

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Building 3, Room 108, Brighton Campus • www.monroecc.edu/go/careercenter • 585.292.2248

Occupational Therapists (OTs): help people improve their ability to perform tasks in their daily living and working environments. They work with individuals who have conditions that are mentally, physically, developmentally, or emotionally disabling. OTs help them to develop, recover, or maintain daily living and work skills. They help clients not only improve their basic motor functions and reasoning abilities, but also compensate for permanent loss of function. Their goal is to help individuals have independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

Degree: A master's degree or higher is the minimum educational requirement for licensure. (Many schools offering OT have a combined Bachelor/Master Degree in OT). To obtain a license, applicants must graduate from an accredited educational program and pass a national certification examination for occupational therapists administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Those who pass the exam are awarded the title "Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR)."

Criteria of Importance for Acceptance Include:

- Grade Point Average
- Recent work or volunteer experience in a direct patient care environment (may be required to be under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist)
- Personal interview
- Letters of recommendation

Typical Minimum Prerequisite Courses for Occupational Therapy Programs: Anthropology or Sociology; Anatomy & Physiology; Medical Terminology; Psychology; Philosophy; Statistics; Physics.

Examples of MCC courses include:

MTH 160 – Statistics I	PHL 103 – Intro to Ethics	PSY 212 – Developmental Psy-Lifespan
BIO 142 – Human Anatomy	PSY 101 – Introductory Psychology	SOC 101 – Introductory Sociology
BIO 143 – Human Physiology	PSY 206 – Abnormal Psychology	

Transfer college prerequisite requirements vary. Contact each institution for specific information and to verify course transferability. Please note that all courses listed above may not be required to be completed at MCC prior to transfer to a 4 year college.

Partial Listing of Colleges in NYS with a Program in Occupational Therapy:

SUNY University at Buffalo	D'Youville College	Sage College of Albany
SUNY Downstate Medical Center	Ithaca College	Utica College
SUNY University at Stony Brook	Keuka College	Long Island University/Brooklyn

Additional Information:

USDL, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Occupational Therapist - www.bls.gov/oco/ocos078.htm

The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. - www.aota.org

Accredited Entry-level Occupational Therapy Programs - www.aota.org/Students/Schools.aspx

(Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Programs are also listed here. These are typically Associate Degree programs.)

Updated 6/2011

Note: While every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to meet with a counselor in the MCC Career and Transfer Center and to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.