

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT – A.S.
JOINT DEGREE WITH RUTGERS - SCHOOL OF HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS
(Formerly University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey)

Prerequisite courses to be completed at Ocean County College:

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| ENGL 151 – English I | 3 cr. |
| ENGL 152 – English II | 3 cr. |
| PSYC 172 – General Psychology | 3 cr. |
| PSYC 278 – Life Span Development* | 3 cr. |
| SOCI 181 – Introduction to Sociology | 3 cr. |
| BIOL 130 – Anatomy and Physiology I* | 4 cr. |
| BIOL 131 – Anatomy and Physiology II* | 4 cr. |
| MATH 156 – Introduction to Statistics | 3 cr. |
| PHIL 192 – Contemporary Ethical Issues | 3 cr. |
| Diversity Studies (choose any GDIV course) | 3 cr. |
| Technology Requirement (choose any GTEC course) | <u>3 cr.*</u> |
| TOTAL CREDITS | 32-35 cr. |

*GTEC requirement can be met by passing the Computer Literacy test in which case no GTEC course is needed and the General Education requirements are met with just 32 credits.

* Courses must be completed within five years prior to beginning the professional sequence.

Courses in bold must be completed at the time of application to Rutgers – School of Health Related Professions (SHRP). Students are required to have at least 16 credits of the prerequisite courses completed at the time of application to Rutgers - SHRP.

Students must provide documentation that they are enrolled in the remaining prerequisite courses to be considered for admission to Rutgers – SHRP. A minimum GPA of 2.5 in the prerequisite courses listed above is required for consideration.

PROFESSIONAL SEQUENCE:

Forty-two (42) credits in Occupational Therapy to be completed at **Rutgers – SHRP campus in Scotch Plains**. Total Degree Credits: 74 - 77 credits

Rutgers, The State University of NJ – Ocean County College OTA program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200 Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301)652-AOTA and its Web address is www.acoteonline.org

Occupational Therapy Assistant

Associate of Science (A.S.)

FAQ's

What do Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTA's) do?

Working under an Occupational Therapist, the OTA serves people of all ages, who experience illness, disease, disability, disadvantages, trauma and challenging life circumstances adapt by contributing to the process of evaluating a client by gathering information and administering selected assessments, assisting with the development of occupation-based intervention plans, and selecting and providing direct occupational therapy interventions to individuals and groups. OTA's also document the occupational therapy services provided.

Does OCC offer a degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant?

Yes. A partnership with Rutgers – School of Health Related Professions (SHRP), will allow OCC students to earn an A.S. degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant by completing 32 - 35 credits in prerequisite courses at OCC and take the remainder of their clinical coursework at Rutgers SHRP Scotch Plains campus.

Do I need to be a resident of Ocean County to enter the program?

Yes. To participate, students must be a resident of Ocean County and complete a minimum of 32 credits in residence at OCC.

What are the prerequisite courses needed to apply?

At the time of application, students must have completed at least 16 credits at OCC including the following courses and have a minimum GPA of 2.5 in the following prerequisite courses.

ENGL 151-English I

BIOL130-Anatomy & Physiology I*

ENGL 152-English II

PSYC 172-General Psychology

* Note: Science courses must be completed within five years prior to beginning the professional sequence.

Are there additional prerequisite courses?

Yes.

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| PSYC 278-Life Span Development* | SOCI 181- Introduction to Sociology |
| BIOL 131-Anatomy & Physiology II* | MATH 156-Introduction to Statistics |
| PHIL 192-Contemporary Ethical Issues | Diversity Studies (choose any GDIV course) |
| Technology Requirement (choose any GTEC course or pass Computer Literacy test) | |

A minimum GPA of 2.5 in the prerequisite courses listed above is required for consideration.

*Courses must be completed within five years prior to beginning the professional sequence at Rutgers –SHRP.

Forty-two credits in Occupational Therapy Assistant professional sequence courses are completed at Rutgers – SHRP campus in Scotch Plains. Total credits to complete the degree: 74 - 77 credits.

Is there a deadline to apply?

Yes. The application deadline is June 1 for full-time enrollment in the fall, and November 1 for part-time enrollment in the spring. Students must provide documentation that they are enrolled in the remaining additional courses.

What else do I need to apply?

Students must submit two letters of recommendation, one from a faculty member and one from an Occupational Therapist or OT Assistant, have completed a required 20 hour observation in the field in a clinical setting under the supervision of a licensed Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant, submit an essay justifying Occupational Therapy as a career choice, and have a personal interview with the OTA admissions committee at Rutgers SHRP.

Does OCC admit students to the program?

No. All admissions decisions are made by Rutgers SHRP. Note: admission is very competitive, with an acceptance rate of approximately 30% of minimally qualified applicants.

How far is the commute to Rutgers – School of Health Related Professions Scotch Plains campus?

The commute time is approximately one hour (59 miles) from Toms River and is 5 miles west of exit 135 of the Garden State Parkway.

How do I begin?

Start by applying to Ocean County College and completing and submitting the Student Information Sheet for Occupational Therapy Assistant. Start taking prerequisite courses.

Is the OTA program accredited?

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