

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Application

All application materials are due to the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program director or designee. Applications must be emailed to MiMoore@BrooklineCollege.Edu.

Only complete applications will be reviewed. Applicants **will not** be notified of missing application information.

You must be accepted to Brookline College before you may apply to the OTA Program.

A **complete** application must include the following materials to be considered:

- Emergency Contact Information.
- Signed Consent to Release Background Information form.
- Completed and signed Essential Functions form.
- Two letters of recommendation.
- Documentation of work, personal, or volunteer experience related to OT (Occupational Therapy) if applicable.
- Watch Occupational Therapy Video and Submit Questions
- Interview and OT or OTA
- Submission of transcripts to evaluate GPA
- Personal statement

- Students who submit a completed application and meet all minimum entry requirements to become a Brookline student will be scheduled for an in-person interview with the OTA Admission Committee.

Apon acceptance into the program you will be expected to:

- Complete a criminal background check and drug screen to participate in clinical rotations. If you have any concerns about an item that may appear on this background check, you may consult with the OTA Program Director or contact the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) board directly by visiting www.nbcot.org.
- Provide evidence of up-to-date immunizations
- Maintain updated CPR certification

Evaluation and Selection of Applicants

Your OTA application and all related requirements and documentation will be reviewed and scored as detailed below.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program has a selective admissions policy due to lab space and the limited number of fieldwork sites available to the program. A maximum of twenty (20) applicants will be chosen each year. Final admission of all applicants will be awarded at the discretion of the OTA Admissions Committee.

Selection Criteria

Using the following criteria, applicants will be evaluated for admittance into the OTA program.

- 1) In person professional interview (20 points maximum)
 - a) The 30-minute interview will assess the applicant's professionalism, desire, and motivation to pursue the field of occupational therapy, communication skills, and ability to think creatively.
- 2) Professional recommendations (10 points maximum)
 - a) Recommenders will be sent an electronic questionnaire to rate your professionalism and traits which indicate you would be a suitable candidate for the OTA program.
- 3) Related work, personal or volunteer experience (10 points maximum)
 - a) Over 1 year experience = 10 points, 6months-1year experience = 6 points, 1 month-6months experience = 4 points, 1 week-1 month experience = 2 points
- 4) Watch OT video and answer questions (10 points)
 - a) 1 point for each question answered correctly
- 5) GPA (10 points maximum)
 - a) 3.60-4.00 = 5 points, 3.10-3.59 = 4 points, 2.60-3.09 = 3 points, 2.5-2.59 = 2 points, 2.0-2.49 = 1 point, below 1.99 = 0 points
- 6) Application legible and submitted on time (5 points maximum)
- 7) Personal Statement (5 points maximum)
 - a) 1 point for each question, 1 point for proper spelling, grammar, and writing mechanics.
- 8) Reapplication (5 points maximum)
 - a) If an applicant is not accepted into the program, they will be placed on an alternate list and candidates will be notified as vacancies occur. Those placed on the alternate list, who do not fill a vacancy, **must complete the full application for consideration during the next application cycle.** If an alternate met all the requirements of the application and would like to receive points for re-application the next year, they must request this in writing when reapplying. Please note that no materials, such as transcripts or other application documents, are kept on file to be used again for re-application. These materials are treated as confidential documents and are shredded.

After I apply, what should I expect?

If the application packet is complete, the applicant's information will be reviewed by the program's Admission Committee. Applicants will be notified by email if they are selected for an in-person professional interview. After interviews have taken place applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program by mail.

Occupational Therapy Assistant Application

Date: _____ Program Location: _____

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: _____

_____ Last

_____ First

Mailing Address: _____ Apartment/Unit # _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

(It is the applicant's responsibility to contact the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program if your address changes prior to the date when decision letters are sent out.)

Have you ever been dismissed, disciplined, or placed on probation from a college or university?

Yes No If yes, explain: _____

Emergency Contact Information

Person to notify in case of an emergency:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone #: (____) _____

Educational Background

Please any schools you have previously attended.

School Name: _____

City/State: _____

Did you graduate? Yes No Degree: _____

Dates Attended: _____

School Name: _____

City/State: _____

Did you graduate? Yes No Degree: _____

Dates Attended: _____

School Name: _____

City/State: _____

Did you graduate? Yes No Degree: _____

Dates Attended: _____

Work, Volunteer, Personal Experience Form

Please include any related work, volunteer, or personal experience you have had that relates to the profession of occupational therapy. If you don't have any, please leave this section blank. If it's a personal experience, please state relationship under employer name.

