

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT - ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE



## OCTA

**Occupational Title: Occupational Therapy Assistant**  
**Newport County Campus only**  
**Evening/Weekend Program (Fieldwork-days)**

**The CCRI associate-degree-level Occupational Therapy Assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at:**

**6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200**  
**North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929**  
**(301) 652-AOTA**

**[www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org) (<http://www.acoteonline.org/>)**

Occupational therapy is the use of purposeful activity and interventions to promote health and achieve functional outcomes in areas such as activities of daily living, work, play, or education activities. Achieving functional outcomes means to develop, improve or restore the highest level of independence to any individual who is limited by physical injury or illness, cognitive impairment, psychosocial dysfunction, mental illness, developmental or learning disability or an adverse environmental condition. Occupational therapy helps people of all ages lead productive, satisfying lives.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is offered at the Newport County Campus. It is an evening/weekend program; however, fieldwork experiences are offered during the day. Although Occupational Therapy Assistant courses are offered at the Newport County Campus, the required general education courses may be taken at other CCRI campuses or sites prior to acceptance. All fieldwork courses shall be completed within 18 months following completion of the academic preparation.

Students successfully completing the accredited program earn an Associate in Applied Science degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant (AAS\_OCTA) and are eligible to sit for the national certification examination for occupational therapy assistants, which is administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT). An individual must successfully pass the certification examination to apply for licensure to practice as a certified occupational therapy assistant in the state of Rhode Island.

**Technical standards:** The physical activity level for occupational therapy assistants is classified as "medium" by the Department of Labor in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles.

**Note:** Many courses require prerequisites, corequisites and/or testing. See course descriptions for details (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/course-descriptions/>).

## General Policies

See important general policies in the beginning of this section on the performance-based Health Sciences application process, academic progress, advanced placement, background check, CPR certification,

health insurance, health records, reinstatement, transportation, uniforms, and equipment.

## Minimum Requirements to Apply to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

- CCRI application** – Complete and submit a CCRI Application for Enrollment. General Studies should be the first choice; OCTA should be the second choice.
- High school transcript** – Send an official copy of the applicant's high school or GED® transcript, including date of graduation. If the applicant holds a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, the high school transcript may be waived; a college transcript must indicate completion and degree awarded.
- Complete Foundational Kinesiology (RHAB 1100) (recommended) and it may be considered in the performance-based acceptance process.
- Placement** – Complete a standardized test (ACCUPLACER NEXT GENERATION) issued by CCRI's Department of Advising and Counseling. Competency of 250 or above is required for reading comprehension or completion of Critical Reading for College Success (ENGL 0890) with a grade of B- or better.
- Complete the following courses** with a grade of C or better:
  - Human Physiology (BIOL 1020) or Human Anatomy & Physiology II (BIOL 2202)
  - Introduction to College Mathematics (MATH 1025), Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students (MATH 1139) or (MATH 1139C), Statistics for the Health and Social Sciences (MATH 1175) or (MATH 1175C), Statistical Analysis I (MATH 1240), Quantitative Business Analysis I (MATH 2077), Quantitative Business Analysis II (MATH 2138), Pre-Calculus Mathematics (MATH 2111), Calculus I (MATH 2141), Calculus II (MATH 2142), Calculus III (MATH 2243). (Highest grade earned in any of these courses will be calculated in the point system.)
  - Composition I (ENGL 1010). Composition I for Speakers of English as a Second Language (ESL) (ENGL 1300) will not substitute.
  - General Psychology (PSYC 2010)
  - Developmental Psychology (PSYC 2030)
  - Communication Fundamentals (COMM 1010)
- Complete the following courses** with a grade of B- or better:
  - Human Anatomy (BIOL 1010) or Human Anatomy & Physiology I (BIOL 2201)
  - Introduction to Occupational Therapy (OCTA 1000)
  - Medical Terminology for Rehabilitative Health (RHAB 1010)
- GPA** – Earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.7 or better for all college courses taken.
- Health Sciences application** – Complete and submit performance-based Health Sciences application including a preadmission degree evaluation during the open enrollment period. The application and instructions can be found at [www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/index.html](http://www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/index.html) (<https://www.ccri.edu/oes/admissions/>).
  - Important:** All the above requirements must be completed satisfactorily **before** submission of performance-based Health Sciences application and do not guarantee acceptance to the program. Students declining acceptance into the program for the semester offered must resubmit a performance-based Health Sciences application for the program and meet the current admission requirements for the application period in which they reapply. Once accepted into the Occupational Therapy program,

the student must attend a mandatory orientation conducted by the Rehabilitative Health Department.

