

Admission Information Packet

Roane State Community College- Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) is a health professional who uses purposeful activity to enhance daily functional abilities of individuals across the lifespan who may be limited by physical injury or illness, psychosocial dysfunction, developmental or learning disabilities, poverty, cultural differences, or the aging process. The OTA works under the supervision of an occupational therapist (OT) and collaborates with others to maximize independence, prevent disability, and maintain the health of individuals who require services. Students are educated in the skills and techniques necessary to participate in assessment and treatment in accordance with the occupational therapy plan of care and within state and federal regulations.

The OTA curriculum includes a blend of online and hybrid courses coupled with face-to-face labs. Students will need access to the Roane State Community College (RSCC) Learning Management System (Momentum) for asynchronous and synchronous coursework. Students will also need the ability to access Zoom. Students have the option to use RSCC Computer lab for these components of the OTA program. All students are required to travel to the Oak Ridge campus a minimum of one day per week for labs. Level I and Level II fieldwork experiences are completed through virtual and community-based practice settings. Placement decisions are based on factors such as site availability, alignment with program philosophy, and geographic proximity to the student.

OTA Curriculum Outline

Gen Ed

(Courses marked with * must be completed before the student can successfully enroll in the OTA courses)

ENGL 1010 Comp I
BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy and Physiology I *
PSYC 2130 Lifespan Development Psychology
BIOL 2020 Human Anatomy and Physiology II *
PSYC 2230 Abnormal Psychology
PHIL 1040 Introduction to Ethics or Humanities Elective
ALHS 1211 Terminology for Medical Communication

OTA Core Courses

(These courses must be completed in the sequence provided once enrolled in the OTA program)

1st Summer

OTAP 1110 OTA Program Orientation

1st Fall

OTAP 1210 Foundation of OT
OTAP 1320 Exploring Occupations
OTAP 1220 OT Documentation w/Level 1A
OTAP 1340 Human Movement for Occupation

1st Spring

OTAP 1520 Theory and Treatment: Psych
OTAP 1240 OT Documentation w/Level IB
OTAP 1510 Neurological Theory and Treatment

2nd Fall

OTAP 2510 Physical Dysfunction
OTAP 2220 Practice Management
OTAP 2520 Pediatrics
OTAP 2110 Level IC

2nd Spring

OTAP 2610 Level II A
OTAP 2620 Level II B

NOTE: All OTA students must complete Level II Fieldwork within 18 months following completion of academic preparation.

Graduates of the program will be able to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). Initial certification is a requirement for licensure in all states.

NOTE: A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination. A felony conviction may also affect fieldwork site placements.

Roane State Community College's OTA Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-6611 and its web address is www.acoteonline.org.

Admission Requirements/Application Steps

The following items are all required for admission to the Occupational Therapy Program, but meeting these requirements does not guarantee admission:

1. Apply to Roane State, submit all required admissions documents (high school and college transcripts), and be accepted by the college.
2. Once accepted by the college, the student can then complete the Health Sciences application online through his/her RaiderNet account. Select "OTA" as the desired program of application.

Minimum academic requirements for Allied Health Science degree programs:

- 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

General Education Course Requirements

Course Number	Course Title	Credit Hours	Notes
ENGL 1010	Composition I	3	
BIOL 2010	Anatomy/Physiology I	4	Must be taken within 5 years of the application deadline. Must have a "C" or better in this course.
BIOL 2020	Anatomy/Physiology II	4	Must be taken within 5 years of the application deadline. Must have a "C" or better in this course.
Humanities Elective	Introduction to Ethics Preferred (PHIL 1040)	3	See catalog for eligible classes in art, music, theatre, and philosophy. If more than one is taken, the highest grade is applied to admission points.
ALHS 1211	Terminology for Medical Communications	2	Offered online at Roane State
PSYC 2130	Lifespan Development Psychology	3	
PSYC 2230	Abnormal Psychology	3	

OTA program application requirement:

1. Observation Hours Form submitted by the application deadline:
 - a. There are two options to meet this requirement: **Do not do both options. You do either option 1 or 2. Note the videos are worth fewer points.**
 - i. **Option 1 (10pts)** - complete 8 hours of OT observation. Observations may be either of in-person/face-to-face OT treatment OR observations of OT services delivered through telehealth technology.

ii. **Option 2 (8 pts)**-Please review the following informational video approved by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and the information page on the AOTA website.

