



Doctor of **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

Program Overview

As one of the few occupational therapy doctoral programs in Northern California, Pacific's Doctor of Occupational Therapy program helps students become reflective practitioners and learn the distinct value of occupation as a therapeutic measure. Graduates acquire the ability to promote integrated health and wellness behaviors across the lifespan for people, populations and diverse communities.

Students will start with foundational coursework and advance to learning intervention strategies for specific age groups and life challenges. Program graduates will be prepared to promote integrated health and wellness behaviors across the life-span. Instruction is delivered in an accelerated, hybrid format, offering

interdisciplinary courses via online learning, classroom lectures and simulation labs.

Graduates will be ready to sit for the National Board of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, become licensed and begin their careers in a growing and significant profession in a wide range of settings, including:

- Hospitals
- Day Care Facilities
- Long Term Care Facilities
- Schools
- Community Health Centers
- Mental Health Facilities
- Workplaces
- Private Practice
- Home Health Agencies
- Rehabilitation Facilities

PROGRAM FAST FACTS

Sacramento
Campus

120
units

2.5
years

June 1
admission deadline

Spring
semester start

Daytime
classes

GRE
not required



The mission of occupational therapy is to optimize people's abilities to enable them to do what they need and want to do to live full lives. This requires a therapist to be client-centered and concentrate on people's strengths rather than their limitations. University of the Pacific's mission to its students aligns perfectly with occupational therapy. Pacific's OTD program aims to provide superior student-centered education to transform student learners into community leaders.

Marna Ghiglieri
OTD, MA, OTR/L

Curriculum

Designed to integrate University of the Pacific's values and mission of 'preparing individuals for lasting achievement and responsible leadership in their careers and communities,' the curriculum prepares learners to be competent practitioners who embody the professional identity of serving the occupational needs of their communities. Courses rely on the biopsychosocial approach and the following concepts are integrated throughout the curriculum:

- Active learning by doing
- Advocacy
- Altruism
- Client-centered practice
- Humanism
- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- Integrated health
- Cultural sensitivity
- Whole-person concept
- Reflective, evidence-based practice

Through the eight-trimester sequence, students learn to become general practitioners. However, with the doctoral level program, students will have the opportunity to focus on specialty areas of practice such as clinical research skills, administration, leadership, program and policy development, advocacy, education and theory development.

Tuition and Financing

Tuition and fees are set annually. Contact the program at OTprogram@pacific.edu for more information.

Graduate students who are U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens may apply for federal student loans. Please contact our Office of Financial Aid for more information about financing options.

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation 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 telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is www.acoteonline.org.

The program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a pre-accreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

OUTCOMES

To develop Occupational Therapists who are capable of the creative and independent thinking required for current and future practice as clinicians, supervisors, administrators, consultants and educators in a wide variety of settings including emerging practice areas such as ergonomic consultation, accessibility design, assistive technology and wellness programs for population health.

REQUIREMENTS

The program will use the Occupational Therapy Centralized Admission System (OTCAS). The following are required for admission:

- Bachelor's degree in any field
- Official transcripts
- Personal statement
- 40 hours of volunteer experience in an OT setting
- Three letters of recommendation

For international students, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is required.

For more information, please visit:

go.Pacific.edu/OT