

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

## Associate of Applied Science (AAS)

(Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the program)

TERM	Applications Accepted	Application Review	Interview Conducted	Application Status Notification
Fall: August 2025 (Full-time cohort & Part-time cohort)	Nov. 4, 2024 – Mar. 21, 2025	Nov. 15, 2024 – April 4, 2025	By April 2025	By May 2025

Application packet must be submitted via email: [co.otaadmit@hccs.edu](mailto:co.otaadmit@hccs.edu)

### Program Duration, Study Mode and Class Schedule Information

Program Duration (Number of Semesters)		Study Mode
Full Time: 5 semesters	Part-Time: 9 semesters	Face-to-Face, Hybrid, Online, and Offsite Fieldworks

#### Full Time:

Program days and times may vary but you should plan to attend classes 4-5 days a week. Day classes are generally between 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Please plan accordingly to ensure you have proper transportation. Fieldwork rotations may vary during the weekday or Saturday hours of 7:30 am to 7:00 pm determined by the specific clinic site and clinician.

#### Part-Time:

Part-time program days and times may vary. Classes are typically offered days, evenings, and weekends. Fieldwork rotations will be full-time and may vary during the weekday or weekend hours of 7:70 am to 7:00 pm. Hours are determined by the specific fieldwork site and clinician.

### Program Admissions Statistics

On average, approximately 60 students apply for admission each application period. Of these, approximately 22 are typically accepted for a full-time cohort and 10 will be accepted for a part-time cohort.

# How Do I Submit the HCC Application and Program Application?

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is a selective admission program. Prospective applicants should review the HCC Application Requirements, Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Application Requirements, and Pre-Enrollment Process & Requirements outlined in this guide.

## HCC Application Requirements:

### **Step 1: Apply for Admission to HCC:**

**New student to HCC:** If you are new to college or transferring to HCC, your first step is to become an HCC Eagle by submitting a free admissions application to HCC. Please create a profile and complete a **degree-seeking** application: <https://applytexas.org/>. Upon completing the application, you will receive your acceptance letter and a welcome email that contains your HCC Student ID number and P-number (if assigned). If you have filled out an HCC application at any point or you already have an HCC student ID number, please do not submit another HCC application. Multiple HCC new student applications and/or ID numbers are not allowed.

**Returning student to HCC:** If you have not been enrolled in HCC for the past 3 semesters, you **must** re-activate your HCC student account. If you need assistance with this process, please visit: [Returning HCC Student | Houston Community College - HCC](#).

**International Students:** If you are an international student planning to attend HCC on a status F-1, (DACA, refugee, L visa, H visa, etc.), please visit <https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/international-students/>.

**Veteran students:** Please visit <https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/veteran-affairs/>. Download and complete [DD Form 214 & SF-180 Form](#) and submit with the application.

### **Step 2: Apply for Financial Aid (this step is optional):**

All students should apply for financial aid immediately after applying for admission to HCC. Filling out a financial aid application is the first step in learning your options to pay for college. HCC accepts financial aid applications throughout the year.

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov), School Code: 010422
- Free Application for Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) at [hccs.edu/tasfa](https://hccs.edu/tasfa).

If you need assistance paying for college, please visit the Coleman Financial Aid office for assistance or visit [www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/financial-aid/](https://www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/financial-aid/)

### **Step 3: Complete My Eagle HCC Account Checklist:**

Please visit: [myeagle.hccs.edu](https://myeagle.hccs.edu), and sign into the Student System. Review and complete the HCC Policy and On-Boarding Checklist sections. *To avoid delays in the processing of your application, please complete all To-Do List items.*

- **Career Interest Assessment:** All first-time HCC students must complete this module.
- **Meningitis Vaccine** – Future and returning students who are under the age of 22 are required to submit proof of vaccination. For more information on requirements, resources & any religious, medical, or online student exemptions, please visit [Meningitis Vaccine](#).
- **Submit Official Transcript(s):** Please submit your official sealed (unopened) transcript(s) from high school, GED, and any other colleges and/or Universities previously attended. ***If you have completed your***

**courses at HCC, you do not need to submit an official transcript.** We do not accept unofficial copies or official copies that have been opened. There are two ways to submit an official transcript from your high school or previous institution:

- **Submit Electronically:** Have an official PDF transcript electronically sent from approved service providers such as Credentials, Parchment, and National Student Clearinghouse to: [admissions@hccs.edu](mailto:admissions@hccs.edu)

- **Submit by Mail:** Please use the address: Houston Community College, Office of Admissions & Records, P.O. Box 667517, Houston, TX 77266-7517

- If you have completed coursework with other institutions and need more information on transfer equivalency with HCC, please visit <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/transfers/transferring-credits/>.

