

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Delgado OTA Program maintains accreditation with the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) www.acoteonline.org. For further information contact ACOTE at 7501 Wisconsin Ave. Suite # 510E, North Bethesda, MD 20814 or phone 301-652-6611. When the student has successfully completed the program, the student will then be eligible to take the national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in occupational Therapy (NBCOT) 301-990-7979 for Occupational Therapy Assistants. Successful completion of this exam is necessary before state licensure is granted in Louisiana. Licensure is required before practicing in Louisiana. Graduates of the program receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree.

What is Occupational Therapy?

Occupational Therapy (OT) is a health profession where “occupational” activities, meaning activities with specific goals, and those relating to skills in everyday life, are used for physical and psychological rehabilitation of individuals of all ages. Occupational therapy involves the application of purposeful, goal-oriented activity in the evaluation and treatment of persons whose abilities to perform and cope with the tasks of living are impaired. Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants work in a variety of settings including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, public schools and schools for the handicapped, private clinics and even patients’ homes.

What is an Occupational Therapy Assistant?

An Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) works under the direction and supervision of a licensed Occupational Therapist, is a graduate of an accredited OTA Program and is licensed to practice occupational therapy in the state. The duties of a COTA include assisting the OT in implementing treatment programs according to the plan of care, training patients in activities of daily living, reporting to the OT on the patient’s response, and documenting patient treatment and response.

What is the OTA Program like at Delgado?

The OTA program includes two parts: (1) **PREREQUISITE**, general education and required related courses, and (2) The OTA **COMPONENT** which includes all the professional OTA courses. The OTA component of the program begins in the fall semester of each year and consists of **FOUR SEMESTERS OF FULL-TIME, DAY-TIME** class work and fieldwork experiences. The final semester of the program is spent in full-time fieldwork affiliations and may require travel to facilities outside the New Orleans area.

PART 1: PREREQUISITE COURSES (29 hours) – Must be taken prior to program entry

ENGL 101 English Composition I or ENGL 110	3/6	PSYC 127 Gen. Psych	3
MATH 120 Math Survey or MATH 128 Applied Algebra or MATH 130 College Algebra	3	PSYC 240 Abnormal Psychology	3
BIOL 251 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	3	PSYC 226 Human Growth and Devel.	3
BIOL 253 Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1	SOCI 151 Introductory Sociology	3
BIOL 252 Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3	Humanities Elective	3
BIOL 254 Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1		

**Prerequisites for BIOL 251/253 are BIOL 141/143 or departmental permission.*

***Refer to Humanities Elective courses listed in the current Delgado Community College Catalog.*

PART 2: OTA COMPONENT (42 hours)

OCTA 201 Intro to Occupational Therapy*	3	OCTA 211 Health Care Systems	1
OCTA 202 Group Skills	3	OCTA 212 Devl. Considerations	2
OCTA 203 Kinesiology & Occupational App.	3	OCTA 213 Neuro & Occup. App.	3
OCTA 204 Conditions & App I	3	OCTA 214 Conditions & App. II	3
OCTA 205 Occup. Theory & App I	3	OCTA 215 Occup. Theory & App. II	3
OCTA 206 Therapeutic Media	3	OCTA 217 Clinical Appl. I	3
OCTA 207 Community Occup.	2	OCTA 220 Clinical Appl. II	3
OCTA 208 Psychosocial App. OT	3	OCTA 221 OT Asst. Seminar	1

***OCTA 201 may be taken prior to submitting application into the OCTA program.**

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71 total credit hrs.

How do you apply for admission to the OTA Program?

Delgado Community College is an open admissions college; however, acceptance into the OTA Program is by selection. The Admissions Committee for the OTA Program reviews and evaluates each application on an impartial basis. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the program. Students wishing to apply for admission to the OTA Program must submit a **completed OTA application** to the Division of Allied Health **NO LATER THAN May 15th**.

Persons accepted into the OTA Program will be required to meet the technical standards of the OT profession which are available for review in the Allied Health Admissions Office.

The licensing boards of Louisiana and other states may refuse to grant licensure to persons who have been convicted of a felony. Conviction of a felony may also prohibit sitting for the certification examination administered by National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

When should you apply for admission to the OTA Program?

Students are eligible for admission to the OTA program who have:

1. Completed all the prerequisite courses by the spring semester preceding the August starting date.
2. Achieved a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 in all college courses and a grade of “C” or better in all prerequisite courses. Grade point averages are calculated on the basis of all courses taken, including those repeated. **Considerations is given to higher science GPAs.**
3. Completed a **minimum** of 30 clock hours of observation, volunteer or work experience in two different occupational therapy settings under the direct supervision of two different licensed occupational therapists prior to the time of application. **Additional hours are recommended.**
4. Complete high school or GED equivalent.

NOTE: Science courses over 10 years old may require repetition. Check with the Allied Health Admissions Advisor.

What are the career opportunities for an Occupational Therapy Assistant?

Opportunities for employment may be found in hospital-based programs, skilled nursing facilities, nursing homes, community-based programs, and pediatric settings. Skills learned in this program provide job skills for other related employment arenas such as case management, activity directors, etc.

How do you find out if courses you have taken at other schools will transfer to Delgado?

To find out if courses you have taken will transfer to Delgado, bring a copy of your transcript to our advisors.