**CITY COLLEGES**
OF CHICAGO

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT, ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE



College(s): WR

Program Code: 0259

The Associate in Applied Science degree program in Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) is the study of occupational therapy as a skilled healthcare service that uses occupation to promote meaningful living. Occupational therapy assistants, under the guidance of occupational therapists, adapt activities, tasks, and the environment in order to enable people of all ages and backgrounds to fulfill their chosen occupations and life roles. Career options can include employment in hospitals, clinics, schools, specialized community care settings, and wellness programs. The program's mission is to prepare competent and effective occupational therapy practitioners who value occupation as both a means and as an end to quality living for self and others through a sound educational experience that includes preparation in:

• The occupational therapy process
• The impact of culture
• Use of self as an agent of change
• Ethical professional practice
• Teaching and learning processes
• Collaborating as a healthcare professional
• Working in a variety of practice environments
• Oral and written communication skills

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the National Certification Exam for Occupational Therapy Assistants administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, an individual becomes a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant. Determination of exam eligibility for applicants who

have a felony related charge or conviction requires individualized review by NBCOT, Inc. Most states require licensure in order to practice. Illinois license issuance is based upon the results of the NBCOT Certification exam.

*This selective admissions program requires students to submit a separate application or to take additional action before enrolling.*

**For more information on the Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Wright College, visit the program webpage (https://www.ccc.edu/ colleges/wright/departments/Pages/Occupational-Therapy-Assistant--.aspx).**

## Program Requirements

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|---|
| **General Education Coursework** | | |
| ENGLISH 101 | Composition | 3 |
| CIS 120 | Introduction to Computer Applications | 3 |
| PSYCH 201 | General Psychology | 3 |
| OTA 106 | Foundations of Human Occupation | 3 |
| PSYCH 207 | Child Psychology | 3 |
| or CHLD DV 101 | Human Growth & Development I | |
| **Required Program Core** | | |
| BIOLOGY 226 | Human Structure and Function I | 4 |
| BIOLOGY 227 | Human Structure and Function II | 4 |
| SOC 201 | Intro To the Study Of Society | 3 |
| OTA 107 | Occupations Of Childhood | 5 |
| OTA 108 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant I | 2 |
| OTA 109 | Occupations of Adolescence Early Adulthood | 5 |
| OTA 110 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant II | 2 |
| OTA 209 | Occupation of Middle Adulthood | 5 |
| OTA 210 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant III | 2 |

| OTA 211 | Special Topics for OT I | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| OTA 212 | Occupations of Later Adulthood | 5 |
| OTA 213 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant IV | 2 |
| OTA 214 | Special Topics for OTA II | 3 |
| **Required Work-Based Learning Courses** | | |
| OTA 215 | Fieldwork Level II | 6 |
| OTA 216 | Fieldwork Level B | 6 |
| **Program Electives** | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| PSYCH 222 | Adult Development And Aging | |
| SOC SER 102 | Introduction To Gerontology | |
| CHLD DV 102 | Human Growth & Development II | |
| **Total Hours** | | **75** |

# Pathway

This is an **example course sequence** for students interested in earning a degree in occupational therapy. It does not represent a contract, nor does it guarantee course availability. If this pathway is followed as outlined, you will earn an Associate in Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA). One course will satisfy the Human Diversity (HD) requirement, and is labeled with an (HD) in the sequence below.

## Semester-by-Semester Program Plan for Full-Time Students

All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding more semesters.

| Semester 1 | | Hours |
|---|---|---|
| OTA 106 | Foundations of Human Occupation [1] | 3 |
| ENGLISH 101 | Composition [1] | 3 |
| BIOLOGY 121 | Biology I [1] | 5 |
| CIS 120 | Introduction to Computer Applications [1] | 3 |
| PSYCH 201 | General Psychology [1] | 3 |
| | **Hours** | **17** |
| **Semester 2** | | |
| BIOLOGY 226 | Human Structure and Function I [1] | 4 |
| SOC 201 | Intro To the Study Of Society [1] | 3 |
| PSYCH 207 or CHLD DV 101 | Child Psychology [1] or Human Growth & Development I | 3-4 |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| PSYCH 222 | Adult Development And Aging [2] | |
| SOC SER 102 | Introduction To Gerontology [2] | |
| CHLD DV 102 | Human Growth & Development II (in semester 3) [2] | |
| | **Hours** | **13-14** |
| **Semester 3** | | |
| OTA 107 | Occupations Of Childhood | 5 |
| OTA 108 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant I | 2 |
| BIOLOGY 227 | Human Structure and Function II [1] | 4 |
| | **Hours** | **11** |
| **Semester 4** | | |
| OTA 109 | Occupations of Adolescence Early Adulthood | 5 |
| OTA 110 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant II | 2 |
| | **Hours** | **7** |
| **Semester 5** | | |
| OTA 209 | Occupation of Middle Adulthood | 5 |
| OTA 210 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant III | 2 |

| OTA 211 | Special Topics for OT I | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | **Hours** | **10** |
| **Semester 6** | | |
| OTA 212 | Occupations of Later Adulthood | 5 |
| OTA 213 | Practice Skills of OT Assistant IV | 2 |
| OTA 214 | Special Topics for OTA II | 3 |
| | **Hours** | **10** |
| **Semester 7** | | |
| All academic coursework must be completed and an exit exam passed in order for students to proceed to the fieldwork component of the program. | | |
| OTA 215 | Fieldwork Level II | 6 |
| OTA 216 | Fieldwork Level B | 6 |
| | **Hours** | **12** |
| | **Total Hours** | **80-81** |

[1] Program Prerequisite
[2] Program Elective

Choose your courses with your College Advisor.

