

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Requirements for Admission to the OTA Program

The admissions process is competitive and meeting the minimal requirements does not guarantee admission.

Please refer to the OTA program web site for a complete listing of admission criteria and prerequisite courses including those that must be completed prior to applying to Rutgers.

Full admission criteria can be found on the web at:
<http://shrp.rutgers.edu/dept/psyr/programs/asdota>

Process of Applying for the OTA Program

Applicants apply directly to the Rutgers School of Health Related Professions (Rutgers-SHRP) by June 15 for Fall admission, and by November 15 for Spring admission to the professional of the program.

Applicants who have completed at least 16 of the specified pre-requisite credits and have achieved a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.5 may apply to the program.

All remaining credits must be completed with a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.5 for full acceptance and fall enrollment at Rutgers.

Applicants must ensure all official college transcript are sent to Rutgers-SHRP.

Application Tips & Related Information

The application is available at the Rutgers-SHRP website for prospective students at http://shrp.rutgers.edu/prospective_students/admissions/admissions05_brochures.html

Applicants complete the SHRP Application Form, indicating application to the Associate Degree/Occupational Therapy Assistant.

Use the Applicant Recommendation Form on the OTA Program's website at http://shrp.rutgers.edu/dept/psyr/programs/asdota/app_admission/requirements

Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions

Kenneth J. Gill, PhD, CPRP
Chairperson

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is one of many programs offered within the Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions.

RUTGERS

School of Health Related
Professions

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit:

http://shrp.rutgers.edu/prospective_students/admissions

Call:

Catherine Colucci, MA, OTR

Program Director

(908) 889-2474 • colucccn@shrp.rutgers.edu

Karen Kowalski, MPH, OTR

Academic Fieldwork Coordinator

(908) 889-2525 • zielinka@shrp.rutgers.edu

SEND FULL APPLICATION TO

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation
and Counseling Professions

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
1776 Raritan Road
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

RUTGERS FINANCIAL AID

rbhs.rutgers.edu/studentfinancialaid

ACCREDITATION

The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200 Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is www.acoteonline.org

SHRP Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation
and Counseling Professions

exclusively dedicated to healthcare

rigorous course work

the very best faculty & students

state-of-the-art equipment

*it's all
about*

CHOICES...

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program



RUTGERS

School of Health Related
Professions

Students who choose the Rutgers School of Health Related Professions want a University that is exclusively dedicated to health care, with state-of-the-art equipment, rigorous coursework, and faculty who care. All our resources go toward supporting a health care educational environment that attracts and nurtures the very best faculty and students.

Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) help people of all ages who are challenged by disability, trauma, and/or the aging process, to participate in occupations that are necessary and meaningful for them.



The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at Rutgers was established in 2012 in response to a national, state, and local demand for OTA practitioners, supported by a grant from Genesis Rehab.

The program is housed within the School of Health Related Professions' (Rutgers-SHRP) Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions on the Scotch Plains, New Jersey campus.

The Associate of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant is a joint offering by Rutgers-SHRP and its Partner Colleges. Students complete 32 credits of general education that fulfill prerequisite course requirements followed by 42 credits of professional coursework at Rutgers.

Program graduates are prepared for employment in healthcare, educational and other community settings to work in collaboration with a team and under the supervision of an occupational therapist.

Graduates of an accredited OTA program are eligible to sit for the certification exam administered by The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Once nationally certified, the graduate can obtain licensure to practice as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) in New Jersey and many other states. Information about licensure requirements of a specific state may be obtained by consulting the occupational therapy licensure board in that state.

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“The US Department of Labor Statistics (2012) predicts a 43 percent increase in employment of occupational therapy assistants by 2020 because of an increasing demand for these services.”

Program Mission

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is committed to preparing Occupational Therapy Assistants as professionals who will contribute to the health and well-being of individuals, groups, and populations in New Jersey and beyond.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program prepares students to serve people of all ages who experience illness, disease, disability, disadvantages, trauma, and challenging life circumstances, helping them to adapt by participating in meaningful occupations.

The curriculum prepares the OTA to practice as a dynamic and inter-professional team member working under the supervision of an occupational therapist, within healthcare, educational, and other community settings.

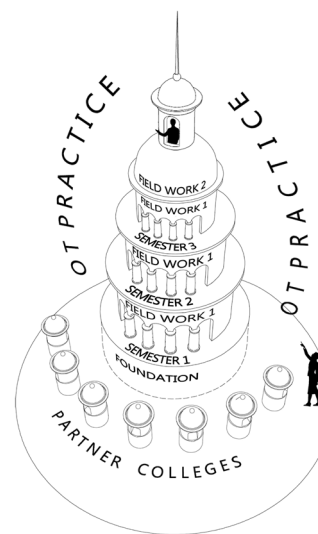
The OTA program is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in undergraduate education in collaboration with other New Jersey colleges, industry partners, and fieldwork educators.

The Occupational Therapy Profession

Individuals may enter the occupational therapy profession by completing an Associate's Degree and becoming certified as an Occupational Therapy Assistant or by completing a Master's Degree or Entry-Level Clinical Doctorate and becoming certified as an Occupational Therapist.

The responsibilities of the Occupational Therapy Assistant generally include:

- *Contributing to the process of evaluating a client by gathering information and administering selected assessments*
- *Assisting with the development of client-centered, occupation-based intervention plans*
- *Selecting and providing direct occupational therapy interventions to individuals and groups*
- *Documenting occupational therapy services provided*



The Rutgers-SHRP OTA program supports the centennial vision of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) for 2017:

“We envision that occupational therapy is a powerful, widely recognized, science-driven, and evidence-based profession with a globally connected and diverse workforce meeting society's occupational needs.”

AOTA The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.
Living Life To Its Fullest
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY



Curriculum

The Associate of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant is a joint offering by Rutgers-SHRP and its Partner Colleges. Students complete 32 credits of general education that fulfill pre-requisite course requirements followed by 42 credits of professional coursework at Rutgers.

Potential applicants can contact one of the Partner Colleges for the OTA program for information about their pre-professional curriculum (partners are listed on the Rutgers-SHRP website), and/or contact the OTA program directly.

Admission to a Partner College and completion of prerequisite courses therein does not guarantee admission to the OTA professional curriculum.

Professional Curriculum - 42-credits Rutgers Scotch Plains Campus

The 42-credit professional curriculum is offered on the Rutgers Scotch Plains Campus and includes supervised fieldwork education provided by Rutgers clinical partners in healthcare, educational and other community settings. Full and part-time study options are available.

Students must complete 16 weeks of fieldwork education prior to graduation.

The professional coursework supports the program's mission and emphasizes human occupation and adaptation, the process of becoming an OT professional, and the required competencies and contextual influences of OT practice. Fieldwork education is integrated into every semester of study.

“The New Jersey Department of Labor projects a 24 percent growth in occupational therapy assistants by 2020.”