

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT



**A.A.S. Degree** - SICCM Program  
Special Admissions Program (See Admission Requirements below)

Minimum 71 hours

**Career & Technical Education • Associate in Applied Science • Minimum 2.0 OGPA • Major Code: DOTA**

**STUDENTS WHO COMPLETE THIS PROGRAM SUCCESSFULLY ARE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAM TO BECOME A CERTIFIED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT (COTA).**

**OBTAIN AN 'OTA ADMISSION PACKET' from the Nursing and Allied Health Office, T-236, 618-252-5400, ext. 2331.**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE is March 1 of each year for classes beginning in August of that year.**

See [www.SICCM.com](http://www.SICCM.com) The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program offered through SICCM, the Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market, is an Associate in Applied Science Program designed to prepare students to be fully qualified Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants. Students take general education courses on their own campuses and OTA courses together in a SICCM centralized classroom and at internship sites which are sometimes out of our immediate area. After classes and fieldwork internship are completed, students graduate at their entering college. The OTA courses have both lecture and hands-on laboratory components. Portions of the lecture section of several OTA courses are web-based. During the program, students will develop entry-level competencies necessary to provide services to persons of all ages who have functional loss due to physical, neurological, social/emotional, cognitive, or developmental disabilities. Graduates of this program will be familiar with the processes and procedures necessary to tailor rehabilitation individually for each client, through evaluation and treatment, and to seek to restore or improve function in occupational performance within the context of the client's life environments and relationships. Students are trained in OT intervention includes restoration of performance abilities, instruction in compensatory techniques, adaptation of tasks, processes or environments, disability prevention techniques and health promotion strategies. Occupational therapy assistants, under the supervision of an occupational therapist, are fully qualified to work directly with persons to achieve a maximum level of independent living by developing the capacities that remain after disease, accident, or other disability. A criminal history background check and drug screening are required for this program.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT: BIOL 261 Human Anatomy & Physiology I must be completed with a "C" or better prior to program entrance.**

## FIRST YEAR

| Fall Semester           |                                 | Credit Hrs |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| ENG 121                 | Rhetoric & Composition I        | 3          |
| NUR 195                 | Medical Terminology             | 3          |
| OTA 111                 | Intro to OT                     | 2          |
| OTA 115                 | Clinical Observation            | 2          |
| OTA 130                 | Disease & Impact on Occupation  | 3          |
| OTA 132                 | Occupational Development        | 1          |
| OTA 215                 | OT Theory I                     | 4          |
| Total Hours             |                                 | 18         |
| Spring Semester         |                                 | Credit Hrs |
| BIOL 262                | Human Anatomy & Physiology II   | 4          |
| PSYC 121                | Intro Psychology                | 3          |
| OTA 113                 | Occupational Therapeutic Media  | 3          |
| OTA 117                 | Activities of Daily Living      | 3          |
| OTA 134                 | OT in Physical Disabilities     | 3          |
| OTA 135                 | Clinical Rotation I             | 1          |
| OTA 151                 | OT Group Process                | 2          |
| Total Hours             |                                 | 19         |
| Summer Session          |                                 | Credit Hrs |
| MATH 141<br>or MATH 151 | Statistics<br>Occupational Math | 4          |
| COM 121                 | Principles of Speaking          | 3          |
| Total Hours             |                                 | 7          |

## SECOND YEAR

| Fall Semester   |                                 | Credit Hrs |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| PSYC 221        | Child Psychology                | 3          |
| OTA 211         | Psychosocial Therapy & Practice | 3          |
| OTA 230         | Clinical Rotation II            | 2          |
| OTA 232         | Aging and Impact on Occupation  | 1.5        |
| OTA 235         | OT Theory II                    | 1.5        |
| OTA 239         | OT in Pediatrics                | 4          |
| Total Hours     |                                 | 15         |
| Spring Semester |                                 | Credit Hrs |
| OTA 231         | OT Administration               | 3          |
| OTA 251         | Fieldwork Experience I          | 4.5        |
| OTA 252*        | Fieldwork II                    | 4.5        |
| Total Hours     |                                 | 12         |

\*Eight weeks of 40 hours per week Fieldwork Experience. Prerequisite: successful completion of all coursework for the previous three semesters and summer, concurrent enrollment in OTA 231, and current CPR certification. FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE I and II must be completed within 18 months of academic coursework.

**Note:** All coursework must be completed with a grade of "C" or better to graduate with this Associate in Applied Science Degree.

**Note:** Students planning to transfer and pursue an advanced degree, should, when given a choice, enroll in the general education course that is IAI GECC approved and articulated with participating Illinois institutions.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:** Submit the Admission Data Form to the Enrollment Services Office at SIC, have your high school transcript and any previous college coursework sent to SIC, take the Asset Test (exempt with ACT of 20+) and take the HOAE Entrance Exam by March 1<sup>st</sup> at SIC.

An "OTA Application Packet" may be obtained from the Nursing and Allied Health Office, T-236, at Southeastern Illinois College and all required documents returned by March 1<sup>st</sup>. **The PSB Health Occupations Aptitude Exam (HOAE) must be taken by March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Contact the Testing Coordinator at 618/252-5400, ext. 2442 in the Student Success Center, Rm. A145 (A Bldg, 1<sup>st</sup> floor) to take this test.** Five students are accepted from each community college each year. **CPR 131-1 Healthcare Provider CPR is required for students after acceptance to this program.**

**ACCREDITATION:** The SICCM Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Assoc. (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449 301/652-2682. [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org) Program graduates will qualify to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT) national certification examination. This computer-delivered examination will be delivered on-demand after determining eligibility. Successful completion of this exam confers the title of Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). Illinois and most states additionally require license to practice, usually basing this on the NBCOT exam results. A felony conviction may adversely affect ability to sit for the NBCOT exam and/or attain state licensure.

Occupational information about this program is available at O\*NET online [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org). Once at that website enter the SOC Code that is listed for this program. O\*NET – SOC Code: 25-1071.00, 31-2011.00

**Career Opportunities:**  
Occupational Therapy Assistant

**Major Employers:**  
Hospitals, Clinics, Skilled Care Homes, Community Health Centers, Out-patient Clinics, Schools, Camps, Rehabilitation Centers, Home Health Agencies, Private Homes, Private Practice, Physicians' Offices.

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