- All foreign transcripts must be evaluated by an approved credential evaluation service. The evaluation must include course-by-course evaluation and US equivalency for earned degree. The official evaluation report must be submitted to HCC. The HCC internal process can take up to 8 weeks for evaluation and transfer of course credits. To find a list of approved evaluation companies, please visit [Foreign Transcript/Foreign Credit Evaluators](#).

For more information on transcript(s) submission, please visit [Transcript\(s\)](#). It is the responsibility of the student to allow enough time for the evaluation of transcripts; please allow 6-8 weeks for evaluation and transfer of course credits.

To receive Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credit towards admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant program, an applicant should not have previously taken or attempted the course (by title), that is the same as the PLA credit for which he/she is applying. For more information on PLA you may visit <https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/prior-learning-assessment/>

• **Texas Success Initiative requirements** –If you have the "Texas Success Initiative College Readiness Requirements" Checklist on your To-do List in the Student Center, you have to be placed into core courses one of two ways.

-Have an approved exemption (reason) for not taking Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2); **or**  
-Take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2)

Please visit the [Texas Success Initiative Assessment](#) to learn about your options to complete this requirement.

## **Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Application Requirements:**

### **Step 4. Meet with HCC Coleman College Representative:**

At least once during the application acceptance period, we strongly recommend that an applicant attend an In-Person/Virtual Program Information Session or meet with an HCC Coleman Advisor via phone or in-person or virtually to ensure they are meeting all of the program admission criteria. To view up-to-date in-person hours for Coleman College Student Services, please visit <https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/academic-advising/>.

### **Step 5. Program Information Session:**

Please register and attend the virtual online program information session at [Occupational Therapy Assistant | Houston Community College - HCC \(hccs.edu\)](#). You will be contacted by the program prior to the date and time of your registered session. If you have questions regarding the online delivery of program information sessions, please contact via phone at 713-718-5960 or via email: [co.ota@hccs.edu](mailto:co.ota@hccs.edu).

## Step 6. Complete Requirements and Submit Program Application:

In addition to the HCC admission application, you must complete and submit a typed Occupational Therapy Assistant program application via email to [co.otaadmit@hccs.edu](mailto:co.otaadmit@hccs.edu). Please send all of the application documents listed below in one email and label each attachment with the file name:

- Copy of all transcript/s showing completion of the required prerequisite and any completed academic courses
- HSRT-AD exam assessment result
- Completed HCC observation form
- Verification of observation hours on the facility's official letterhead.
- Essay report based on completed observation
- 3 Letters of recommendation
- Any other applicable supporting documents by the application submission deadline.

➤ For more information about prerequisite/academic courses, HSRT exam, please refer to the sections: [Program Application: Academic Course Requirements](#) & [Program Application: HSRT Pre- entrance Exam Requirements](#).

➤ **Observation Hours:** 24 hours of observation in an OT setting is required. Applicant's employers are not eligible for observation hours. Only hours completed within one year of the application deadline will be accepted.

**Note:** Observation hours are embedded into the OTHA 1301 course from the Spring 2024 semester. An applicant is allowed to use 20 hours from the completion of modules found within the OTHA 1301 prerequisite course but is still required to complete 4 hours in an OT setting. Applicant must submit the certificate of completion to verify hours. This method of satisfying observation hour requirements will not be applicable if the OTHA 1301 course is taken before the Spring 2024 semester.

i) **Completed HCC Observation Form:** This form can be downloaded: [Occupational Therapy Assistant | Houston Community College - HCC \(hccs.edu\)](#)

ii). **Verification of Hours:** A signed and dated statement by the OTR or OTA supervising the applicant's observation verifying observation hours at that site. Verification of hours is required to be completed on the facility's official letterhead and must include the supervising therapist's contact information and license number. Students with multi-site observation experience will have a **Verification of Hours** for each site. Only hours completed within one year of the application deadline will be accepted.

