

■ THE PROGRAM

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Arkansas State University provides for the achievement of knowledge and performance requirements for entry-level occupational therapy practice through an integration of didactic instruction, supervised fieldwork experience and advanced practice.

An occupational therapy assistant (OTA) degree is granted to the student upon successful completion of 28 semester hours of prerequisite coursework and 35 professional core hours. Upon graduation, students are eligible to take the national credentialing examination offered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

■ MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the program is to provide quality education to students in the profession of occupational therapy assistant. The program will assess the attainment of this mission in terms of the contributions its graduates make to health care in the Delta region and beyond.

Students who have successfully completed the OTA Program at Arkansas State University will be:

1. Occupation and client-centered practitioners
2. Lifelong learners, advocating for the unique role of the profession in practice
3. Ethical practitioners demonstrating sound clinical reasoning

■ ACCREDITATION STATUS

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at A-State has been granted candidacy status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE):

**Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education
c/o Accreditation Department**

American Occupational Therapy Association

4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200

Bethesda, MD 20814-3449

Phone: 301-652-AOTA

Fax: 301.652.1417

Email: accred@aota.org

After the program has achieved accreditation status, graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for occupational therapy administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) www.ncbot.org. After passing this examination, the graduate will be a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA). Most states require licensure, and successful completion of the NBCOT examination is usually requested in the licensure application process.

Arkansas State is a EEQ/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ ADEA employer

*Scan here to learn more
about the OTA Degree*



■ CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Occupational therapy is one of the most in-demand professions in the US and internationally. The number of programs in the field has, like many health professions, exploded. Yet, the state of Arkansas only has a few programs to meet the regional workforce and societal needs. The Delta region has a unique configuration of needs and strengths upon which the program has been designed to meet or build. Preliminary needs assessment has identified a regional and state need. Also, it has revealed industry support and documented need for the program.

Employment of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants is expected to increase faster than the national average from 2010-2020. Arkansas is expected to have a 20 percent increased need for OTD and OTA from 2010-2020, and jobs are expected to increase by 12 percent in 10 years.

Occupational therapy offers a wide variety of services to people across the lifespan and work in a variety of settings including the following:

- Hospitals
- Outpatient clinics
- Rehabilitation clinics
- Skilled nursing, extended care or subacute facilities
- Homes
- Education or research centers
- Schools
- Industrial, workplace or other occupational environments
- Community based settings
- Mental health/behavioral health settings



**ARKANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

For more information:

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or

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Additional information is available from the national occupational therapy association, American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA):

AOTA

4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220

Telephone: (301)-652-6611

www.aota.org



**ARKANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY
ASSISTANT**



COMMITTED
& *Connected*
College of **Nursing and
Health Professions**

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

■ ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must apply for admission into the OTA program by close of business April 1, after they have completed all prerequisite coursework. Arkansas State University is a competitive institution, admitting 30 students per year into the program. A screening procedure is used to select the most-qualified students. Letter of application, résumé, three letters of recommendation, academic status and completion of required prerequisite courses are used in the selection process. Specific details regarding the application process are available at AState.edu/college/conhp/departments/occupational-therapy/associate-of-applied-science-in-occupational-therapy.dot

Applicants will complete all documents and submit them to the OTA program director for review by the admissions committee. Application to Arkansas State University and acceptance is required prior to OTA program admission. All application materials must be sent to:

Arkansas State University
College of Nursing and Health Professions
Eric Hicks, Program Director
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
P.O. Box 910
State University, AR 72467

■ PROGRAM COSTS

Detailed information regarding the cost of obtaining an associates degree from Arkansas State University can be found in the undergraduate bulletin at AState.edu/a/registrar/students/bulletins, which includes tuition, fees, room and board. The following is a list of estimated expenses associated with the program; actual tuition and expenses may vary.

1. **BOOKS:** approximately \$2,500 annually.
2. **UNIFORMS, NAME TAGS:** Two name tags approximately \$10 each. Fieldwork sites may require uniforms and cost will vary.
3. **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE:** Malpractice insurance is required for fieldwork educational experiences. The cost is approximately \$50 per year.

4. **ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:** American Occupational Therapy Association membership is strongly encouraged at an approximate cost of \$80 per year. Additionally, students are encouraged to participate in the A-State Student Occupational Therapy Association (\$20/year).

5. **HEALTH INSURANCE:** The university offers each student the opportunity to purchase an accident and hospitalization insurance policy as part of a group consisting of A-State students and students enrolled in other universities across the state. Membership in the group is voluntary. Application forms are available through the website located at AState.edu/a/student-health-center/index.dot. Health insurance is required during fieldwork educational experiences.

6. **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND IMMUNIZATIONS:** Fieldwork education agreements require specific immunizations and an annual physical examination. Costs for these procedures vary and are available through the A-State Student Health Center. Price information is available at AState.edu/a/student-health-center/index.dot. TB mask fittings average \$15. Immunizations may also be obtained through the Craighead County Health Department.

7. **CPR CERTIFICATION:** The cost varies depending on the location and sponsor (American Heart Association or American Red Cross) of CPR courses. The usual expense is approximately \$35 per year. The CPR certification must be for Healthcare Provider status.

8. **BACKGROUND CHECKS / DRUG SCREEN:** The costs for background/drug screen checks are variable. Additional information is located on the A-State Occupational Therapy website.

9. **FIELDWORK EDUCATION:** You are responsible for living expenses, transportation and tuition while on all fieldwork education experiences. The fee for the fieldwork education assessment tool varies. Additional information will be provided by your academic fieldwork coordinator.

10. **OTHER EXPENSES:** There may be other optional costs associated with the program.

■ CURRICULUM

Semester One - Fall

OTA 2013	Fundamentals of Treatment	3
OTA 2023	Emergence of OT Science	3
OTA 2033	Technology Skills Training I	3
OTA 2043	From Disease to Practice	3
OTA 2103	OTA in Behavioral Health	3
OTA 2071	Fieldwork Education IA	1
		16

Semester Two - Spring

OTA 2093	Technology Skills Training II	3
OTA 2053	Gerontology for the OTA	3
OTA 2063	Pediatrics for the OTA	3
OTA 2081	Fieldwork Education IB	1
OTA 2114	Fieldwork Education IIA Rehab Setting	4
OTA 2131*	Fieldwork Seminar - Online	5
		14.5

*Continues to next semester

Semester Three - Summer

OTA 2124	Fieldwork Education IIB Specialty	4
OTA 2131*	Fieldwork Seminar - Online	5
		4.5

*Credit awarded at end of Summer Term upon completion of course.

Total Number of credit hours required 35



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 Health Professions