



Occupational Therapy Assistant

Associate in Applied Science Degree
with Wallace State Community College – Hanceville or Bay Minette

Move into a new career with an Occupational Therapy Assistant degree from Alabama Southern and Wallace State!

Help someone get back to their everyday life with a career in occupational therapy! Occupational Therapy Assistants provide the next level of treatment to help fulfill a patient's recovery needs.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is designed to provide necessary training for successful completion of the requirements of practice of an Occupational Therapy Assistant as defined by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). An Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA), while working under the direction of an Occupational Therapist, will assist in evaluating patients and in developing a plan of selected tasks to restore, influence, or enhance performance of individuals whose abilities to cope with daily-living tasks are impaired or threatened by developmental deficits, the aging process, physical injury or illness, learning disabilities, or psychological and social disabilities.

Accreditation/Licensure

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) (4720 Montgomery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220, (800) SAY-AOTA, ext. 2911). The certifying agency is the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT). After successful completion of the NBCOT exam, the individual will be a Certified



Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA).

Conviction of a felony may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or to attain state licensure. Most states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

Course Requirements

The following requirements must be met for a student to enter professional coursework. Students will take their first year of general required courses at an Alabama Southern campus and the second year of program-specific courses through Wallace State-Hanceville or Wallace State-Bay Minette.

- Application must be received by a published June deadline for Fall Semester consideration.

The Healthcare Alliance offers a world of healthcare career opportunities to residents of Southwest Alabama. Our partnership with area hospitals, healthcare providers and Wallace State Community College gives you more options to unlock the key to your success!

- Students must have a 2.5 GPA or higher and an ACT score of 18 or higher.
- Students must possess an active/current valid AHA approved CPR certification.
- Students must document evidence of 24 hours of observation divided between two different Occupational Therapy Department settings.
- Student must carry malpractice and accident insurance available through WSCC.
- A minimum grade of “C” is required in all general education and major required courses.
- Upon acceptance into any Health Program at WSCC-Hanceville, students will be required to submit to drug testing.

Year 1: ASCC General Required Courses
(24 credit hours)

ORI 101	Orientation to College	1
ENG 101	English Composition I	3
	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
SPH 106	Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3
	or SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking	
MTH 116	Mathematical Applications	3
*BIO 201	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
HIT 120	Introduction to Keyboarding	1
BIO 120	Medical Terminology	3
PSY 200	General Psychology	3
*BIO 103 is a prerequisite		

Year 2: WSCC Major Required Courses
(49 credit hours)

OTA 200	Occupational Therapy Fundamentals	3
OTA 205	Practical Anatomy and Kinesiology	4
OTA 208	Development Across the Life Span	3
OTA 210	Purposeful Activity	2
OTA 211	Activity Analysis	2
OTA 220	Referral and Assessment Techniques	3
OTA 221	Doc. for the OTAS & COTA	2
OTA 222	Treatment Planning & Implemen.	4
OTA 223	Professional Skills Development	3
OTA 224	Service Operations Management	3
OTA 230	The Psychiatric Environment	2
OTA 231	Group Process in OT	1
OTA 240	Medical Conditions in OT	3
OTA 245	Splinting	2

OTA 250	Level I Fieldwork – A	1
OTA 251	Level I Fieldwork – B	1
OTA 252***	Level II Fieldwork – A	4
OTA 253***	Level II Fieldwork – B	4
OTA 260	OTA Review Seminar	1
EMS 104	First Aid	1
Total: 73 credit hours		

***Students must complete Level II Fieldwork within 20 months following completion of academic preparation.

**Students obtaining OTA education at Wallace State Community College-Bay Minette should be aware that the instructional site is newly developed and is in the process of obtaining required ACOTE accreditation.

Job Outlook

Job opportunities for occupational therapists are expected to increase much faster than other medical related fields, reflecting the growth in the number of individuals with disabilities or limited function who require therapeutic services to return to their daily lives. Over the long run, there will also be an increase in demand as a result from advances in medicine that allow more people with critical problems to survive and then need rehabilitation services. Hospitals will continue to employ the majority of occupational therapy assistants; however a person with this degree can expect to work outside of hospitals in home healthcare services, nursing care facilities and physicians’ offices.

Earnings

Occupational Therapist Assistant:
\$30,640 to \$48,150
All salaries are averages for the state of Alabama and are updated on a yearly basis.

Admissions

For more information on the Alabama Southern Regional Healthcare Alliance programs, contact Brenda Rigsby at (251) 575-8238 or email brigsby@ascc.edu.



For more information on Alabama Health Careers, please visit: www.alabamahealthcareers.com, a website sponsored by the Alabama Hospital Association.

Visit www.ascc.edu for more information

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