 112	Activities of Daily Living	3	***OTA 218	Fieldwork Experience II	4.5
OTA 120	Occupational Therapeutic Media	3	OTA 250	OT Administration	3
OTA 122	OT Group Process	2		TOTAL HOURS	12
OTA 133	Clinical Rotation I	1	* Prerequisite Class – BIO 221 Anatomy & Physiology I with lab (4 credit hours) *** Must be completed within 18 months of academic coursework. MAT 121 – Technical Math is a non-transferable math. MAT 210 – General Elementary Statistics is recommended if student is planning to transfer or see advanced degree.		
OTA 134	OT in Physical Disabilities	3			
PSY 211	Introduction to Psychology	3			
	TOTAL HOURS	19	All classes mut be passed with a grade of “C” or better.		
	SUMMER SEMESTER				
SPC 111	Speech	3			
MAT 121 or MAT 210	Technical Math or General Elementary Statistics	3 or 4			
	TOAL HOURS	6 OR 7			

Possible Career Opportunities

Acute Care Occupational Therapy Assistant, Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA), Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant/Licensed (COTA/L), Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA), Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant-Licensed (COTA-L), Licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant, Occupational Therapist Assistant, Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA), School Based Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Staff Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant/Licensed (**Staff COTA/L**)