➤ **Essay Report based on completed observation:**

Two-page, 1.5-spaced, typed report with a cover sheet. Your report will include a review of the observation setting(s) and treatment(s) by licensed OT/OTA professionals. Discuss how your observations influenced your decision to work as an OTA. Include medical terminology and demonstrate college-level use of English grammar and spelling.

➤ **Recommendation Letters:**

Submission of Three (3) author-signed, dated, professional, and/or academic letters of recommendation on business letterhead that include verifiable contact information of the reference with the program application. Family members and/or friends are excluded from providing a reference. Only one reference per business will be considered. Applicants are encouraged to have a variety of reference sources to substantiate their potential for success in the program.

## Program Application: Academic Course Requirements

Course Description	Credit Hours
<p><b><u>Student Success Course</u></b>            Required only if new to college or transferring to HCC with less than 12 college-level credits.            &gt; HPRS 1201 – Introduction to Health Profession</p>	
<p><b>Prerequisite Courses GPA: 2.5 or higher is required</b></p>	
<p><b>Prerequisite Courses:</b></p>	
<p>&gt; BIOL 2301 and BIOL 2101 (formerly BIOL 2401) – Anatomy &amp; Physiology I(LEC/LAB) must be completed with a minimum grade of ‘C’ or better.  <i>Note: Must be completed within 5 years prior to application deadline</i></p>	4
<p>&gt; PSYC 2301 – General Psychology</p>	3
<p>&gt; OTHA 1301 - Introduction to OT.  <u>Must complete at HCC</u> with a grade of “B” or better within 2 years prior to application deadline. If an applicant is enrolled in the Spring semester of the application year will also be considered. When the number of eligible applications exceeds program seat availability, selective criteria are used to determine which applicants are offered admission.</p> <p>OTHA 1301 is an online course that requires students to have computer and internet access for student success. Enrolled students can access computers and the internet at any HCC campus computer center or library. It is highly encouraged that all students interested in taking OTHA 1301 complete Smarter Measure. Smarter Measure is a website that helps students determine their level of readiness for taking online courses. Students are asked questions on their computer proficiency, motivation, organization, and learning style. Students are even able to measure their onscreen reading speed and comprehension. You can access Smarter Measure through your HCC Student Center Account - Student system. Additional assistance with online courses, including technical and Canvas support can be found at <a href="https://www.hccs.edu/online/">https://www.hccs.edu/online/</a></p>	3
<p><b>Academic Courses</b>            Academic courses are <u>HIGHLY ENCOURAGED</u> to be taken in advance but are not required for the application. Each completed course with grade of “C” or higher will assign additional points on rubric will go towards the completion of the program/degree plan</p>	
<p>&gt; PSYC 2314 –Lifespan Growth &amp; Development</p>	3
<p>&gt; 3 credits – Humanities/Fine Arts Elective.</p>	3
<p><b>Recommended Courses:</b> N/A</p>	
<p><b>Placement Test:</b>            All new students enrolling in a Texas Public Institution of Higher Education must take the TSIA2 to determine college readiness unless they qualify for an exemption. Visit <a href="#">TSIA Exemptions</a> for a list of exemptions. If your TSIA scores or transcript do not indicate college-level proficiency in reading, writing, and math, you are required to complete INRW 0420 and one of the specified MATH courses with a minimum grade of 'C' or higher.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- INRW 0420 - Integrated Reading and Writing</li> <li>- MATH 0432P - Basic Mathematics &amp; Contemporary Mathematics <b>OR</b></li> <li>- MATH 0424P - Basic Mathematics &amp; Introduction to Business Mathematics <b>OR</b></li> <li>- MATH 0442P - Basic Mathematics &amp; Introduction to Statistics</li> </ul>	
<p>If you would like to determine your eligibility by calculating your cumulative points earned, please use our <a href="#">Admission Rubric</a> form</p>	

## Program Application: HSRT Pre-entrance Exam Requirements

The Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT-AD) – assessment entrance exam is required to apply for the **Occupational Therapy Assistant** program at HCC Coleman College.

- To schedule on campus HSRT-AD test please contact HCC Coleman College Testing Center via email: [coleman.testing@hccs.edu](mailto:coleman.testing@hccs.edu). The payment of \$25.00 must be made by either credit or debit card.
- HSRT assessment result **must** be submitted with the completed Occupational Therapy Assistant program application. The HESI – critical thinking result may be considered in lieu of the HSRT exam result. The application will be declined if exam result is not submitted with the application by the application deadline.
- No minimum score is required for admission; however, application rubric points are awarded based on the range of scores.
- Scores are valid for 3 years. Applicants are allowed to submit up to two assessment results with the program application for the purpose of scoring.
- Please note that HSRT official scores must be downloaded directly from [insightassessment.com](http://insightassessment.com) website on a **.pdf** format. (Regardless taken at HCC or outside of HCC) - No exceptions.
- **How to obtain your HSRT assessment result:**
  - Go to the [insightassessment.com](http://insightassessment.com) .
  - Click the **Test-Taker Login** button at the top right.
  - Login with Username and Password, then click “Completed-Results.”
  - View Results – select Share Results to your email.
  - From your email-- **Save the Report as a PDF** and attach it to your application.

## Pre-Enrollment Process & Requirements

When the number of eligible applications exceeds program seat availability, selective criteria are used to determine which applicants are offered admission. Selective criteria are used to determine which applicants are offered admission. Points are awarded based on the following selection criteria:

- **50%** may be awarded based on the health program academic criteria (grades earned from the pre-entry form, required and recommended courses, and general education requirements).
- **25%** Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT-AD) - All applicants must take the assessment exam.
- **20%** awarded based on the interview process -qualified applicants will receive an invitation directly from the department after the application deadline to participate in a virtual interview to earn additional points towards the program application. If you have questions about the interview process, please contact the program director via email at [angela.shepherd@hccs.edu](mailto:angela.shepherd@hccs.edu).
- **5%** based on Essay sample - please refer to page 4 under the Program Application section in this admission guide for more information.
- All application requirements must be satisfied by the close of the application window.

**If you are offered admission you will need to complete the following pre-enrollment requirements by a specific due date to maintain eligible status.**

*Please note the Program Director will be in contact with you once your Letter of Intent has been received to provide you the information on the process of getting a background check, drug screen, personal health insurance, and deadlines for immunizations. Please check your email regularly for updates and information.*

- Complete Letter of Intent form. A form will be sent to your submitted email address with the program application along with the admission acceptance offer. Letter of Intent Form must be completed by the deadline stated in the admission acceptance offer email.
- Proof of personal health insurance; if you need to purchase health insurance please visit: <https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-health-insurance/> for a list of health care insurance providers that HCC has compiled as a courtesy to students who wish to contact a potential provider to meet their personal health insurance needs. Students are advised to contact more than one company and compare offerings.
- Passing drug screen.
- Physical examination.
- Immunization record showing: Completion of Hepatitis B immunization series (may take up to 6 months) and should be valid within, MMR – 2 shots or titer, Tdap – every 10 years, TB – every year, Varicella – 2 shots or titer, Meningitis (required for students 22 years or younger) and Influenza – after September 1st
- Cleared Criminal Background. Individuals with a positive background must declare with Texas Occupational Therapy Board of Examiners. [www.ptot.texas.gov](http://www.ptot.texas.gov)
- Complete the mandatory student services and program orientation on the date provided in your admission email. Please clear your calendar for orientations between July and August for Fall Term, so you are available to attend the mandatory orientation if you are offered admission.

## ➤ **Clinical Requirements for Program Progression & Completion**

To provide students with the most robust clinical educational experience and to ensure that students progress and graduate as scheduled, it is highly recommended that applicants weigh all of their options before agreeing to a conditional acceptance into their desired health science program. In order to facilitate this decision-making, students should understand all of the requirements of their program, including clinical education.

To be placed in a clinical educational experience, students must comply with the guidelines and requirements of HCC clinical sites, including health and wellness directives. Most clinical sites require background checks, health testing, drug screens and immunizations, including proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

Students are required to provide to HCC proof that students meet all clinical requirements, with the exception of their COVID-19 vaccination status. Consistent with state law, HCC does not mandate the COVID-19 vaccination. Students have the choice to voluntarily disclose or not disclose their COVID-19 vaccination status through their HCC Complio account.

