

# Occupational Therapy Assistant

## Program

Occupational Therapy is an evidence-based, science-driven profession that helps others increase participation and independence in every day activities (occupations) in all of their environments (home, work, school, community, etc.) while reducing health care costs. Occupational therapists (OTs) and occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) help people of all ages participate in the things they want and/or need to do through therapeutic use of activities. Under the supervision of an OT, an OTA will develop and provide therapeutic activities and strategies that will help their clients gain the physical, cognitive, psychological and developmental skills necessary for everyday life. They also provide adaptive equipment or techniques necessary to carry out life tasks; educate clients, families and caregivers; and address prevention. The OTA works with a team of other professionals in a variety of settings including but not limited to: hospitals, school systems, community mental health centers, nursing homes, home health agencies and private practice.

## Credentialing Required After Graduation

After successfully completing this accredited Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, the graduate is eligible to take 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 COTA.

### NBCOT

One Bank Street  
Suite 300  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
(301) 990-7979  
email: [info@nbcot.org](mailto:info@nbcot.org)  
<http://www.nbcot.org/>

In addition, all states require licensure to practice; however, Ohio and most other state licenses are based on passing of the NBCOT Certification Exam. After achieving licensure, the individual will be a COTA/L.




## Mission Statement

The Rhodes State OTA Program prepares students to be competent, professional occupational therapy assistants.

## Curriculum


### First Year

#### Summer

OTA 1010 	Principles and Practices of OT	3
COM 1110 	English Composition	3
BIO 1110	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
SDE 1010 	First Year Experience	1

**Term Hours** **11**

#### Fall

OTA 1020	Occupational Therapy Process	2
OTA 1030	Therapeutic Activities and Occupations	2
OTA 1050	Human Anatomy and Pathology I	3
PSY 1010 	General Psychology	3
BIO 1120	Anatomy and Physiology II	4

**Term Hours** **14**

#### Spring

OTA 1060	Human Anatomy and Pathology II	2
OTA 1140	Therapeutic Procedures I	5
PSY 1730	Abnormal Psychology	3

**Term Hours** **10**



### Second Year

#### Summer

OTA 2130	Therapeutic Procedures II	4
BHS 1390	Medical Terminology	2
OTA 2100	OT for Psychosocial Dysfunction I	2



**Term Hours** **8**

#### Fall

OTA 2140	OT for Developmental Dysfunction	3
OTA 2150 	OT for Psychosocial Dysfunction II	3
MTH 1260	Statistics OR	
MTH 1151	Quantitative Reasoning	3
SOC 1010 	Sociology	3

**Term Hours** **12**

#### Spring

OTA 2170	Fieldwork I <sup>1</sup>	4
OTA 2180	Fieldwork II <sup>1</sup>	4
OTA 2200  	Capstone for OTA	2

**Term Hours** **10**

**Total Hours** **65**

 = Portfolio Course

 = Capstone Course

<sup>1</sup> These courses involve full-time field work in clinical sites and must be completed no later than 18 months after completion of academic preparation.

## Acceptance Into Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

All students who apply for acceptance into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program have their name placed on a qualified list after they meet the program qualifications listed below.

Admission to the program requires submission of a program application packet which can be found by contacting the Office of Advising and Counseling or visiting the OTA webpage and requirements tab. Students seeking admission are encouraged to review the qualification requirements early due to the amount of time required to complete the process. The application deadline is the second Friday of February for the application year.

In addition to the general admission requirements for all students, the following specific requirements must be completed before being added to qualified list:

1. Attend a mandatory program specific orientation.
2. Complete and score a minimum of 60 on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS) assessment exam.
3. Achieve an overall GPA and program-related GPA of 2.75 or higher. (Program-related GPA is defined as the average GPA of program-specific coursework excluding SDE 1010.) For the high school senior applicant without college level courses work, high school grades through the first nine weeks of the senior year will be used to calculate the GPA.
4. Complete 40 hours of observation in a clinical setting with a licensed Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant using the Observation Form in the application packet.
5. Complete all required college level or developmental level math, writing and reading courses and/or prerequisites with a grade of D or higher, and all college level or development level science requirements and/or prerequisites with a grade of C or higher; or equivalent placement.

If more than 30 applicants are qualified, students will be offered a seat based on the qualifying criteria (aggregate of calculated GPA, ATI TEAS score, the number of program specific courses completed with a C or better, and the two observation rubrics). If the qualifying criteria aggregate score of two applicants is equal then the college application date will be used to rank order those applicants.

Qualified students not in the top 30 will be admitted in a following cohort year. This acceptance is contingent upon re-application prior to the deadline of the offered cohort year to verify continued interest in pursuing the degree. These students will be encouraged to attend an informational meeting with programmatic faculty to discuss strategies for persistence within the program or opportunities for other health care majors with seats available for immediate entry and/or other career directions offered at the College.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program accepts students once a year in Summer Semester.

## Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the:

Accreditation Council for Occupation  
Therapy Education (ACOTE)  
American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)  
4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200  
Bethesda, MD 20814-3449  
Email: [accred@aota.org](mailto:accred@aota.org)  
(301) 652-AOTA  
[www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org)

This program has been accredited since its inception in 1997.

## Notice to Current or Prospective Occupational Therapy Assistant Students

You are at risk if you have been convicted of a prior felony and/or some misdemeanors. You may not be able to participate in clinical education experiences at some hospitals or other clinical sites, therefore preventing you from completing the program. A felony conviction may affect your ability to sit for the National Certification Examination for the Occupational Therapy Assistant (NBCOT exam) or attain state licensure. Because health care employers routinely perform background checks on prospective employees, a criminal record may also prevent you from obtaining employment.

## Technical Standards

All applicants for the Health Sciences programs and certificates must possess the essential skills and abilities necessary to successfully complete the requirements of the curriculum either with or without reasonable accommodations for any disabilities the individual may have. \* Note: The use of an intermediary that, in effect, requires a student to rely on someone else's power of selection and observation will not be permitted.

## For More Information, Contact:

Admissions Office  
Rhodes State College  
4240 Campus Drive  
Lima, OH 45804  
Email: [enroll@RhodesState.edu](mailto:enroll@RhodesState.edu)  
(419) 995-8320