

DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (ENTRY-LEVEL)

GW's doctor of occupational therapy program is an entry-level professional program offered full-time over eight semesters in a hybrid format.

Students are required to meet for approximately six days across two different weeks per month for on-campus residency and experiential activities to develop the clinical competencies for practice. The small class size enables students to engage in critical thinking activities that facilitate effective clinical decision making and problem solving. Faculty members use innovative teaching strategies and integrate clinical experiences to facilitate learning and retention throughout the curriculum. The program prepares graduates to deliver evidence-informed occupational therapy with a global reach. As leaders, they advocate for the profession and demonstrate a commitment to ensuring occupational justice and inclusive engagement in society.

The program is committed to the development of generalist practitioners prepared to evaluate the contextual factors, current policy issues, and socioeconomic, political, geographic, and demographic factors influencing the delivery of occupational therapy services. Graduates are prepared to apply therapeutic uses of occupational therapy to a diverse population of individuals, practitioners, communities, and cultures, and to synthesize comprehensive knowledge in the field to provide therapeutic solutions to clients' occupational challenges.

The entry-level occupational therapy program is currently seeking accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, and it has been granted candidacy status. Candidacy status permits GW to enroll students in the program. The program will have a pre-accreditation review and complete an on-site accreditation evaluation prior to the final review and final accreditation status decision that will allow GW to graduate the first cohort of students in Spring 2025. Graduates from an Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education accredited program are eligible to take the national certification examination for occupational therapists administered by the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy.

For further information about accreditation contact:

Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200

North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929

301-652-AOTA

www.acoteonline.org (<http://www.acoteonline.org/>)

ADMISSIONS

Admission July 2024 - March 1, 2025 (Rolling) deadlines:

Applications: The application for the Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy program includes both the OTCAS Application (Occupational Therapist Centralized Application Service) and the GW Online Application. Both applications, no more than three (3) outstanding prerequisites, and all supporting documentation (application fees, supplemental essay question, letters of recommendation (2), official transcripts) must be received by the deadline for the application to be reviewed.

Application Fees: The fee for using OTCAS is based on the number of programs the applicant designates. Meeting OTCAS' eligibility criterion for a fee waiver does not guarantee a waiver will be granted for the supplemental application fees.

A limited number of application fee waivers are available for the GW Online Application.

Program Requirements: Eligible students must have a bachelor's degree with a minimum 2.8 cumulative GPA from a regionally accredited institution. There are no preferred undergraduate majors for occupational therapy. Diverse backgrounds and perspectives are welcome at GW and in the profession.

Letters of Recommendation: Two (2) letters of recommendation must be submitted with your OTCAS application.

Official Transcripts: Official transcripts from every college and university attended must be submitted directly to OTCAS. All transcripts must be submitted, whether or not a degree was earned.

All non-U.S. transcripts (including those in English) must be evaluated by World Education Services and submitted directly to OTCAS.

Supplemental Essay Question: In an essay of 250 to 500 words, How does the mission of the GW OT program resonate with you? Share an example from your life experiences.

Additional Information: In an essay of no more than 500 words, include anything that you would like us to know that was NOT covered elsewhere in your application.

Prerequisites: It is recommended that prerequisite courses be taken within the last five (5) years. Prerequisite courses taken over 5 years and professional experiences will be individually assessed. Students must have a minimum B- grade in the following prerequisite courses:

Human Anatomy with lab (3 credits lecture & 1 credit lab)

Physiology (3 credits) (Two semesters of a combined Anatomy & Physiology course in lieu of individual Anatomy and Physiology courses).

Introduction to Psychology (3 credits) (Psychology major in lieu of Intro to Psych; non-Psychology majors cannot use an upper-level Psychology course in lieu of Intro to Psychology requirement; Psychology and non-Psychology majors must have a specific Psychopathology course).

Psychopathology or Abnormal Psychology (3 credits) (Psychology and non-psychology majors must have a specific psychopathology course).