Employer Name: _____

City/State: _____

Phone number to confirm: _____

Dates Attended: _____

Describe your experience and how it relates to the profession of OT. _____

Employer Name: _____

City/State: _____

Phone number to confirm: _____

Dates Attended: _____

Describe your experience and how it relates to the profession of OT. _____

Employer Name: _____

City/State: _____

Phone number to confirm: _____

Dates Attended: _____

Describe your experience and how it relates to the profession of OT. _____

Consent to Release of Background Information

I acknowledge that my acceptance into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program is dependent upon meeting all admission requirements. One of those requirements is to be free of any criminal history that would indicate a potential for violence against another person or substance abuse. I release university officials from any potential claim or liability related to the appropriate use of this information.

I have been advised about the background check that is a requirement for admission into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program. If I have engaged in past criminal activities, I may be subject to termination from the OTA program.

I understand that the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) may reject an application to sit for the national certification exam based on a past criminal record. I understand that this may also be the case at the state level to meet requirements for licensure of occupational therapy assistants. I further understand that some fieldwork sites may not accept the placement of a student with a negative background check, which may delay or prevent me from graduating from the program.

This consent and release are effective as of the date signed and it will remain effective until further notice. The university is not required to notify me when the request will be submitted to any law enforcement unit and is not limited to the number of such requests.

By my signature below, I acknowledge and agree that I consent to the access and release of any records maintained by any local county, state, or national law enforcement unit.

Applicant's Name

Applicant's Signature

Date

Other Name/s Used If Any

Parent or Guardian If a Minor

Date

Essential Functions

Brookline College strives to make its programs accessible to all individuals, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Its purpose is to create and maintain an environment in which students may achieve their fullest potential, limited to the least extent possible by individual disabilities. Such disabilities include physical or mental impairment that limit major life functions. All faculty, staff and students at the university are expected to adhere to this philosophy of equal access to educational opportunity and to assume broad responsibility for its implementation.

Disclosure of a disability is not required, but if disclosed, it is the responsibility of the individual to seek available assistance and make needs known. **To request accommodations:** All inquiries and requests for accommodation should be submitted to the ADA coordinator who serves as a resource for students with disabilities, verifies and maintains documentation, considers accommodation requests, and determines reasonable accommodations.

The essential functions stated below describe skills, abilities, and capacities that are required for completion of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program and to work as an entry-level occupational therapy assistant (OTA). Essential functions are based on skills, abilities, and capacities required for students to safely participate in educational and training activities in a way that does not compromise the safety of themselves, peers, patients, or others. Throughout the OTA educational program, OTA students must be able to perform these essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation.

Essential Function(s)	Description	Examples of Activities
Critical Thinking and Memory	Skills and abilities sufficient to use logic and reasoning for judging clinical situations and solving problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out safe and efficacious interventions. • Use clinical reasoning. • Determine when assistance from instructor or fieldwork educator is required.
Communication	Skills and abilities sufficient to read, write, express, and understand information conveyed in English.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain treatment to patients, families, and team members. • Document treatments. • Report at meetings. • Educate patients. • Use professional terminology.
Interpersonal interactions	Skills and abilities sufficient to collaborate and interact with patients, patients' family members, team members, and colleagues from a variety of social, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish rapport and professional relationships with patients, patients' families, peers, instructors, and supervisors. • Conduct self in ethical manner. • Use verbal and nonverbal communication to interact with others appropriately.
Self-management	Skills and abilities sufficient to complete tasks under stress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage time. • Organize self. • Accept criticism. • Manage emotions appropriately.
Mobility and Gross Motor Strength and Coordination	Skills and abilities sufficient to perform safely and with agility a variety of motor activities, including balancing,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage patients in bathing, dressing, and grooming activities.

	walking, bending, climbing, squatting, reaching, pushing, pulling, lifting, and carrying throughout the workday. Abilities may require lifting 40 lbs or more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist patients in transferring from bathtub, bed, and toilet. • Carry and set up therapeutic equipment such as splints, splint pans, therapy balls, bolsters, mats, and swings. • Transport patients using wheelchairs and walkers. • Engage in play occupations with pediatric clients.
Fine Motor Strength and Coordination	Skills and abilities sufficient to grasp and manipulate objects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete written and electronic documentation. • Set up therapeutic activity. • Manipulate patient care and assessment devices including goniometers, scissors, adaptive equipment, and gait belts. • Make and adjust splints, serial casts, and adaptive equipment.
Tactile Sensation	Tactile sensation of temperature, texture, vibration, and pressure sufficient for sensory stimulation assessments and interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceive safe heat and cold levels on physical agent modalities, splints, and appliances. • Feel muscle tone and movement. • Palpate anatomical structures.
Hearing	Ability sufficient to hear sounds. Auditory ability to monitor and assess health needs of patients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient to comprehend person engaged in conversation. • Respond to patients' calls for help. • Respond to emergency alarms and safety devices.
Vision	Ability sufficient to visually determine details at close and far range. Visual ability to monitor and assess safety and health needs of patients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read course materials. • Observe and supervise one or more persons in a therapy setting. • Read patient information and charts. • Respond to visual monitors and gauges. • Monitor facial expressions, skin coloration, and muscular tension.
Endurance	Ability sufficient to tolerate extended periods of cognitive and physical activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand or sit for extended periods of time. • Participate and attend to class for up to 8 hours per day. • Complete multiple 40-hour weeks of clinical fieldwork.
Transportation	Ability to access reliable transportation to attend class and fieldwork sites in a timely manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend class and labs. • Participate in fieldwork rotations.
Technology	Ability to use basic computer software, word processing and electronic communication for on-line course skills and electronic documentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate and attend online classes. • Complete online assignments and discussion posts.

