

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

### What is occupational therapy?

Occupational therapy is a health and rehabilitation profession that helps people regain, develop, and build skills that are important for independent functioning, health, well-being, security and happiness. Occupational therapy assistants work with people of all ages who, because of illness, injury, and developmental or psychological impairment, need specialized assistance in learning skills to enable them to lead independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

**What do certified occupational therapists assistants do?** Occupational therapy assistants adapt work and physical environments to promote independence; analyze and train in daily living and homemaking skills; fabricate and apply splints and orthotic devices; and use activities, therapeutic exercise, and crafts to promote independence and wellness.

### Where do OTA's work?

OTA's work in acute care hospitals, rehabilitation centers, long term care facilities, outpatient clinics, schools, industry, well baby clinics, and day care centers.

### What do I need to do to become an OTA?

You will need to complete a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant – 2 year associate degree program. Graduates of the program at Cabarrus College will be awarded the Associate of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant. You will be required to sit for the National Certification Exam following college graduation and prior to employment if choosing to practice in North Carolina. Most states require licensure for a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant to practice. Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants provide service under the supervision of a Registered Occupational Therapist.

### Will I be able to find a job as an OTA?

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics includes occupational therapy assistant among its list of fastest growing occupations. Certified occupational therapy assistants average annual salaries range from \$30,000-\$40,000.

## PLANNING FOR ENROLLMENT

### When can I visit the College?

Stop by to talk with an admissions counselor Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (room 133). If you would like to schedule a meeting ahead of time with an admissions counselor call 704-403-1556. Open house programs are also scheduled once a month. Find an updated schedule online at [www.cabarruscollege.edu](http://www.cabarruscollege.edu).

### Can I transfer credit?

Yes. However, some limitations may apply to the transfer of certain biological and physical science courses, as well as technology courses. Once you have been admitted to a degree program the registrar will determine transferability of credit and develop a curriculum plan.

### How do I apply for financial aid?

Over 84% of Cabarrus College students receive financial aid. The first step is to complete the FAFSA form. Our school code is 015358. Cabarrus College also offers approved programs for Veterans' Benefits. For information contact the financial aid office at 704-403-3507.

## ADMISSION

To ensure consideration an application should be submitted by March 1 for the fall semester. An application will be reviewed after the deadline on a space available basis.

Applicants are considered based on academic history, SAT, ACT or ASSET scores, class rank, references and essay. Applicants must have completed Algebra I, Algebra II, either geometry or a math with Algebra II as a prerequisite, chemistry and biology at the high school level or higher. Minimum scores on the SAT (480 critical reading/440 math), ACT (19) or ASSET (42 writing, 42 reading, 36 numerical) are suggested. 25 hours of observation are also required in three different occupational therapy settings.

For more information on admissions requirements and how to apply go to [www.cabarruscollege.edu](http://www.cabarruscollege.edu).

## CURRICULUM PLAN

### Fall Semester

| Course #     | Course Title                          | Credit Hours |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| OTA 101**    | Introduction to OT-(Level I #1)       | 3            |
| OTA 102**    | Activity Analysis Application to occ. | 3            |
| BIO 210*     | Human Anatomy & Physiology I          | 4            |
| CAS 190      | Computers Technology Applications     | 3            |
| ENG 101      | English Composition I                 | 3            |
| BIO 100*     | Medical Terminology                   | 1            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                                       | <b>17</b>    |

### Spring Semester

| Course #     | Course Title                         | Credit Hours |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| OTA 112**    | Fundamentals of Occupations          | 3            |
| OTA 114**    | Physical Rehabilitation (Level I #2) | 7            |
| BIO 220*     | Human Anatomy & Physiology II        | 4            |
| PSY 150      | Human Growth & Development           | 3            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                                      | <b>17</b>    |

### Summer Session (First Session)

| Course #     | Course Title       | Credit Hours |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| OTA 116**    | Kinesiology        | 3            |
| PSY 101*     | General Psychology | 3            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                    | <b>6</b>     |

### Fall Semester

| Course #     | Course Title  | Credit Hours |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| OTA 201**    | Therapeutic Group Applications                            | 3            |
| OTA 202**    | Mental Health Concepts & Tech. for the<br>OTA(Level I #3) | 3            |
| OTA 203**    | Assessment and Treatment Planning                         | 2            |
| HUM 200      | Leadership Development Studies                            | 3            |
| PSY 210*     | Abnormal Psychology                                       | 3            |
|              | Elective  | 3            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |   | <b>17</b>    |

### Spring Semester

| Course #     | Course Title          | Credit Hours |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| OTA 206**    | Level II Fieldwork #1 | 6            |
| OTA 208**    | Level II Fieldwork #2 | 6            |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                       | <b>12</b>    |

\*Program requirement

\*\*Major requirement

A minimum of 69 semester hours are required to earn an Associate of Science Degree in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

Level II fieldwork must be completed within one year of the required academic coursework.

## STUDENT PERSPECTIVE



The one-on-one attention from the faculty prepared me for the certification exam and for employment. I had a job the day after I passed the exam. This is the best educational decision I could have made.

James Press  
2008 OTA Graduate

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program at Cabarrus College is the only program of its kind in the region. Small classes and mentoring from our faculty will prepare you for a successful career as an OTA. You will enjoy the benefit of clinical sites in Cabarrus, Cleveland, Davidson, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union counties. The hands on approach of education at Cabarrus College resulted in graduates of the OTA program having a 92% pass rate on the national certification exam in 2008.

If you are looking to expand your horizons outside the classroom, get involved in campus activities like the Student Occupational Therapy Association or the Student Government Association. You can also participate in a community service project with other students. This is a great way to make new friends, and develop a sense of how a career in the health sciences positively impacts the people in our region.



## ACCREDITATION

Cabarrus College of Health Sciences is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Cabarrus College of Health Sciences.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program has been granted accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) located at: American Occupational Therapy Association, 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220, 301-652-AOTA (2682). [www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org)

Cabarrus College offers equal educational opportunities.

Cabarrus College reserves the right to make any changes in its administrative and educational policies, curricula and financial requirements.

A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain licensure.



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08/09

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



# CABARRUS COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES