

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 6 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.

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 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929, 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 \(NBCOT\)](http://www.nbcot.org). 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 or email, or US Postal. See OTA web page for details.

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. See program policies for more details.

Graduation Requirements

Successful completion of the Occupational Therapy Assistant program with a grade of C (80%) 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](#)
- [Anoka Technical College Transfer Student](#)

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.

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.

Occupational Therapy Assistant

Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree

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](#).

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

Start Dates

Fall Semester.....August

Program Sequence

First Semester	.....	15
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1001	Introduction to Occupational Therapy	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1050	Clinical Conditions	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1105	Therapeutic Applications I.....	3
<input type="checkbox"/> HLTH 1005	Anatomy and Physiology.....	4
Second Semester	.....	18
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1155	Therapeutic Applications II	2
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1260	Performance Skills and Applications.....	3
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1270	Productive Aging/Geriatric Practice	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1280	Mental Health and Wellness	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 1290	Level I Fieldwork Behavioral.....	1
<input type="checkbox"/> PSYC 1406	General Psychology	4
Summer Semester	.....	11
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL 1107	Composition I	4
OR		
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL 2105	Business and Technical Writing.....	4
<input type="checkbox"/> PSYC 1506	Lifespan Development.....	4
<input type="checkbox"/> SPCH 1500	Intercultural Communication.....	3
Third Semester	.....	15
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2310	Professional Seminar	2
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2330	Physical Rehabilitation Practice	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2340	Children and Youth Practice	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2350	Community Practice	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2391	Level I Fieldwork Traditional.....	1
Fourth Semester	.....	12
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2411	Level II Fieldwork Rotation A.....	6
<input type="checkbox"/> COTA 2421	Level II Fieldwork Rotation B.....	6

Faculty Contact

Julie Grivna	763-576-4262
Barbara Kloetzke	763-576-4017
Becky Johnson	763-576-4222

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