I have reviewed the essential functions of the program, and I certify that to the best of my knowledge I can perform these functions.

Applicant's Name

Applicant's Signature

Date

Occupational Therapy Video and Questions

Watch the video “What can Occupational Therapy do for you?”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwwOXILYQ4Q> (13:16) then answer the following questions. Some of the answers will come directly from the video, but others you will have to apply the information from the video to create your own answer.

1. What is the goal of an occupational therapy practitioner according to Ryerson Stinson, OTR?
2. What is an important part of therapy according to Ryerson Stinson, OTR?
3. What does Jan Davis say about occupational therapy?
4. What is one of the child’s occupations according to Melody Maney, MS, OTR?
5. What was the steering wheel used for in therapy for the individual with a traumatic brain injury?
6. What does the occupational therapist say to explaining how going to a coffee shop is part of therapy?
7. Name three (3) diagnosis in the video
8. What parts of a person do occupational therapy practitioners treat?
9. Locate 3 additional videos about Occupational Therapy and provide their URL’s.
10. What makes occupational therapy unique from other professions?

Interview an OT or OTA

OT/ OTA's Name: _____

City/State: _____

Phone number to confirm: _____

Describe what you learned about the profession of OT. _____

OTA Recommendation Letters

Two professional recommendations are required for consideration to this program. These recommendations must come from an instructor, guidance counselor, health care professional, job supervisor, or someone who knows your professional and/or academic abilities and habits. These individuals will be emailed a questionnaire to complete so make sure you provide a **valid email** address.

Reference #1:

Name: _____

Title of person: _____

How do you know this person? _____

How long have you known this person for? _____

Email: _____

Reference #2:

Name: _____

Title of person: _____

How do you know this person? _____

How long have you known this person for? _____

Email: _____

Personal Statement

Please answer the following questions using complete and thoughtful responses. Use proper English, grammar, spelling, and writing mechanics in your responses. Essays should be typed, double spaced, and use 12-point Arial font.

1. Describe why you are interested in pursuing a career as an occupational therapy assistant (OTA)?
2. Empathy is an important quality for OTAs. Describe a situation that demonstrates your ability to empathize with others.
3. OTA's work with diverse populations based on gender, ethnicity, race, values, sexual preference, political views, socioeconomic status, and religion. Please describe previous experiences that have prepared you to interact with a diverse client base. Are there specific populations you will have a difficult time serving?
4. Describe why Brookline College's Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is a good fit for you?

Nondiscrimination and ADA Policy

To the extent provided by applicable law, including Title IX, no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity sponsored by or conducted by the College on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions), disability (physical or mental), age (40 and older), citizenship status, genetic information, military or veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, AIDS/HIV, medical condition, political activities or affiliations, or status as a victim of domestic violence, assault or stalking. Additionally, the College treats a student's gender identity as the student's sex for Title IX purposes, and the College does not treat a transgender student differently from the way it treats other students of the same gender identity. The requirement not to discriminate in the education program or activity extends to admission and employment, and any inquiries regarding the application of Title IX may be referred to the College's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, or both.

Disabled Students

Disabled students should meet with the ADA Coordinator prior to the start of class to review facilities and required accommodations. Reasonable assistance is provided through a variety of services tailored to students' needs to equalize educational opportunities for students. Support services are provided on an individual needs basis and should be discussed with the ADA coordinator. Note: All nursing students must be cleared by their healthcare provider to participate fully in the clinical setting.

Rehabilitation Act & Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the college abides by the regulation that "no otherwise disabled individual" shall be excluded from participation in programs and services offered by the College "solely by reason of the disability." A student is eligible for consideration for accommodations and/or auxiliary aids and services if the student has a documented disability and the ADA Coordinator has consulted with the student and determined that the functional limitations of the disability require such accommodation, auxiliary aids and/or services.

The college is committed to providing reasonable accommodations including auxiliary aids and/or services to qualified individuals with a disability, unless providing such accommodations would result in undue burden or would fundamentally alter the nature of the program, benefit, or service provided by the College. To request auxiliary aid or service, please contact the ADA Coordinator(s) for your campus.

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