

The Ohio State University
School of Allied Medical Professions
Master of Occupational Therapy Program (MOT)

Jane Case-Smith, Ed.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, Director

The Master's in Occupational Therapy (MOT) prepares students for a dynamic health care profession focused on functional rehabilitation of individuals with physical, psychological, or developmental disabilities. The MOT program combines courses on theory and practice with clinical experiences. Students progress from observation and limited participation to independent performance with clients. Students will complete seven (7) quarters of fulltime coursework and part-time fieldwork, then two quarters of fulltime fieldwork. Graduates must pass a national certification examination to practice as an occupational therapist. Students apply in Autumn Quarter, are accepted in Winter Quarter and begin the program during Summer Quarter. The faculty encourage applications of students who will provide cultural, racial, economic and geographic diversity to the program.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Masters of Occupational Therapy program is competitive. Applicants whose credentials are the most complete and who present the highest qualifications will be accepted for admission. Completion of the stated selection criteria does not assure admission to the MOT program.

1. A bachelor's degree (B.S. or B.A.) from an accredited North American college or university or comparable degree from a recognized foreign college or university.
2. Completion of the following prerequisite courses or acceptable equivalents with a grade of C or higher. The Ohio State University course numbers are listed after each content area:

Abnormal Psychology

(3 credit hours)

Examination of current theories and empirical findings regarding the major forms of psychopathology (e.g., Psych 331).

General Biology

(5 credit hours)

Basic principles of biology; topics include nature of science, organismal diversity, evolution, ecology, genetics, reproduction, cell structure and function. (e.g., Biology 101) OR

Exploration of human biology; topics include structure and physiological function, reproduction and development, genetics and disease, ecology and evolution (e.g., Biology 102 Human Biology)

General Sociology

(3 to 5 credit hours)

Introductory Sociology: Fundamental concepts of sociology and introduction to the analysis of social problems and social interactions, (e.g. wealth, gender, race inequality, family, crime) using sociological theories (e.g., Sociology 101).

Human Anatomy

(5 to 6 credit hours)

Fundamental principles of human anatomy, supplemented by demonstrations of human material (e.g., Anatomy 200)

Human Physiology

(5 credit hours)

Introductory Physiology: A survey of the human nervous system, sense organs, muscle function, circulation, respiration, digestion, metabolism, kidney function (e.g., EEOB 232)

Intermediate Writing, e.g. English Composition

(3 to 5 credit hours)

Business and Professional Writing: The study of principles and the practice of techniques associated with business and professional writing; emphasis on the style, organization, and conventions appropriate to business letters and reports(e.g., English 304) OR
Intermediate Essay Writing (e.g., English 367)

General Statistics

(3 credit hours)

Introduction to probability and statistics, experiments, and sampling, data analysis and interpretation (e.g., Stats 135).

Successful completion of anatomy, physiology and abnormal psychology courses will be part of the admission decision process so need to be successfully completed (with a grade of C or better) by the end of Autumn Quarter/Semester. Lab sections of the physiology and anatomy courses are recommended but not required. If sociology, intermediate essay writing and statistics are not completed at the time of application, a plan must be submitted that indicates when these courses will be taken prior to initiation of Occupational Therapy courses.

3. Academic achievement is demonstrated by the cumulative grade-point average and the grades in the program prerequisites. The GPA will be computed using ALL grades received from ALL institutions attended, and only applicants with a cumulative point-hour ratio (GPA) of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.00 scale) at the time of application will be evaluated for possible admission. ALL grades from ALL coursework taken at accredited institutions will be considered in evaluating applicants.
4. Competitive GRE (Graduate Record Exam) scores. Candidates must score at least a 3.5 on the writing portion of the GRE. Information on the GRE directly is available online at <http://www.gre.org>. Or contact GRE c/o Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 6000, Princeton, NJ, 08541-6000, USA, Telephone: 1-609-771-7670.
5. A minimum Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 560 on the paper-based test (or 220 on the computer-based test, or 89 on the internet version) will be required of applicants whose native language is not English. Contact TOEFL at P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, NJ, 08541-6151, for test information and registration materials.
6. At least 40 documented hours of practical experience (observation, or work experience) in occupational therapy is another application requirement. Applicants must document experiences in at least two of four areas: mental health, physical function/rehabilitation, early intervention with children, or intervention in a gerontology setting. Applicants must request the completion of *letters of verification of practical experience* from the occupational therapists with whom they observed. There is no formal form for this; instead, this should be on official facility letterhead and must include the dates and times of observation, a statement of what was observed, and the occupational therapist's signature. The letters of verification of practical experience must be included with the applicant's documentation.
7. All applicants to the MOT program are required to submit a *personal statement*. This will be important in determining: 1) your knowledge of the profession; 2) your understanding of professional practice in this field; 3) the ways in which your life experiences have contributed to your decision to pursue this profession; and 4) your ability to express yourself in writing. *The Personal Statement* is a brief narrative explaining your decision to apply to this program. Focus on the factors that have most notably affected your life and formulated your objectives toward your chosen career in occupational therapy. The following questions should be answered as you write your personal statement:
 1. How would you describe the major duties/responsibilities of this profession?
 2. Why have you chosen this profession, rather than another helping profession, as a career?
 3. What unique personal qualities/experiences can you offer to this profession?

Your statement must be no more than two pages double-spaced using 12 pt. font on separate 8-1/2 by 11 inch paper.

When to Apply

September 15 is the opening date for admission to begin Summer Quarter of the following year. December 1st is the application deadline. Non-OSU applicants should apply several weeks prior to the deadline to allow time for evaluation of their prerequisite course work. Applications received after the December 1st deadline will be considered only after all other applications postmarked by the deadline have been reviewed, and only if vacancies occur in the class. Autumn grades must be provided by December 31st.

Applying for Admission

Students apply on-line through the following web link: <https://www.applyweb.com/aw?osug>. All other supporting documents are available on this webpage. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Braughton at braughton.3@osu.edu or write to her at The Ohio State University, School of Allied Medical Professions, 406 Atwell Hall, 453 West Tenth Avenue, Columbus, OH, 43210.

High school students interested in preparing for a career in Occupational Therapy should schedule an appointment with a pre-major counselor in the Allied Med Student Affairs Office, 127 Atwell Hall, 453 West Tenth Avenue, Columbus, OH, 43210. Call 614-292-1706 for an appointment.

Campus Tours can be scheduled on-line through the University's Visitor's Center: <http://campusvisit.osu.edu/svcrec/index.asp>.

The OSU Masters of Occupational Therapy program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, PO Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220.