9. **Background check** – Students are required to submit a background check when directed by notification from Enrollment Services. Final acceptance to the program is dependent on the results of the background check. A felony conviction will not preclude admission to the program. However, it can impact Level I and II fieldwork placement availability, as well as graduate eligibility for certification and credentialing. No incident or probation can have occurred within the past seven years. Applicants convicted of a felony will need to comply with state licensure requirements from the Rhode Island Department of Health. For more information, contact the department chairperson.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Preadmission General Education Requirements</b>		
These courses must be taken prior to program admission:		
BIOL 2201	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 2202	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
ENGL 1010	Composition I (or ENGL 1010A)	3
PSYC 2010	General Psychology	4
COMM 1010	Communication Fundamentals	3
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology	3
MATH 1025	Introduction to College Mathematics <sup>1</sup>	3
Subtotal		24
<b>Preadmission Major Education Requirements</b>		
These courses must be taken prior to program admission:		
OCTA 1000	Introduction to Occupational Therapy	2
RHAB 1010	Medical Terminology for Rehabilitative Health	1
Subtotal		3
<b>Major Education Requirements</b>		
Students must be accepted into the program before taking any major requirements.		
RHAB 1110	Kinesiology	4
OCTA 1010	Fundamentals of Treatment I	4
RHAB 1030	Pathophysiology for Rehabilitative Health Practitioners	3
OCTA 1070	Tests and Measurements for Occupational Therapy Assistants	2
OCTA 1030	Fundamentals of Treatment II	4
OCTA 1040	Gerontologic Occupational Therapy	3
OCTA 1050	Pediatric Occupational Therapy	4
OCTA 1060	Level I Fieldwork	1
OCTA 1080	Therapeutic Activity Group Skills	2
OCTA 2010	Psychosocial Occupational Therapy	4
OCTA 2020	Physical Rehabilitation and Health	4
OCTA 2030	Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork IIA	4
OCTA 2035	Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork IIB	4
OCTA 2040	Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork Seminar	2
Subtotal		45
Total Hours		72

<sup>1</sup> If you plan to transfer to a four-year institution, please consider registering for Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students (MATH 1139) or (MATH 1139C), or Statistics for the Health and Social Sciences (MATH 1175) or (MATH 1175C).

## Recommended Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Prerequisites</b>		
ENGL 1010	Composition I (or ENGL 1010A)	3
PSYC 2010	General Psychology	4
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology	3
BIOL 2201	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
COMM 1010	Communication Fundamentals	3
MATH 1025	Introduction to College Mathematics <sup>1</sup>	3
BIOL 2202	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
OCTA 1000	Introduction to Occupational Therapy	2
RHAB 1010	Medical Terminology for Rehabilitative Health	1
Hours		27
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Semester 1</b>		
RHAB 1110	Kinesiology	4
RHAB 1030	Pathophysiology for Rehabilitative Health Practitioners	3
OCTA 1010	Fundamentals of Treatment I	4
OCTA 1070	Tests and Measurements for Occupational Therapy Assistants	2
Hours		13
<b>Semester 2</b>		
OCTA 1030	Fundamentals of Treatment II	4
OCTA 1040	Gerontologic Occupational Therapy	3
OCTA 1050	Pediatric Occupational Therapy	4
OCTA 1060	Level I Fieldwork	1
OCTA 1080	Therapeutic Activity Group Skills	2
Hours		14
<b>Summer Session</b>		
OCTA 2010	Psychosocial Occupational Therapy	4
OCTA 2020	Physical Rehabilitation and Health	4
Hours		8
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Semester 1</b>		
OCTA 2030	Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork IIA (8 weeks, 35 hours/week)	4
OCTA 2035	Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork IIB (8 weeks, 35 hours/week)	4
OCTA 2040	Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork Seminar	2
Hours		10
Total Hours		72

<sup>1</sup> If you plan to transfer to a four-year institution, please consider registering for Mathematics for Liberal Arts Students (MATH 1139) or (MATH 1139C), or Statistics for the Health and Social Sciences (MATH 1175) or (MATH 1175C).

## Transfer

If you are interested in earning a bachelor's degree, please meet with an Academic Advisor ([https://www.ccri.edu/advising/transfer\\_information/](https://www.ccri.edu/advising/transfer_information/)) who can help you select the courses that best prepare you for transfer to a four-year college or university. For more information, you can also visit [ritransfers.org](http://www.ritransfers.org/) (<http://www.ritransfers.org/>) with resources on course and program transfer to Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island, or visit CCRI's Transfer Articulation (<https://www.ccri.edu/oes/records/transfers/traagree.html>) page for information on articulation agreements with colleges and universities throughout New England.