

Doctorate of Occupational Therapy Program Application Instructions 2017-2018 School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS)

OT Admissions Vision

The Ohio State University Division of Occupational Therapy seeks self-directed learners who are resilient, insightful, ethical, and who are motivated to become empathetic occupational therapists providing evidence-based, collaborative, client-centered care. The Division selects students who display diversity in background, experience and thought and demonstrate the potential to improve people's lives through innovation, excellence, and leadership in practice, research, education, and community service.

Admission Criteria

Admission to the OTD program is competitive. Prospective students whose applications/interviews present the highest qualifications will be accepted for admission. Completion of the stated selection criteria does not assure admission to the program.

1. **Bachelor's degree:** All applicants must complete a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. institution or comparable degree from a recognized foreign college or university prior to the start of the program.
2. **Prerequisites:** The following courses must be completed with a C or higher to be eligible for admission. It is recommended that all prospective students have their prerequisite coursework evaluated before applying to the program. To be a competitive applicant, all or most of the prerequisite courses should be completed. **Anatomy, Physiology and Abnormal Psychology** must be completed NO LATER than the end of Fall 2017 and within 5 years. Not having these three prerequisites completed by the end of Fall Semester will disqualify an applicant from consideration.

***Abnormal Psychology**

***Human Anatomy** (lab recommended, not required)

***Human Physiology** (lab recommended, not required)

Introductory or General Biology

Introductory Sociology

Intermediate or Technical Writing

Elementary or General Statistics

Medical Terminology

Applications missing prerequisites will be reviewed; however missing prerequisites may negatively affect your admission decision. To assist us in assessing eligibility, applicants will complete a Prerequisite Summary as part of the OSU supplemental application. Indicate which courses you have taken (or will take) that will fulfill the prerequisite listed. If Sociology, Intermediate Writing, Biology, Statistics, and Medical Terminology are not completed at the time of application, applicants will need to indicate the dates in which these courses will be completed.

3. **GPA:** Only applicants with a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher at the time of application will be evaluated for possible admission. All grades from all course work taken at accredited higher education institutions will be considered when evaluating applicants.

4. **GRE:** Applicants of the OTD program are required to submit official GRE scores directly to OTCAS. Test scores are valid for 5 years. When sending scores to OSU, please use **code #7415**. For more information on the GRE, please visit <http://www.ets.org/gre>.
5. **Observation Hours:** A minimum of 40 observation hours of observation or volunteer experience in occupational therapy under the direct supervision of a licensed and registered occupational therapist is required to apply to the OTD program. Applicants must document experiences **in at least two of the four following areas:** mental health, acute care/rehabilitation, pediatrics/school-based setting or geriatrics. OSU does not require formal documentation; applicants are responsible for accurately documenting these hours.
6. **References:** Applicants are required to submit contact information of three evaluators in their OTCAS application. Evaluators must be professors or instructors, current or former employers, coaches from a collegiate sports team, and/or supervisors in a clinical or non-clinical volunteer experience. Evaluators will submit electronic evaluations along with their letter of recommendation.
7. **Personal Statement:** Applicants must follow OTCAS's instructions on what to include in the personal statement. For more information, please consult OTCAS's Instructions page: <https://portal.otcas.org/otcasHelpPages/instructions/>
8. **Resume:** OSU requires applicants to also submit an electronic copy of their resume in PDF format.
9. **Interview:** An interview will be offered to qualifying applicants and are by invitation only. Qualifying applicants will be invited to an open house to complete interviews.
10. **TOEFL (International Applicants ONLY):** International students must submit TOEFL scores to OTCAS.

When to Apply

For the 2017-2018 admission cycle, the OTCAS application will open on **July 19th 2017** and close on **October 1st 2017**. Please allow 4-6 weeks for OTCAS to process and verify your application.

Application Process

1. Complete and submit an application through OTCAS (otcas.org). Applicants will send OTCAS official transcripts of all current, prior and future undergraduate, graduate and professional coursework
2. OTCAS will review and verify the application
3. Verified applicants will then receive an e-mail from OSU's Graduate and Professional Admissions Office with instructions on completing the OSU supplemental application and paying the supplemental application fee. The supplemental application is not available to applicants before submission and verification of the OTCAS application. Students previously admitted to a graduate program at OSU will NOT complete the supplemental application. These students must contact us at HRS.Admissions@osumc.edu to complete a Transfer of Graduate Program form.

Please retain these instructions and a copy of your application for future reference.

Graduate Fellowships

The **University (UF)** and **Graduate Enrichment (GE)** Fellowship awards cover the cost of tuition and provide a monthly stipend for the first year of the program. Fellowships are awarded on a competitive basis each year to applicants who show outstanding scholarly accomplishment and exceptional potential for graduate study.

Eligibility requirements for the **UF**: Students must be a U.S. resident with a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, as well as a 75th percentile average on the GRE Verbal and Quantitative components and 4.0 on the Analytical Writing component.

Eligibility requirements for the **GE**: Students must have a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.1 on a 4.0 scale, as well as a 40th percentile average on the GRE Verbal and Quantitative components and a 3.5 on the Analytical Writing component.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the SHRS Graduate Student Services Office.

For more information on the UF Fellowship, please visit: <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu/Depo/PDF/UF.pdf>

For more information on the GE Fellowship, please visit: <http://www.gradsch.osu.edu/Depo/PDF/GE.pdf>.

***Special Note:** Those interested in applying for Fellowships need to supply 3 letters of recommendation with completed [reference forms](#), a CV/resume and Personal Statement.

Valuing Diversity

The Ohio State University is committed to nondiscrimination, equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. This commitment is both a matter of law and moral imperative consistent with an intellectual community in which individual differences and diversity are celebrated. Accordingly, discrimination against any individual for reasons of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, age, disability or veteran status is specifically prohibited. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination. Title I and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 provides equal employment opportunities and reasonable accommodation, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in education programs and activities. Equal access to employment opportunities, admissions, educational programs and all other University activities is extended to all persons.

Reapplication Information

The application and all supporting documents become the property of Ohio State and may not be returned to the applicant, forwarded to another institution, or duplicated for any purpose. If you wish to reapply to the next year's class, you must submit a

new OTCAS and supplemental application.

Health Information

A health review is required of all students after acceptance into the Occupational Therapy program. Information regarding this review will be sent to those admitted prior to the start of the program.

Criminal Background Check

Many states, institutions, and registration licensure boards impose severe restrictions on hiring or credentialing medical personnel who have felony or misdemeanor convictions. Accepted applicants will be required to complete a criminal background check prior to enrollment as mandated by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Applicants having such a record must seek advice of the OT Dept. before pursuing a course of study leading to a profession where such restrictions might preclude licensure or employment in the profession.

The OTD program has achieved candidacy status 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.

Contact Information

Graduate and Professional Admissions Office

The Ohio State University
P.O. Box 182004
Columbus, OH 43218-2004
(614) 292-9444
www.gpadmissions.osu.edu

OTCAS

All OTCAS related questions should be directed to otcasinfo@otcas.org

Occupational Therapy Office

406 Atwell Hall
453 West 10th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210-1234

SHRS Graduate Student Services Office

hrgsgraduateludentervices@osumc.edu
614-292-1706

Application and Program Questions:

Please contact HRSGraduateStudentServices@osumc.edu OR visit the program website at: <http://medicine.osu.edu/hrs/ot/pages/index.aspx>