

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 five 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 2023 - March 1, 2024 (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 applicants only: Review International Applicant Information (<https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements> (<https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements/>)) carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

PLEASE NOTE that the Health Sciences programs require the following minimum English language test scores for admission:

Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual band score below 6.0; or
TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or

PTE Academic: 68

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: 107 credits, including 104 credits in required courses and 3 credits in elective 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

And 3 credits in elective courses

Semester 8 (spring)

OT 8604 Doctoral Experience IV

OT 8313 Professional Development