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwwOXILYQ4Q>
2. <https://www.aota.org/Education-Careers/Considering-OT-Career.aspx>

Summarize what you have learned in less than 750 words.

2. The Recommendation Form should be completed by two professionals in the community who are familiar with you. Ex. Previous employer, coworker, teacher, etc. This must be submitted by the application deadline. Forms must be scanned and sent electronically to hsnadmissions@roanestate.edu
3. Meet the Core Performance Standards outlined below:

CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND EXAMPLES

Critical thinking	Critical thinking is sufficient for clinical judgment and reasoning skills associated with occupational therapy intervention plans and therapeutic use of self	Identify cause/effect relationships in clinical situations; develop detailed occupational therapy intervention plans based on OT goals
Interpersonal skills	Interpersonal skills are sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Demonstrate appropriate therapeutic use of self during case study individual and group simulated interventions.	Establish rapport with clients/caregivers and colleagues; possess emotional maturity and demonstrate self-control
Communication	Communication abilities are sufficient for interacting with others in verbal and written form	Explain treatment procedures, initiate education to consumers, document OT treatment including client response.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in a variety of environments/context	Move around in client's environment, small workspaces, treatment areas, and a variety of environments
Motor skills	Gross and fine motor abilities are sufficient to provide safe and effective OT treatment interventions with the client's across the life span	Proper maintenance and use of equipment; safely position and transfer client; safety awareness for the client and others provided throughout interventions
Hearing	Hear/respond to monitor alarms, emergency signals, and client's/caregiver's communications/needs	Hear/respond to monitor alarms, emergency signals, and client's/caregiver's communications/needs.
Visual	Visual ability is sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in OT treatment	Visually observe client responses to OT interventions; observe client's movements patterns, motor skills, occupational

		performance/participation; visually observe caregiver performance with client
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and implementation of OT interventions	Perform palpation, apply appropriate manual pressure; hands-on as related to therapeutic intervention

Additional OTAP Admissions Information

1. Students who have been involved in another healthcare program must complete the admissions packet/process for the RSCC OTA program and meet the same standards and criteria as others pursuing an associates of applied science degree in OTA at RSCC. Transfer of specific discipline coursework credits will be assessed on an individual basis by OTA Program Director and/or the Dean of Health Sciences regarding substitutions for general education course requirements for the OTA program.
2. Students who have attended another OTA program and who desire to transfer to the RSCC OTA program will be considered on an individual basis. Transfer requests should be submitted in writing to the RSCC OTA Program Director. Students must meet the same standards and criteria as others pursuing an associate of applied science degree in OTA at RSCC. Additional criteria for transfer include:
 - a. Space available in the program
 - b. Academic good standing
 - c. Letter of recommendation from transferring Program Director
3. Students who have experienced an academic failure in any healthcare program must disclose this information when they make an application to the OTA program.

OTAP Admission Application, and Acceptance Timeline

The deadline to apply for the OTA Program is March 31st. Applications received after the March 31st deadline will NOT be considered. The student must reapply every year they seek to be an applicant. Applications reopen during the Fall semester.

September 15- March 31st

1. Submit the online Health Science Application
2. Complete all 1st-year prerequisite courses and observation hours. Refer to OTA program curriculum
3. Attend an OTA group advising session
4. Transfer of credit from other institutions

Month of April

1. Admission points are assigned based on OTA Admission Point System
2. Highest ranking applicants invited to interview via RaiderNet Email
3. Interview/OTA Essay points applied

Month of May

1. Top 20 applicants and up to 5 alternatives selected as OTA candidates
2. Candidates are approved by Allied Health Admissions Committee
3. Final candidate status notification via RaiderNet email
4. OTA Summer Orientation class begins during the Summer Term.