Lifespan Human Development (3 credits) (One course across the lifespan or two courses across different life phases. Human Development courses are often taken within Psychology or Education courses).

Introduction to Sociology or Cultural Anthropology (3 credits) (Sociology or Anthropology major in lieu of Intro to Sociology or Cultural Anthropology).

Statistics (3 credits) (Statistics, Biostatistics, or Basic Research Methodology courses may satisfy this requirement).

Policies: Before applying, all applicants are required to review the following: Technical Standards/Essential Functions for the Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program (<https://occupationaltherapy.smhs.gwu.edu/eotd-technical-standards-essential-functions> (<https://occupationaltherapy.smhs.gwu.edu/eotd-technical-standards-essential-functions/>)) Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening Policy (<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/admissions/background-checks-and-drug-screenings> (<https://smhs.gwu.edu/academics/health-sciences/academics/admissions/background-checks-and-drug-screenings/>)).

International Students: International students should check with individual programs regarding eligibility for visa sponsorship. Generally, online and hybrid programs are not eligible for student visa sponsorship from GW. This would include transfer students from any other institution with an existing visa.

Official transcripts from institutions outside the U.S. must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grades, U.S. degree equivalency, grade-point averages (GPA), and date of degree conferral. For a list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services, please click here (<https://www.naces.org/members.php>).

Applicants who are not U.S. citizens are required to submit official test scores for either Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or#Pearsons#Test of English (PTE), Academic the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Duolingo English Test (DET). The following are the minimum scores for admission consideration:#TOEFL: 600 on paper based, 250 on computer-based, or 100 Internet-based, PTE: overall score of 68, IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0, or DET overall score of 120. *Scores can be no older than 2 years.

International applicants who meet the following conditions may be considered for admission without submitting TOEFL, PTE or IELTS or DET scores:#They are a citizen of countries where English is the official language (as identified by GW ISO list of Exempt countries) OR; They hold at least a#bachelor#degree from a country where English is the official language as well as language of instruction OR; They hold at least a#bachelor#degree from an institution accredited by a U.S. regional accrediting agency.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Admissions
Health Sciences Programs
The George Washington University
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Suite 2000
Washington, DC 20006

For questions contact:

hsphora@gwu.edu
202-994-0384
9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 104 credits in required courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Curricular Sequence		
Semester 1 (fall)		
OT 8000	Neuroscience for Rehabilitation	
OT 8012	Health in Social and Population Contexts	
OT 8101	Human Occupation I	
OT 8110	Group Dynamics	
Semester 2 (spring)		

OT 8001	Movement Science
OT 8002	Human Development and Behavior
OT 8102	Human Occupation II
OT 8501	Research in Occupational Therapy Practice I
OT 8401	Occupational Therapy Fieldwork IA
Semester 3 (summer session)	
OT 8201	Occupational Therapy for Mental Health
OT 8231	Case Analysis I
OT 8310	Advocacy and Systems of Occupational Therapy Care
OT 8402	Occupational Therapy Fieldwork IB
OT 8502	Research in Occupational Practice II
Semester 4 (fall)	
OT 8202	Occupational Therapy for Adult Rehabilitation
OT 8232	Case Analysis II
OT 8311	Leadership and Management
OT 8403	Occupational Therapy Fieldwork IC
OT 8503	Research in OT Practice III
Semester 5 (spring)	
OT 8203	Occupational Therapy for Children and Youth
OT 8204	Occupational Therapy and Technology
OT 8233	Case Analysis III
OT 8404	Occupational Therapy Fieldwork ID
OT 8601	Doctoral Experience I
Semester 6 (summer session)	
OT 8234	Case Analysis IV
OT 8405	Fieldwork Experience 2A
OT 8602	Doctoral Experience II
Semester 7 (fall)	
OT 8312	Reflective Practitioner
OT 8406	Fieldwork Experience 2B

OT 8603	Doctoral Experience III
Semester 8 (spring)	
OT 8604	Doctoral Experience IV
OT 8313	Professional Development