



## WHAT IS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY?

It is the only profession that helps people across the lifespan to do the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of daily activities (occupations). Occupational therapy practitioners enable people of all ages to live life to its fullest by helping them promote health, and prevent – or live better with – injury, illness, or disability.

Common occupational therapy interventions include helping children with disabilities to participate fully in school and social situations, helping people recovering from injury to regain skills, and providing supports for older adults experiencing physical and cognitive changes. Occupational therapy services typically include:

- An individual evaluation, during which the client/family and occupational therapist determine the person's goals;
- Customized intervention to improve the person's ability to perform daily activities and reach the goals, and
- An outcomes evaluation to ensure that the goals are being met and/or make changes to the intervention plan.

Occupational therapy practitioners have a holistic perspective in which the focus is on adapting the environment and/or task to fit the person, and the person is an integral part of the therapy team. It is an evidence-based practice deeply rooted in science.

## PATH TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

- Earn a bachelor's degree
- Apply to an occupational therapy program
- Earn a graduate degree in occupational therapy
- Pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy
- Obtain a license to practice occupational therapy in the state

## ACHE OT

- Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD)
- 3 Year Full-Time Program

## THE ACHE OT ADVANTAGE:

You will learn in an authentic learning environment; prepared for contemporary occupational therapy practice. As a transformative practitioner, you will be a change agent equipped to address the occupational needs of society.

- Our leadership and faculty
- Our learning/teaching approach
- Our learning/teaching resources
- Our community
- Our mission

*The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org).*

*The program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a preaccreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.*

*Students must complete Level II fieldwork and experiential requirements within 24 months following completion of the didactic portion of the program.*