Doctorate of Occupational Therapy

APPLICATION GUIDE

This form offers a guide/checklist for collecting all relevant information required for application to the Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program that is submitted through OTCAS as well as required materials that are sent directly to the OT Office. Deadlines and pre-requisite course guidelines are provided. Please contact the OT Department at ot@sau.edu or 563-333-6277 for assistance with any questions.

The OTD Program is three years in length. A student can apply to the OTD Program as early as their Junior year and begin the OTD Program in their Senior year. However, to be eligible to begin the program as an undergraduate student with Senior status, all general education requirements, all undergraduate degree program requirements, and all minimum admissions criteria must be met. Graduate program tuition applies to all three years of the program, even for an undergraduate in the first year of the OTD Program. Students are encouraged to meet with Financial Aid to determine the specific impact this may have on their financial package.

MINIMUM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

☐ Prerequisite Courses: The following pre-requisite coursework must be completed with a grade of C or higher in each course. The pre-requisite GPA must meet a minimum of 3.0 (4.0 scale). A grade for each class must be available by the application deadline (except where indicated with an *). In OTCAS, the applicant will indicate what courses have been taken to satisfy the prerequisites. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide accurate and complete information on the application. Providing a course that does not match the content may slow the processing of an application. (See Prerequisite Course Guidelines on page two.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Course</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
<th>Course Name &amp; Number</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Where Taken</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology I (BIOL 230)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology II (BIOL 232)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Terminology (HS 250) or Competency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Science (6 cr.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must include: Lifespan (PSYC 212)</td>
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<tr>
<td>300 level or above social science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistics (STAT 213)</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Ethics (PHIL 207) OR BioMedical Ethics (PHIL 310)</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Research Methods (PSYC 215)</td>
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☐ Observations Hours: All applicants must have completed 50 hours of observation with an OT in at least 2 settings. Hours must be documented and submitted to the OT Office.

☐ Letters of Reference: All applicants must submit three letters of reference. One of the letters must be from an OT where observations hours were completed.

☐ Personal Statement: All applicants complete a personal statement that addresses why they selected OT as a career and how an Occupational Therapy degree relates to immediate and long-term professional goals.

☐ Graduate Record Exam: All applicants must have completed the GRE and submitted official scores. In keeping with recommendation of ETS, there is no minimum GRE score. However, the GRE is considered an indicator of academic performance along with grade point average. The St. Ambrose University OTD Program Code is 7811

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Applications for the upcoming cohort of occupational therapy students will be accepted upon the opening of the OTCAS cycle (usually in July/August) through December 1st of each year. Applications received by December 1st are given priority; however, applications will be accepted until the class is filled. Applicants can request to be a part of an early decision admissions cycle, if qualified, by meeting a September 15th deadline. A limited number of early decision spaces are available. An early decision applicant will automatically be considered in the general admissions cycle if they are not accepted early. (Continue to back of page for more details.)
Early Admissions Decision: Application Deadline September 15th
Applicants can qualify to participate in an early interview and decision process that will fill up to 15 seats in the incoming OTD class. To be considered for early admissions, applicants must have submitted a complete application and have a minimum pre-requisite GPA of a 3.4 or be affiliated with St. Ambrose as an alum or degree seeking student.

General Admissions Decision: Application Deadline December 1st
Applicants submitting complete applications by December 1st, and any applicants who already submitted an application for an early admissions decision but is not yet accepted, can qualify for an interview if meeting the minimum requirements for admissions.

APPLICATION PROCESS
☐ Submit the following supplemental materials directly to the OTD Office:
  • Evidence of 50 hours of observation with an OT in at least 2 sites. Hours must be completed under an OT (not a COTA.) Documentation of your total hours is required on letterhead, with the signature of an OT, and sent to:
    Rhonda Lane
    Center for Health Sciences Education, office #224
    1320 W. Lombard Street
    Davenport, Iowa 52804
  or by email direct from (or forwarded from) the official department or facility, with the electronic signature of the OT included. Electronic verification of the hours can be sent to: LaneRhondaL@sau.edu

☐ Complete full application online at www.otcas.org by application deadline. OTCAS application includes:
  • Listing and submitting transcripts of all courses taken that apply toward college credit, note obtained (or planned) baccalaureate degree, and provide other information related to observation, work, and volunteer experiences.
  • Three letters of recommendation. One of the letters must be from an OT where observation hours were completed.
  • Personal Statement
  • Official GRE score prior to application deadline. Information on the GRE is available at: http://www.ets.org/gre and the St. Ambrose University OTD Program code for direct submission to OTCAS is 7811.

Prerequisite Course Guidelines
Eight pre-requisite courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher, for a combined pre-requisite GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale). Grades for all pre-requisite courses must be available at the time of the application deadline (except where indicated with an *). The St. Ambrose OTD Program requires the applicant match a course taken to each pre-requisites. Providing a course that does not match the content may slow the processing of an application.
(St. Ambrose course numbers are shown with the required pre-requisite courses. A listing of transfer equivalencies accepted into St. Ambrose can be found at http://www.sau.edu/academics/academic-resources/registrar/transfer-course-equivalency.)

Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab (SAU Course: BIOL 230)
Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab (SAU Course: BIOL 232)
  Course must focus on human anatomy and physiology.

Medical Terminology (SAU Course: HS 250 or competency)
The competency test can be taken at no charge and attempted up to two times. Self-study ahead of test is recommended.
  Contact 563-333-6277 or LaneRhondaL@sau.edu for more information.

Lifespan (SAU Course: PSYC 212)
  Course must address human development from birth through death. At some institutions, more than one course may be required to address the entire lifespan.

*Research Methods (SAU Course: PSYC 215)
  Course must provide skills for critical evaluation of research and scholarly literature. Methods of qualitative and quantitative investigation and principles of research design must also be addressed.

Statistics for Social Science (SAU Course: STAT 213)
  Course must address methods of quantitative statistical analysis. Content related to methods of qualitative analysis is of benefit but not required.

Social Science (300 Level or Above)
  Social Science courses include those from the disciplines of Psychology, Sociology, and Anthropology.

*Ethics or Biomedical Ethics (SAU Course: PHIL 207 or PHIL 210)
  Course must address a process for critical thinking and decision making used to analyze factors or issues within a framework of ethic-based and/or values-based reasoning.