



# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

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## Occupational Therapy Assistant Degree (0583)

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program provides a strong foundation in the skills and knowledge necessary for entry-level occupational therapy assistant competencies.

The program is accredited by the, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, American Occupational Therapy Association, 4720 Montgomery Lane, suite 200 Bethesda, MD, 20814-3449, Phone Number (301) 652-2682. Graduates of the program are qualified to sit for the national certification examination, administered by the National Board of Certification for Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), 12 S. Summit Ave. Suite 100, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, and Phone Number (301) 990-7979. Students who have completed all requirements will also need to apply for a license to practice in the state of California through the Board of Occupational Therapy (BOT), 2005 Evergreen St. Suite 2050, Sacramento, CA 95815, and Phone Number (916) 263-2294.



**Occupational therapy** is a discipline, which focuses on function as well as quality of life. Occupational therapy assistants provide service to individuals with physical, mental or

environmental disabilities, across life phases, who need to remediate skills of everyday tasks of work, self-care and leisure. The major requires general education courses including: biological, social, and behavioral science, in addition to, occupational therapy courses. The program utilizes classroom instruction and fieldwork experiences to prepare the student to meet certification and employment standards.

Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants have the opportunity to work in a wide variety of settings including hospitals, outpatient centers, psychiatric facilities, hand clinics, skilled nursing facilities, school districts and private pediatric clinics. The job market in southern California is excellent and is expected to grow. COTA statistics for Orange County, as reported by the California Labor Market 2015, is that the hourly mean wage is \$35.70. The job demand is expected to increase by 43.8% from 2012-2022.

Advanced placement in the program for those students with prior occupational therapy assistant education will be evaluated on an individual basis by the program coordinator.

When applying for the certification examination with NBCOT students will be asked to answer questions related to topic of felonies. Finger printing is requirement to apply for state licensure with BOT and for placement in most level II fieldwork sites. For information about limitations based on felonies, students are advised to call NBCOT and BOT any time prior to the application process.

### INFORMATION SESSION:

Information Sessions are held one time per month for 8 Months of the year. Please refer to website for details.

### PROGRAM SELECTION FORMAT:

SPRING semester – a randomization selection process.

FALL semester - an Associate's degree in OTA to a Bachelor's degree in Occupational Studies (OS). Students will earn both degrees. The selection for this program will be criterion base. This program is for applicants without a Bachelor's Degree awarded from another college/university.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

**Applications to the program will be accepted one time per year.**

1. Apply to Santa Ana College.
2. Download and complete the OTA application from our website.
3. Ensure satisfactory completion of all prerequisite courses, or their equivalents, with a grade of "C" or better. A letter grade of "C-" is not acceptable.
  - a. Applicant with AP Exam taken in lieu of the prerequisite must have a score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP test. Submit a copy of the official AP Score Report with your application.
4. Submit your application and official transcripts from every colleges that you attended to the OTA Office. Transcripts must be in a sealed envelope from the college to be considered official.

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**PREREQUISITES:**

English 101 or 101L, with a grade of C or better.

Communication Studies (3 units) – Satisfactory completion of Communication Studies 101, 101L, 102, 140, 145, with a grade of C or better.

Biology 149, Human Anatomy & Physiology (4 units) with a grade of C or better. This course has to be taken within the last 10 years.

Psychology 100 or 100H with a grade of C or better. (This is a prerequisite for Psychology 250.)

Major requirements for the Associate Degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant:

FIRST YEAR	FIRST SEMESTER	UNITS
O.T.A. 100	Medical Terminology and Documentation	1
O.T.A. 101	Foundations of Occupation and Occupational Therapy	4
O.T.A. 101L	Exploration of Occupation	2
O.T.A. 110	Human Occupation Across Lifespan	3

FIRST YEAR	SECOND SEMESTER	UNITS
O.T.A. 102	Psychosocial Function and Dysfunction	4
O.T.A. 102L	Psychosocial Components of Occupation	2.5
O.T.A. 115	Human Disease and Occupation	2
Psychology 250	Abnormal Psychology	3
O.T.A. 111	Applied Kinesiology	1

SECOND YEAR	THIRD SEMESTER	UNITS
O.T.A. 103	Physical Function and Dysfunction	4
O.T.A. 103L	Physical Components of Occupation	2.5
O.T.A. 201	Contemporary Models of Occupational Therapy Practice	4

SECOND YEAR	FOURTH SEMESTER	UNITS
O.T.A. 202	Level II Fieldwork – Part I	6
O.T.A. 203	Level II Fieldwork – Part II	6

**REQUIRED FOR MAJOR**

**UNITS 45**

**Please Note:** Psychology 250 is the only core course that may be taken prior to starting the program.

PREREQUISITES	UNITS
Biology 149	4
Communication studies 101, 101L, 102, 140, 145	3
English 101 or 101L	4
Psychology 100 or 100H	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>

Additional requirements for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Associate Degree:

Course	Units
U.S. History or Political Science (American Institutions)	3
Humanities	3
Cultural Breadth	3
Communication and Analytical Thinking	3
Total General Education Units	12
<b>TOTAL UNITS</b>	<b>71</b>

\*Math proficiency for graduation: Successful completion of the Santa Ana College Math Proficiency Exam or Intermediate Algebra.



**NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Rancho Santiago Community College District complies with all Federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Harassment of any employee/student with regard to race, color, national origin, gender or disability is strictly prohibited. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to District's Title IX Officer and/or Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

Rancho Santiago Community College District  
 Title IX Officer and Section 504/ADA  
 Vice Chancellor HR  
 2323 N. Broadway  
 Santa Ana, CA 92706  
 714-480-7489

