



- PUBLIC
 INDEPENDENT

NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR ROUTINE REVIEW

When finished, please save and email to: he.academicprogramactions@dhe.mo.gov

Sponsoring Institution: University of Missouri Columbia

Program Title: Occupational Therapy Assistant

Degree/Certificate: BHS-Bachelor of Health Sciences

If other, please list: Click here to enter text

Options: Click here to enter text

Delivery Site: University of Missouri—Columbia

CIP Classification: 51.0803

Implementation Date: Summer 2021

Is this a new off-site location? [] Yes [x] No

If yes, is the new location within your institution's current CBHE-approved service region? []

*If no, public institutions should consult the comprehensive review process

Is this a collaborative program? [] Yes [x] No

*If yes, please complete the collaborative programs form on last page.

Please list similar or comparable programs at Missouri public institutions of higher education.

*For public institutions only

There are no other bachelor's level OTA programs in the State of Missouri.

CERTIFICATIONS:

- [x] The program is within the institution's CBHE approved mission. (public only)
[x] The program will be offered within the institution's CBHE approved service region. (public only)
[x] The program builds upon existing programs and faculty expertise
[x] The program does not unnecessarily duplicate an existing program in the geographically-applicable area.
[x] The program can be launched with minimal expense and falls within the institution's current operating budget. (public only)

AUTHORIZATION

Table with 3 columns: Name/Title of Institutional Officer, Signature, Date

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below.

Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.

1. Student Preparation

- Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.

To apply to the BHS-OTA program, students must complete a minimum of 60 credit hours which includes foundational and pre-requisite content for the professional component of the curriculum. All science courses have to be completed within 4 years of applying to the program. Students will be required to grade of C-minus or higher in the following prerequisite courses (see Appendix A).

- Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.
Not applicable.

2. Faculty Characteristics

- Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate.
Core faculty who are OT practitioners and teaching OT content must be currently licensed or otherwise regulated according to state regulations. The majority of full-time faculty members who are OT practitioners teaching in the program must hold a minimum of a master's degree awarded by an institution that is accredited by a USDE-recognized regional accrediting body.

- Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty. Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.
90% of credit hours will be assigned to full-time faculty members.

- Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.
All faculty will be expected to be active members of state and national professional associations, which in turn provides opportunities for students to be involved in research and leadership within the profession. Membership in the professional association, the American Occupational Therapy Association, will be required of all faculty members and students in order to access resources necessary for course design, instruction, and professional practice.

3. Enrollment Projections

- Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.
88
- Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.
100% full-time.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

YEAR	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	23	59	80	88	88
Part Time					

Total	23	59	80	88	88
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4. Student and Program Outcomes

- Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.
FY 2024: 23 graduates
FY 2026: 43 graduates
- Special skills specific to the program.
As health care and educational fields raise expectations for entry-level preparation and evidence-based practice, the proposed Bachelor of Health Science—Occupational Therapy Assistant (BHS-OTA) program provides occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) with the necessary skills and knowledge for licensed delivery of patient services and supports career advancement. Primarily, the BHS-OTA will provide entry into the profession as well as preparing OTA graduates for smooth transition into the existing MU OT program should they desire to continue their education and pursue a career as an occupational therapist.

In accordance with ACOTE accreditation guidelines, the proposed BHS-OTA program has identified the following abilities-based outcomes. At completion of their education, students will:

1. *Utilize and integrate evidence into professional practice to ensure high quality health care services and use of scientifically supported interventions.*
2. *Demonstrate entry-level clinical competence to meet the demands of an ever-changing practice environment in rural and metropolitan areas and with a variety of client populations.*
3. *Address the occupational needs of individuals and communities to improve community health outcomes.*
4. *Engage in lifelong learning behaviors reflective of professionalism as expected in the healthcare environment.*
5. *Develop a professional identity through a baccalaureate project in the area of clinical practice, administration, leadership, advocacy, or education.*

- Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.
The degree supports immediate professional employment as a licensed occupational therapy assistant.
- Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests. Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.
- Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.
- Transfer rates, continuous study.

5. Program Accreditation

- Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide rationale.

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) is recognized as the accrediting agency for occupational therapy education by both the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). ACOTE is also an active member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA). ACOTE currently accredits 409 occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant educational programs in the United States and its territories. The entry-level BHS-OTA must be professionally accredited by ACOTE. The Department of Occupational Therapy has already submitted a Letter of Intent to ACOTE to begin the process to develop a bachelor's-level OTA program. Pending approval of ACOTE, the University of Missouri - Board of Curators, and the Missouri Department of Higher Education, we will move forward with our Candidacy Application at the earliest date allowed through the ACOTE process.

6. Program Structure

- A. Total credits required for graduation: 135 (74 credits in the OTA curriculum, to meet accreditation standards)
- B. Residency requirements, if any:
- C. General education: Total credits:
 60 credit hours.

Courses (specific courses OR distribution area and credits)

Course Number	Credits	Course Title

- D. Major requirements: Total credits: 74

Course Number	Credits	Course Title
3010	3	OT Professional Skills and Writing
3020	3	History and Foundations in OT
3110	3	Intro to Evidence-Based Practice
3120	3	Medical Conditions in OT
3130	3	Analysis of Occupations (WI)
3140	2	Professional Documentation
3150	3	Measuring Mvmt I: Functional Human Anatomy
3160	1	Fieldwork Level I A
3210	3	Ethics in OT
3220	3	Physical Disabilities I with Lab
3230	2	Psychosocial Practice I: Diagnoses
3240	3	Pediatrics and Adolescent Practice I/Lab
3250	2	Measuring Mvmt II: Assessing Motor Function
3260	1	Fieldwork Level I B
3280	1	Intro to Bacc Project: Choose Focus

4120	3	Physical Disabilities II with Lab
4130	3	Psychosocial Practice II: Group Dynamics
4140	3	Pediatrics and Adolescent Practice II/Lab
4150	2	OT Policy, Advocacy, and Scholarship
4160	1	Fieldwork Level I C
4180	3	Baccalaureate Project I
4210	3	OT in Community Practice
4230	3	OT Management and Leadership
4250	3	Exploring OT Specialization
4260	1	Fieldwork Level I D
4280	3	Baccalaureate Project II
4290	2	Preparing for Level II Fieldwork
4320	4	Fieldwork Level II A
4340	4	Fieldwork Level II B

E. Free elective credits: 6

(sum of C, D, and E should equal A)

F. Requirements for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:

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G. Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:

[Click here to enter text](#)

7. Need/Demand

Student demand

Market demand

Societal demand

I hereby certify that the institution has conducted research on the feasibility of the proposal and it is likely the program will be successful.

On July 1, 2011, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education began provisionally approving all new programs with a subsequent review and consideration for full approval after five years.