# Program Admission Requirements

Students can make formal application to the program when all pre-admission coursework is completed, or when pre-admission coursework completion will occur before the beginning of Semester I of the program. A minimum grade of "C" is required in each pre-admission and general education course. If more candidates apply than the program can accept, the best qualified will be admitted.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|---|
| **Prerequisite courses:** | | |
| ENGLISH 101 | Composition | 3 |
| PSYCH 201 | General Psychology | 3 |
| PSYCH 207 | Child Psychology | 3-4 |
| or CHLD DV 101 | Human Growth & Development I | |
| CIS 120 | Introduction to Computer Applications | 3 |
| OTA 106 | Foundations of Human Occupation | 3 |

NOTE: If you plan to apply for admission prior to completing BIOLOGY 226 Human Structure and Function I and BIOLOGY 227 Human Structure and Function II, you also must complete BIOLOGY 121 Biology I, in order to meet City College Biology Department course requirements.

**For more information on admissions requirements and the application process, visit the program webpage (https://www.ccc.edu/colleges/ wright/departments/Pages/Occupational-Therapy-Assistant--.aspx).**

# Careers

This program can prepare students for the jobs listed below. Click on each one to learn more, including average earnings, annual job openings, and how much education people in that field have. For additional guidance and resources on career options, current City Colleges students and alumni can contact the Career Services Office (https://www.ccc.edu/ departments/Pages/Career-Services.aspx).

# Occupational Therapy Assistants
## Job Description

Assist occupational therapists in providing occupational therapy treatments and procedures. May, in accordance with state laws, assist

in development of treatment plans, carry out routine functions, direct activity programs, and document the progress of treatments. Generally requires formal training.

## Salary Based on Experience Level

Take a look at the average hourly/annual earnings for this career in Cook County

Lightcast earnings figures are based on OES data from the BLS and include base rate, cost of living allowances, guaranteed pay, hazardous-duty pay, incentive pay (including commissions and bonuses), on-call pay, and tips.

**Annual Wages**

| | |
|---|---|
| Entry-Level 10th Percentile | $47,028 |
| Median 50th Percentile | $59,081 |
| Senior-Level 90th Percentile | $90,782 |

**Hourly Wages**

| | |
|---|---|
| Entry-Level 10th Percentile | $23 |
| Median 50th Percentile | $28 |
| Senior-Level 90th Percentile | $44 |

## Annual Job Openings

192 annual openings in Cook County

## National Education Attainment

Here, you can see the level of education that people in this career complete.

| Degree Program | % of Jobs |
|---|---|
| A high school diploma or less | 0.00% |
| A certificate | 0.00% |
| Some college | 5.07% |
| An Associate degree | 91.74% |
| A Bachelor's degree | 3.19% |
| A Master's or Professional degree | 0.00% |
| A Doctoral degree or more | 0.00% |

3.19% continue their education beyond an associate degree

# Occupational Therapy Aides
## Job Description

Under close supervision of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, perform only delegated, selected, or routine tasks in specific situations. These duties include preparing patient and treatment room.

## Salary Based on Experience Level

Take a look at the average hourly/annual earnings for this career in Cook County

Lightcast earnings figures are based on OES data from the BLS and include base rate, cost of living allowances, guaranteed pay, hazardous-

duty pay, incentive pay (including commissions and bonuses), on-call pay, and tips.

**Annual Wages**

| | |
|---|---|
| Entry-Level 10th Percentile | $50,590 |
| Median 50th Percentile | $78,106 |
| Senior-Level 90th Percentile | $79,140 |

**Hourly Wages**

| | |
|---|---|
| Entry-Level 10th Percentile | $24 |
| Median 50th Percentile | $38 |
| Senior-Level 90th Percentile | $38 |

## Annual Job Openings

6 annual openings in Cook County

## National Education Attainment

Here, you can see the level of education that people in this career complete.

| Degree Program | % of Jobs |
|---|---|
| A high school diploma or less | 36.76% |
| A certificate | 8.72% |
| Some college | 24.32% |
| An Associate degree | 28.40% |
| A Bachelor's degree | 0.00% |
| A Master's or Professional degree | 1.80% |
| A Doctoral degree or more | 0.00% |

1.80% continue their education beyond an associate degree