

Roane State Community College
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program (OTAP)

General Admissions Information

All applicants must follow the procedures below to be considered for admission to the OTA program (OTAP).

1. Apply and be admitted to Roane State Community College
 2. Meet the minimum academic requirements for Allied Health Science degree programs as outlined below:
 - Students **under** 21 years of age must attain a composite score of 20 or above on the ACT taken within the last 3 years OR attain a GPA of 2.50 or better after completion of at least 9 semester hours of general education courses required for the OTA program prior to the published application deadline.
 - Students **21 years of age or older must** attain a GPA of 2.50 or better after completion of 9 hours of general education courses required for the OTA program prior to the published application deadline. These requirements are listed in the college catalog under the OTA program.
 - Complete any required learning support courses
 3. Complete the electronic AHS application located under the Student tab in RaiderNet by the published application deadline.
 4. Complete 8 hours of observation in **each** of two different practice settings (total of 16 hours).
 - Practice settings may include inpatient hospital, outpatient, school systems, long-term care facilities, assisted living centers, or any other facility that offers occupational therapy services
 - Applicants are responsible for identifying and contacting the facility to schedule observation hours*
 - The supervisor must be an occupational therapist (OT) or occupational therapy assistant (OTA) with a **minimum of one year of experience**
 - The supervisor may not be related to the applicant
 - Observation hours should not be completed in a facility where the applicant has been employed
 - Download, print, and provide the supervisor with the OTAP Recommendation Form
- *The OTA program does not maintain a list of sites for observation hours.**
5. Ensure that the recommendation forms are submitted by the published application deadline. Forms must be **scanned** and sent electronically to hsnadmissions@roanestate.edu. Include the words **“OTA Recommendation”** and the **first and last name of the applicant** in the subject line.
 - Incomplete recommendation forms will not be considered

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- Recommendation forms submitted after the published deadline will not be considered
 - Do **not** fax, mail, or hand-deliver recommendation forms
6. Applicants must be able to meet the [Core Performance Standards](#) outlined on the Occupational Therapy Assistant program website.
 7. Up to 60 total applicants will be invited to interview based on preliminary point rankings. Final rankings following the interview component will determine the class selection.
 8. Notification of status (acceptance or denial) will be sent through RaiderNet email only.
 9. Status emails are expected to be sent by the end of the first full week in May.
 10. Applicants selected for the OTA program must confirm their acceptance per directions in the status email. Failure to respond by the published deadline will result in forfeiture of position in the incoming class.
 11. Applicants who are not admitted and choose to reapply for the next academic year must resubmit all program applicant materials (AHS electronic application and recommendation forms)

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Occupational Therapy Assistant Admissions Point System – Part 1 of 2

For students over 21 or students under 21 with 9 or more completed college hours for general education requirements listed in the OTA Degree Plan:

There are 30 possible preliminary points. Preliminary points are awarded for:

- the number of general education hours completed toward the OTA degree plan by the end of the fall semester preceding the application deadline:
 - 14-20 hours – 2 points
 - 9-13 hours – 1 point

- the applicants' GPA for the completed general education courses required in the OTA degree plan that are completed by the end of the fall semester preceding the application deadline:
 - 3.75-4.0 – 12 points
 - 3.5-3.74 – 10 points
 - 3.25-3.49 – 8 points
 - 3.0-3.24 – 6 points
 - 2.75-2.99 – 4 points
 - 2.5-2.74 – 2 points
 - Below 2.5 - ineligible

- Earned grades of a B or an A in BIOL 2010 and BIOL 2020 on first attempt. Repeating BIOL 2010 and/or BIOL 2020 may increase the student's GPA standing, but will not result in new or additional bonus points unless the course was repeated to meet program requirements (required general education science courses must be taken within 5 years of program admission):
 - A – 2 points
 - B – 1 point

- Recommendation of OT or OTA supervisors. Consideration given to knowledge/behaviors demonstrated during the applicants' observation hours (time management, professionalism, interpersonal skills, and knowledge of profession):
 - 0-12 points (averaged)

For students under 21 with fewer than 9 or more completed college hours for general education requirements listed in the OTA Degree Plan:

There are 30 possible preliminary points. Preliminary points are awarded for:

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- ACT scores:
 - 28 or higher – 18 points
 - 26-27 – 15 points
 - 24-25 – 12 points
 - 22-23 – 9 points
 - 20-21 – 6 points
 - Below 20 - ineligible

- Recommendation of OT or OTA supervisors based on knowledge/behaviors demonstrated during the applicants' observation hours (time management, professionalism, interpersonal skills, and knowledge of profession):
 - 0-12 points (averaged)

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Occupational Therapy Assistant Admissions Point System – Part 2 of 2

Up to 40 qualified and eligible Oak Ridge cohort and up to 20 East TN Alliance cohort applicants will be invited to interview based on preliminary point rankings. Please review the following information carefully about the interview process:

- Invitations to interview will be sent through RaiderNet email only
- Interview invitation emails are expected to be sent on or before April 15th
- Candidates must confirm the interview per directions in the invitation email
- Interviews are expected to last for ~1.5 hours
- Interviews are held on the Oak Ridge campus
- Interviews are expected to be held during the third and/or fourth weeks of April
- Interview points will be added to preliminary points
- The class will be selected from applicants who participate in the scheduled interview

There are 60 possible interview points:

- Overall recommendation of interview team consisting of a COTA/L and 2nd year OTA student. Consideration given to professional dress (appropriate, clean, well-groomed) and behaviors (poised, confident, introduces self, initiates questions), verbal and nonverbal communication, and knowledge of self and profession (relates skills/abilities/interests to demands of profession):
 - 0-10 points (averaged)
- Group activity and discussion. In small groups, applicants will participate in a goal-directed activity and informal discussion. Consideration given to interpersonal skills, teamwork, creativity, problem solving, flexibility, participation, verbal and nonverbal communication, and insight:
 - 0-10 points (averaged)
- Written reflection. Consideration given to written communication, self-reflection/analysis, and ability to follow written instructions
 - 0-20 points (averaged)
- Faculty recommendation. Independent ratings of full-time OTA faculty.
 - 0-20 points (averaged)