



Occupational Therapy Assistant Program (OTA)

Program Code A45500

Admission Application

Application Deadline: October 15, 2020

Program Start Date: January 11, 2021

<http://www.cpcc.edu/programs/occupational-therapy-assistant>



I. Program Overview

Occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) help individuals of all ages with rehabilitative activities and exercises outlined in a treatment plan developed in collaboration with an occupational therapist. Occupational therapy assistants, through the therapeutic use of everyday activities (occupations), help people affected by disease, illness, injury, or condition, to participate in the things they want and need to do. Occupational therapy has a holistic perspective, focusing on finding a fit between the person, his environment, and his chosen life activities/occupations.

According to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), the median annual pay for occupational therapy assistants in 2018 was \$60,220, and the job outlook is expected to grow much faster than average. Occupational therapy assistants work primarily in pediatric settings, hospitals, home health care, and in nursing care facilities.

The occupational therapy assistant program is accredited by the [Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education \(ACOTE\)](#) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). Graduates of the program may be eligible to sit for 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 Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

II. Steps to Complete Before Applying for the OTA Program

Information Session

[Attend an OTA Program Virtual Information Session.](#)

CPCC College Admission

1. Complete the CPCC College Admission Application. Please note applying to the general college and completing all enrollment steps must be completed before applying to the OTA program. These steps consist of establishing NC residency and requesting official transcripts from high school (unless you have earned an Associate degree or higher), all colleges attended for credit, and Advanced Placement (AP) exam scores if requesting college credit at CPCC through AP exam testing.

Applications are available online [here](#).

The full list of **enrollment steps** can be found [here](#).

Important Note: *If your high school or college transcripts are not from the United States, you will need an International Transcript Evaluation reviewed by an agent outside of Central Piedmont Community College.*

A list of International Evaluators is available through the [National Association of Credential Evaluating Services \(NACES\)](#) website. There is a fee for this service.

Required Testing

1. All students should speak to an academic advisor regarding the need to take the [required Math and English Placement tests](#). If placement tests are required, the student must meet with an academic advisor to review placement test scores. All applicants should be eligible for ENG 111 and MAT 110.
2. All applicants must take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS). You will need to schedule an appointment following instructions at the [Testing Center website](#). Without TEAS test scores your application will not be processed.

A study guide is available at www.atitesting.com

A minimum TEAS Reading Score of 60% and an Adjusted Individual Total in the Proficient category is required for the application to be considered for admission into the program. No other test may be substituted for this requirement.

Get a Headstart!

Any non-OTA prefix course required for the Occupational Therapy Assistant program can be taken prior to submitting the OTA Program Application. This is not required; however, completion of designated courses will also increase your application score. See the **Pre Admission Guide** on the [Occupational Therapy Assistant website](#) for the list of required courses. BIO 168 and 169, and MED 120 or 121 must be completed by the end of the first semester in the program, and PSY 241 and 281 must be completed by the end of the first year.

III. Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Admission Requirements

Points are earned from the following areas:

1. TEAS Test Scores
2. Completed Academic Courses
3. Related Work or Personal Experience (Optional not required)
 - Employment required for at least 240 hours in one year
 - Applicant must submit verification from the site of employment on business letterhead.
 - Verification must include the period of employment, job title, description of duties, and signature of employer with professional title.
 - Other personal or vocational experience with clients with illness, injury, or disability may be accepted for all or part of this requirement. Contact Brenda Kennell, OTA Program Chair, at brenda.kennell@cpcc.edu to pursue this option.

The points will be recorded on the application form on page 4. Application must be fully completed (typed, not hand-written) and submitted along with the other supporting documents.

Applicants must also complete either an observational experiences or [In Lieu of Observation](#) due to COVID19 for pre-admission. Be sure to attach the completed form and submit as part of your application.

Questions About the Admissions Process?

- **Contact the Admissions Specialist, at healthsciences@cpcc.edu**

IV. Acceptance Into the Program

A maximum of 25 students are accepted into the program each year with 5 alternates. Upon acceptance into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, students are required to:

- Submit results of a drug screen at their own expense.
- Students must also complete a medical exam and a TB test, and provide record of immunizations.
- Submit results of a North Carolina and/or national criminal background check by March 1st of their first semester in the program at their own expense. Students may need to repeat this if requested by a fieldwork site.
- Students are required to be certified in first aid and CPR by March 1st of their first semester in the program at their own expense.

Students accepted into the program will also be asked to read and sign to acknowledge that they have read and understand an Essential Functions statement outlining the essential functions necessary for the completion of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

- After acceptance and enrollment in the program, students are required to take all courses as scheduled and sequenced. This is considered a lockstep sequence program.

V. Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Application Form

Student Identification

Complete shaded areas with all information currently available.

First Name		Last Name		CPCC Student ID	
Street/Apt					
City		State		ZIP	
Home Phone		Cell Phone		CPCC Email	
Essential Functions Document					
Please check the box to the right to indicate that you have reviewed and understand the criteria in the Essential Functions document .					

Scores

Record scores for Items 1-4 in shaded areas with all information currently available according to the instructions below.

Item	Points Earned	Points Possible
1. Attendance Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Information Session		(2)
Date attended		(online completion verified by admissions specialist)
2. TEAS Test Scores		
Reading Score		* Each score is multiplied by 0.1 to determine points earned
English & Language Score		* Do not round up your score
Adjusted Total Score		
3. Related Work Experience		
OPTIONAL Employed as an Occupational Therapy Aide or Rehabilitation Tech in an Occupational Therapy (OT) Department for a minimum of 240 hours over a period of at least one year		(3)
4. Completed Academic Courses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only high school AP courses in which the exam was taken for college credit and a score of 3 or greater was received can be counted. Only high school IB courses in which the exam was taken for college credit and a score of 5 or greater was received can be counted. Course points computation for all courses: (A=3 pts; B=2 pts; C=1 pt.) BIO courses must be completed within 5 yrs. of applying. Only one course per category allowed to be counted towards application points total. 		
Category I	ENG 111	
	High School English AP or IB	
Category II	BIO 168 or BIO 165	
	High School Biology AP or IB	
Category III	PSY 150	
	High School Psychology AP or IB	
Category IV	MED 120 or MED 121	
Total Application Points		(12 points total)
		(47)

To clear all fields in this section, select button to the right.
This will erase all of your entries to this form.

VII. Application Submission

Check Your Application for Completion

1. Type all information on the Program Application Form (page 4).
2. Secure the following documents to the application:
 - a. Official TEAS scores
 - b. Copies of unofficial high school transcripts if AP courses are used on the application.
 - c. Documentation of Required Pre-admission Activities (attach completed form)
 - d. Verification of Work Experience (optional)

Submit the Completed Application

Submit on or before the deadline date as follows:

- Drop Box

Deposit during standard business hours (Monday-Friday) in the labeled drop box located on the third floor of the Health Careers building on the Central Campus, Room # 3545 (across from the elevators)

Or

- Mail to: Admissions Specialist
Attn: Occupational Therapy Assistant
CPCC Central Campus, Belk/Health Careers Building
PO Box 35009
Charlotte, NC 28235-5009

Mailed applications must be postmarked by application deadline date.

Or

- Email to: healthsciences@cpcc.edu

Scan application page 4 and all additional documents to include as an attachment if emailing.

Questions About the Admissions Process?

- Contact the Admissions Specialist at healthsciences@cpcc.edu or [schedule an appointment](#) to meet with the Admissions Specialist for this program