Returning People to Their Lives

Occupational therapy is a health care and wellness profession dedicated to providing services to individuals of all ages with physical, developmental, cognitive or psychosocial dysfunction in order for them to engage in meaningful daily activities of occupation. Working under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR), the occupational therapy assistant utilizes everyday activities to assist individuals through participation, adaptation and engagement in purposeful activity.

The Program

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is designed to prepare you for certification as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). Classroom learning experience is reinforced by supervised clinical fieldwork experiences throughout the greater Macomb and Detroit areas. Fieldwork experience is offered in nationally and regionally recognized facilities.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is taught by professionals who are skilled clinicians and experienced instructors. They offer you multiple learning opportunities based on years of clinical and classroom instruction. The program faculty is dedicated to preparing you for both the professional challenges and the rewards that a career as an occupational therapy assistant can offer.

As a graduate of the program, you’ll be prepared to sit for the national certification examination for the Occupational Therapy Assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). NBCOT may deny certification and credentialing to Occupational Therapy Assistant graduates in violation of ethical and legal standards, including felony convictions. Most states require licensure in order to practice, including Michigan; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

Selective Admissions Criteria

To be considered for admission to Macomb’s Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, you must apply and be accepted. All appropriate documentation must be on file at the Center Campus Enrollment Office, G110, by the application deadline.

For a Selective Admission packet, visit www.macomb.edu or call the Enrollment Office at 586.445.7999.

Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) c/o Accreditation Department, American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)*, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. AOTA’s phone number is 301.652.AOTA.

*www.acoteonline.org
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT AS A CAREER CHOICE
Practice settings where occupational therapy assistants are employed are varied and include hospital and clinical settings, schools, extended care facilities, home health care agencies, physicians’ offices and wellness practices. The Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant may be employed in various roles, levels of supervision and administrative capacities, or they may be entrepreneurs in their own businesses.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK
With an associate degree and the required certifications, you will be qualified for careers including licensed occupational therapy assistant. Median salary for these careers is $47,660 in Michigan with 26 percent growth in openings expected through 2024.

You can’t help someone else up a hill without getting closer to the top yourself.
—General Norman Schwarzkopf