

Program Information

The Anoka Technical College Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant is a 71-credit program. Course work includes a combination of general education courses, occupational therapy theory and skill building courses, and on-the-job experiences at various fieldwork sites. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the fieldwork sites. All academic coursework must be completed before students are placed on their Level II fieldwork experience. The Level II fieldwork must be completed within 12 months of completing the required coursework. Enrollment in the fieldwork classes may be limited due to the availability of fieldwork sites.

Program Learning Outcomes

By completing this program, students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

1. Practice using innovative and evidence-based interventions within the role of the entry-level Occupational Therapy Assistant.
2. Demonstrate professional attributes, ethical standards, and values of the profession.
3. Deliver competent services/outcomes by using reflection, strengths, client centered and occupation based interventions, and critical and creative thinking.
4. Collaborate inter/intra professionally.
5. Work with people from diverse backgrounds in a variety of practice settings serving the community.
6. Recognize the importance of life-long learning and professional socialization.

Accreditation/Certification

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Anoka Technical College is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449, ACOTE's phone number, C/O AOTA, is 301-652-AOTA, and its web address is www.acoteonline.org.

Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of the exam, the individual is a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). Most states require licensure in order to practice. However, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification exam or attain state licensure.

Admission Requirements

All required documentation must be submitted in person; Enrollment Services will be unable to receive them via mail, online or fax.

Admission criteria:

Option 1

1. Apply to Anoka Technical College and be admitted to the college

2. Complete appropriate test scores and the Test of Essential Academic Skills for Allied Health (ATI-TEAS).
3. Certificate of Attendance from Information Session

Option 2: Students who have bachelor's or master's degree

1. Apply to Anoka Technical College and be admitted to the college
2. Submit an official transcript of Bachelor's or Master's degree
3. Certificate of Attendance from Information Session

Background Study

Minnesota state law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and/or residents at a health care facility have a background study conducted by the state. A student who is disqualified as a result of a background check will not be allowed to enter the program major. A student must receive a "Background Study Clearance" within 90 days preceding the start of clinical or fieldwork courses to be placed at a partnering facility. Any student failing to receive clearance will be disqualified from enrollment in the course. Arrests, charges, or convictions of criminal offenses may cause a student to fail a background study. If a student is disqualified, the student has the right to request reconsideration of the disqualification.

Graduation Requirements

Successful completion of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program with a grade of C or higher in each of the following: HLTH 1005, and each COTA course and 2.0 average or greater in required PSYC, SPCH and ENGL courses.

Transfer Opportunities

To see how credits from this program may transfer into other Anoka Technical College programs or into a program at another college, visit:

- [Minnesota Transfer](http://www.mntransfer.org/students/plan/s_agreements.php?numResults=25&archive=false&from_inst=70&from_prog=&to_inst=&Search=Search): (www.mntransfer.org/students/plan/s_agreements.php?numResults=25&archive=false&from_inst=70&from_prog=&to_inst=&Search=Search)
- [Anoka Technical College transfer student](http://www.anokatech.edu/BecomeStudent/Transfers.aspx): (www.anokatech.edu/BecomeStudent/Transfers.aspx)

Industry Information

Young or old, we all have a job to do – the job of living. Learning, growing, playing, working, managing our homes, and caring for our families and ourselves are among the occupations of life.

Sometimes physical, emotional, or other challenges prevent people from participating fully in the job of living. Stroke, injury, depression, and developmental disabilities, for example, can make it difficult for people to do everyday tasks or be as active and as independent as they'd like. Occupational therapy – a vibrant, growing profession – makes it possible for people to regain independence and to enjoy life to its fullest. By choosing a career in occupational therapy, you will make a difference. You will improve the lives of children, young people, and adults alike. Occupational therapy assistants work with the supervision of registered occupational therapists to provide hands-on services to children and adults who are learning new ways to succeed in the occupations of life.

Occupational Therapy Assistant

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree

Students today can look forward to dynamic careers working in varied settings with people of all ages. Many practitioners help children thrive in the “occupations” of childhood learning, playing, and growing. Some work in schools with students who have learning disabilities or behavioral problems. Others work with children who have cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, and other disabilities.

Practitioners also work with individuals in their homes, community centers, rehabilitation hospitals, and nursing homes. In these settings, they may support people with traumatic injuries, strokes, Alzheimer’s disease, or mental health problems.

Wages/Outlook/Advancement

Wage information is available from the [Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development](https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/job-outlook/) (<https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/job-outlook/>).

Occupational therapy assistants may become occupational therapists. Assistants must get a master’s degree to become a therapist.

Technical Education: 56 Credits

- COTA 1001 Introduction to Occupational Therapy 4
- COTA 1050 Clinical Conditions 4
- COTA 1105 Therapeutic Applications I 3
- COTA 1155 Therapeutic Applications II 2
- COTA 1260 Performance Skills and Applications 3
- COTA 1270 Productive Aging/Geriatric Practice 4
- COTA 1280 Mental Health and Wellness 4
- COTA 1290 Level I Fieldwork Behavioral 1
- COTA 2310 Professional Seminar 2
- COTA 2330 Physical Rehabilitation Practice 4
- COTA 2340 Children and Youth Practice 4
- COTA 2350 Community Practice 4
- COTA 2390 Level I Fieldwork Traditional 1
- COTA 2411 Level II Fieldwork Rotation A 6
- COTA 2421 Level II Fieldwork Rotation B 6
- HLTH 1005 Anatomy and Physiology 4

General Education/MnTC Requirements: 15 Credits

Fifteen (15) general education credits of Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) are required. Student is required to take:

- ENGL 1107 Composition I 4
- OR**
- ENGL 2105 Business and Technical Writing 4
- PSYC 1406 General Psychology 4
- PSYC 1506 Lifespan Development 4
- SPCH 1500 Intercultural Communication 3

Start Dates

Fall Semester August

Sample Program Sequence

Full Time

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	Summer Semester
1st YEAR	COTA 10014	COTA 11552	ENGL 11074
	COTA 10504	COTA 12603	OR ENGL 2105
	COTA 11053	COTA 12704	PSYC 15064
	HLTH 10054	COTA 12804	SPCH 15003
	TOTAL 15	COTA 12901	TOTAL 11
		PSYC 14064	
		TOTAL 18	
2nd YEAR	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	
	COTA 23102	COTA 24116	
	COTA 23304	COTA 24216	
	COTA 23404	TOTAL12	
	COTA 23504		
COTA 23901			
TOTAL 15			

Faculty Contact

- [Julie Grivna](#) 763-576-4262
- [Barbara Kloetzke](#) 763-576-4017

For more information about the Occupational Therapy program you can contact the Advisor’s or you can email questions to FutureOTASudents@anokatech.edu



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