Books, Supplies, and Additional Program Expenses *These expenses are variable and subject to change.*

The following are approximate costs for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program by semester.

Material	Estimated Cost	Semesters Following OTA Academic Map
CPR Certification - Must be BSL through American Heart Association	\$34 (estimated)	1 st Summer of OTA Coursework
Immunization Requirements	Cost Varies (Insurance Dependent)	1 st Summer of OTA Coursework
Textbook	Cost dependent on point of purchase, publisher, format (Some textbooks are listed again in next semester - if you keep textbooks, prices will be lower) OTA Summer - \$0 2 nd Fall - \$463 2 nd Spring - \$607 3 rd Fall - \$515.35 3 rd Spring - No New Textbooks	Per Semester
Criminal Background Check (Fieldwork sites may have their own requirements)	\$50.10	1 st Summer of OTA Coursework
Drug Screen (Fieldwork sites may have their own requirements)	\$39	1 st Summer of OTA Coursework
MRT	1 st year - \$17.50 2 nd year - \$7.50	1 st Summer of OTA Coursework then annual Renewal
Professional Liability Insurance	\$13.95 annually	Included in tuition fees every 2 nd and 3 rd Fall

In-class projects	\$40	Per Semester once Enrolled in OTA Coursework
AOTA Student Membership Fees	\$75	2 nd Fall Semester 3 rd Fall Semester
Practice NBCOT Exam	\$30	3 rd Spring Semester
Optional NBCOT Study Pack	\$75	3 rd Spring Semester
State of Tennessee Licensing Fee	\$75	3 rd Spring Semester
NBCOT Exam Fee	\$555	3 rd Spring Semester
Total Cost	\$2,761.25	

Approximate total cost for OTA Program following the RSCC OTA Academic Map: \$15,571.3

Information regarding progression and retention once in the OTA program

- Students must maintain a “C” in core OTA courses
 - Failure to meet the minimum grade required for any OTA course will result in dismissal from the OTA program. Courses must be completed in sequential order.
- Must pass the course competencies within each OTA course with a 75 or better
- Maintain an exam average of 75 or better
- Students must demonstrate safe and ethical clinical behavior
- Adhere to the OTA Policies
- Adhere to RSCC Academic Misconduct Policy
- Retention in the OTAP program is contingent upon meeting all conditions as outlined in course syllabi

Students who withdraw from one or more OTAP courses will be ineligible to progress to the next semester and/or term.

Failure to adhere to any of the above could result in dismissal from the RSCC OTA program.

**Students can reapply for admission to the program by following the readmission policy found in the OTA student handbook. Students will either remain dismissed or be allowed to reenter the program pending available space.*

There are two separate OTA Admission Point systems based on general education hours completed. These are found below.

Roane State Community College

OTA Admission Point System

For students with 9 or more completed college hours

	Description	Points Breakdown	Points Awarded
General Education Hours Completed	Total number of general education credit hours completed toward the OTA degree plan ENGL 1010 (3hrs) BIOL 2010 (4hrs) BIOL 2020 (4hrs) ALHS 1211 (2hrs) PSYC 2130 (3hrs) PSYC 2230 (3hrs) HUM Elec (3hrs)	17 or more hours- 5 pts 13-16 hours- 3 pts. 9-12- 2pts	_____pts
GPA	Calculated on general education courses that are 1) required by the OTA degree plan 2) completed by the end of the spring semester of the application deadline.	3.90-4.00= 15 pts 3.80- 3.899= 14pts 3.70- 3.799= 13pts 3.60- 3.699= 12pts 3.50- 3.599= 11pts 3.40- 3.499= 10pts 3.30- 3.399= 9pts 3.20- 3.299= 8pts 3.10- 3.199= 7pts 3.00- 3.099= 6pts 2.90-2.99= 5pts 2.80-2.89= 4pts 2.70-2.79= 3pts 2.60-2.69= 2pts 2.50-2.59= 1pt	_____pts
Recommendation Letters (only 2)	Recommendation letters from two professionals in the community.	33-40pts- 3pts 24-32pts- 2pts 16-23pts- 1pt (per recommendation letter)	_____pts
BIOL 2010 BIOL 2020	Earned A or B in the first attempt	A- 2pts B- 1pt C- 0pts	_____pts

