

# **DEL MAR COLLEGE**

## **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

### **ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES**

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program. This information packet includes the admission requirements, the point system for selection, the curriculum, and information to help you through the application process.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program has been accredited for 7 years by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association. Students graduating from an accredited program will be allowed to sit for the national certification examination that is administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

Del Mar College is an open admissions college; however, acceptance into the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is by selection. Positions in this program are limited, so program faculty are not able to interview or accept into the program all applicants who meet basic admission requirements. Admissions decisions will be made on the applicants' ranking thru the point system.

Students wishing to apply for admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program must submit a completed application to the Allied Health Department Office (**WEST Campus, Health Sciences 1 Building, Room #230**) no later than **July 15th**. This application is completed only when all information requested is received.

Further information can be obtained from the Allied Health Department by calling (361) 698-1845.

Sincerely,

Abel Villarreal, MOT, OTR  
Director, Occupational Therapy Assistant Program  
Assistant Professor, Del Mar College

## **DEL MAR COLLEGE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

Del Mar College will offer an Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program beginning in the Fall each year. Occupational Therapy Assistants are educated to provide service to individuals having difficulties in living due to developmental deficits, physical injury and illnesses, psychological and social disabilities, and the aging process. The goal of treatment services is to improve independent function in all areas of life, including work, school, play, and leisure. The Occupational Therapy Assistant works with and under the direction of a registered Occupational Therapist and assists with the processes of client evaluation, goal setting, implementation of care, and documentation of OT services.

### **July 15<sup>th</sup> - Admissions Application Deadline for OTA Applicants**

As an Occupational Therapy Assistant working with and under the direction of a Registered Occupational Therapist, job tasks may include:

- Aiding with the growth and development of premature babies.
- Creating learning environments for physically challenged school children.
- Providing activities to build self-esteem in teens recovering from drug or alcohol abuse.
- Providing therapeutic treatment to an injured worker.
- Directing an activities therapy department in a nursing home.
- Adapting home environments for people dealing with effects of stroke.
- Analyzing job task requirements for an injured worker.

## **ADMISSION CRITERIA**

Although Del Mar College has an open door policy, specific programs in the College have selected admission. The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program will have selected admission due to the fact that there are more students willing to enroll in the program than the program can accommodate in any given year. To be eligible or consideration for selection, applicants for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program must meet the following criteria. The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program **application and the supporting documentation** must be received by the Allied Health Department Office (Health Science 1, Room #230) on the West Campus by **July 15th**. Meeting criteria for selection does not guarantee admission to the program. Final selection will be based on the applicant pool and space available. These criteria supersede any other information.

### **THE FOLLOWING IS THE ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR THE PROPOSED PROGRAM.**

#### **1. TRANSCRIPTS**

Official transcripts must be sent directly to Del Mar College (Registrar's Office) from issuing schools/agencies.

A. All applicants, including college transfers, must submit high school or official GED Transcript directly to Del Mar College.

B. College transfer students must submit official transcripts from all colleges in which applicant has enrolled. A minimum of 2.5 undergraduate GPA is required of all students.

#### **2. PLACEMENT TEST SCORES**

All applicants must submit placement test scores which meet minimum requirements for entrance into college level English and mathematics courses; or, required remedial work (including any and all necessary college preparatory courses) must have been successfully completed.

#### **3. PREREQUISITES**

A. All applicants must submit a transcript showing completion or course in progress by July 1st.

- English 1301
- Biol 2404
- Recommend HPRS 1106/1204 to be taken as continuing education courses.
- ***A grade point average of 2.5 or better on the above prerequisite courses is required.***

B. All applicants must submit (on the form provided) documentation of ten hours of observation experience.

C. All applicants must submit two letters of reference.

D. All students must submit copies of transcripts from all colleges attended including Del Mar College.

#### **4. SPECIAL NOTES**

A. Questions regarding the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program should be directed to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director or the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Clinical Coordinator (361) 698-1845.

B. Further information will be provided for accepted applicants during the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program orientation.

**POINT SYSTEM FOR SELECTION**

After all admission criteria have been satisfied, a point system will be utilized for selection. Students will be ranked by points accumulated and the top 20 ranked students will be selected for the Occupational Therapy Assistant class. The 21st thru 25th ranked students will be Alternates.

**FORMER EDUCATION**

Degree earned from a regionally accredited institution (A.S. and/or B.S.).....5

**CUMULATIVE GPA**

Points earned equals GPA multiplied by 5 (undergraduate credits only and prerequisites)  
Maximum possible....15

**PREREQUISITES**

Completed with a grade of : A = 5 points  
B = 3 points  
C = 2 points

ENGL 1301 Composition I .....Max.....5  
BIOL 2404 Human Anatomy and Physiology I .....Max.....5  
HPRS 1106/1204 Introduction to Health Occupations.....Max.....5

**PROGRAM CURRICULUM**

Completed with a grade of : A = 5 points  
B = 3 points  
C = 2 points

PSYC 2301 General Psychology.....Max.....5  
PSYC 2314 Human Growth and Development.....Max.....5  
Humanities/Visual or Performing Arts.....Max.....5  
SPCH Speech Elective.....Max.....5

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

*Proof of employment required on form provided.*

O.T. Aide Full-time greater than 6 months.....2  
Part-time greater than 12 months.....2  
Part-time greater than 6 months but less than 12 months.....1  
Health Care Professional  
Full-time greater than 6 months or part-time greater than 12 months.....1

**RESIDENCY STATUS**

South Texas Resident.....1

## INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY

For the purpose of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, a “qualified individual is one who, with or without reasonable accommodation or modification, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the Program”.

The field of Occupational Therapy Assistant is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements, a list of “Core Performance Standards” has been developed. Each standard has an example of an activity which a student will be required to perform while enrolled in the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program. These standards are part of each Occupational Therapy Assistant course.

These standards should be used to assist students in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary for the student to meet program requirements. Students who identify potential difficulties with meeting the Core Performance Standards must communicate their concerns to the College counseling and advising staff.

Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether or not the necessary accommodations or modifications can be made reasonably.

### CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)</u>
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability to exercise clinical judgement	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations; deliver occupational therapy care
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with patients, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport and working relationships with patients/clients, staff, colleagues, and other professionals
Communication	Communication skills sufficient for interaction with others in verbal, nonverbal, and written form	Explain treatment procedures; provide health education; document and interpret occupational therapy actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, safely perform treatments and assist patients	Move around in occupational therapy facilities; deliver manual treatments; transfer patients; instruct patients exercise techniques; administer cardio-pulmonary procedure
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe and effective occupational therapy care	Perform treatment techniques using various procedures and equipment; transfer and position patients
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, Cries for help
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in occupational therapy care	Observe patient/client response, assesses effectiveness of treatment techniques
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation techniques, records vital signs, detects abnormalities in musculoskeletal system

**ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE:  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT  
ENHANCED SKILLS OPTION  
(Suggested Occupational Plan)**

		Lec.	Lab	Sem. Hrs.	Clock Hours
<b>PREREQUISITES</b>					
<b>BIOL 2404.</b>	<b>Foundations of Anatomy and Physiology .</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>ENGL 1301.</b>	<b>Composition I .....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>					
OTHA 1405.	Principles of Occupational Therapy.....	3	3	4	96
OTHA 2301.	Pathophysiology in Occupational Therapy .	3	0	3	48
OTHA 1309.	Human Structure and Function in Occupational Therapy .....	2	4	3	96
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>					
<b>PSYC 2301.</b>	<b>General Psychology .....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>48</b>
OTHA 1211.	Occupational Performance Throughout the Lifespan.....	2	1	2	48
OTHA 1319.	Therapeutic Interventions I.....	2	4	3	96
OTHA 2309.	Mental Health in Occupational Therapy.....	2	4	3	96
<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>					
<b>PSYC 2314.</b>	<b>Lifespan Growth and Development .....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>48</b>
OTHA 1315.	Therapeutic Use of Occupations or Activities I.....	2	4	3	96
OTHA 1262.	Clinical - Occupational Therapy Assistant...	0	8	2	128
OTHA 2302.	Therapeutic Use of Occupations or Activities II .....	2	4	3	96
<b>FOURTH SEMESTER</b>					
OTHA 2360.	Clinical - Occupational Therapy Assistant...	0	16	3	256
OTHA 2235.	Health Care Management in Occupational Therapy .....	2	1	2	48
OTHA 2331.	Physical Function in Occupational Therapy	2	4	3	96
<b>Creative Arts OR</b>					
	<b>Language, Philosophy, and Culture Core Elective .....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>48</b>
	<b>Communications (SPCH) Core Elective.....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>FIFTH SEMESTER</b>					
OTHA 2466.	Practicum (or Field Experience)- Occupational Therapy Assistant .....	0	32	4	512
OTHA 2330.	Workplace Skills for the Occupational Therapy Assistant .....	3	0	3	48
	Total Semester Hours for Associate Degree			60	

Courses in **bold type** meet General Education requirements for Del Mar College Associate in Applied Science degrees.