Observation Hours Submitted	Submission of 1 of the 2 options listed in the admission requirements.	10pts- option 1 8pts- option 2	_____pts
Interview	Applicants will be interviewed by OTA faculty and one non-OTA faculty member. Categories during the interview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional appearance • Communication skills • Knowledge of profession and necessary skills • Motivation related to patient care • Achievement and response to feedback • Work ethic and initiative • Communication and teamwork 	Max 20 pts	_____pts
Reflective Writing Paper:	Applicants will be asked to complete a written reflection on pre-selected questions following onsite interview.	Rubric will be provided during interview. (15 pts)	_____pts

Total Points- _____(max points of 75)

Roane State Community College

OTA Admission Point System

For students under 21 with fewer than 9 or more completed college hours

Category	Description	Points Breakdown	Points Awarded
For students under 21 with fewer than 9 or more completed college hours for general education requirements listed in the OTA Degree Plan		ACT scores: 28 or higher – 24 points 26-27 – 20 points 24-25 – 15 points 22-23 – 12 points 20-21 – 10 points Below 20 - ineligible	_____pts
Recommendation Letters (ONLY 2)	Recommendation letters from two professionals in the community.	33-40pts- 3pts 24-32pts- 2pts 16-23pts- 1pt (per recommendation letter)	_____pts
Observation Hours Submitted	Submission of 1 of the 2 options listed in the admission requirements.	10pts- option 1 8pts- option 2	_____pts
Interview	Applicants will be interviewed by OTA faculty and one non-OTA faculty member. Categories during the interview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional appearance • Communication skills • Knowledge of profession and necessary skills • Motivation related to patient care • Achievement and response to feedback • Work ethic and initiative • Communication and teamwork 	Max 20 pts	_____pts

Reflective Writing Paper	Applicants will be asked to complete a written reflection on pre-selected questions following an onsite interview.	Rubric will be provided during the interview. (15pts)	_____ pts
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Total- _____ (Max points of 75)

**Roane State Community College
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
Recommendation Form**

Applicant Name: _____

The individual named above is seeking admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program at Roane State Community College. The information you provide will assist the OTA Admissions Committee in determining this individual’s qualifications and potential success in the OTA program. Comments will be held confidential if the named individual has waived their right to review the recommendation. Upon completion, please return the evaluation to the applicant by placing the completed form in an envelope with your signature across the seal to ensure confidentiality or scan and send to hsnadmissions@roanestate.edu, subject line must include the words “OTA Recommendation” with first and last name of applicant.

Name and title of professional completing this form: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Date: _____

How do you know the applicant: _____ How long have you known the applicant: _____

Please rate the applicant using the scale provided that best reflects your judgment of the applicant:

5-Exceptional 4-Above Average 3-Average 2-Below Average 1-Poor 0-No basis for Judgement

	Rating
Time Management and Organization Skills	
Demonstrates Professional Behavior	
Maintains a professional appearance	
Demonstrates appropriate interpersonal skills when interacting with supervisors, coworkers, patients/clients, and others.	
Responds appropriately to constructive feedback	
Accepts responsibility for his/her behavior and is ethical	
Demonstrates initiative and inquiry	
Demonstrates good communications skills both verbally and in written	

/40pts

Comments: _____