However, most healthcare facilities do require the vaccine as a condition of employment, volunteering, or student clinical placement. If a student chooses not to disclose their COVID-19 vaccination status or is not vaccinated, HCC may not be able to place the student in clinical rotations. HCC will work to place such students into a clinical site that does not require the vaccine, provided such a site is available and HCC has an active affiliation agreement in place that meets the necessary conditions to provide an appropriate learning opportunity for the student. However, HCC cannot guarantee that clinical sites that do not require the COVID vaccine will be available at the time the student requires placement. At this time, many healthcare facilities are not accepting religious or medical exemptions for the COVID-19 vaccine for clinical students.

If a student chooses not to receive or to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination and no clinical sites are available to accept the student that do not require the COVID-19 vaccination, the student's progression in the program and graduation will be delayed or stopped all together. If a student cannot be timely placed in a qualifying clinical site, a student may not be able to complete the program. Our affiliate partners' expectations are the same for our students as they would be when our students ultimately become employees in their chosen field.

Students with questions about clinical requirements and placement may contact the program director of their program of interest.

## ➤ **HB 1508 requires the following information be given to students:**

If you are applying for admission to a program that prepares an individual for an initial occupational license or certification and/or if you later decide to change to a program that prepares you for an initial occupational license or certification, in accordance with state law, please be advised of the following:

1. An individual who has been charged or convicted of an offense or who is on probation may not be eligible for issuance of an occupational license or certification upon completion of the educational program.
2. It is the responsibility of the individual to immediately report to the program any change in status that would affect that individual's eligibility to apply for a license or certification.
3. Local, state or national licensing and certification authorities may issue additional guidelines related to criminal history. Applicants should contact their respective licensing or certification authority for more details.

Most health care programs require all students - admitted to the program - to submit to a national background check which may include fingerprinting. Applicants are encouraged to review all applicable eligibility requirements related to the respective occupational license or certification. Questions related to eligibility requirements should be directed to the individual program and applicable licensing or certification authority.



The **Occupational Therapy Assistant Program** requires participation in clinical rotations in order to complete the program. In order to participate in clinical rotations at our affiliate sites, certain background information must be verified. Students participating in clinical rotations must meet the same background verifications as clinical staff at our affiliate sites. For that reason, we require students to submit the following required background information before admission/enrollment in the program is completed.

1. Social Security Number Verification
2. Criminal Search (7 yrs. or up to 5 criminal searches)
3. Violent Sexual Offender and Predator Registry Search
4. OIG List of Excluded Individuals/Entities
5. GSA List of Parties Excluded from Federal Programs
6. US Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), List of Specially Designated nationals (SDN)
7. State Exclusive List [www.hhsc.state.us](http://www.hhsc.state.us)
8. Driver's license or government issued identification

Please note. Verification of this information is the financial responsibility of the student and must be completed through the program-approved vendor – Complio.

### ➤ **HCC Coleman College Grading Scale**

To best prepare students for success in their chosen fields, Health Sciences Programs have high standards for progression. Unlike other HCC programs, the Occupational Therapy Assistant program requires a C (75%) or better to progress to the next course or semester in the program. For specific questions about grades, grading, and progression within Health Science programs, please contact Coleman College at [co.ota@hccs.edu](mailto:co.ota@hccs.edu).

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Grading Scale:

- A = 100 – 90 %
- B = 89 – 80 %
- C = 79 – 75 %\*
- D = 74 – 60 %
- F = 59 – 0 %

\*A grade of C (75%) or better must be achieved to progress to the next course or semester.

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Advisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Catalog: 2024-25 HCC Catalog & Student Handbook  
 Award: Occupational Therapy Assistant, A.A.S.

## Occupational Therapy Assistant, A.A.S.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant curriculum prepares graduates to provide skilled health care services under the supervision of licensed occupational therapists. Working collaboratively, the OTA is trained to provide services to consumers across the life span, particularly those with challenges (i.e. disease, injury, illness, wellness, prevention), that prevent active independent 'living life to its fullest' through daily occupations and tasks. Services may include, but are not limited to, treating a wide range of physical, developmental, psychological, social, and emotional conditions. Principles, theories and treatment interventions that emphasize best practices are the hallmark of this profession's repertoire. Examples of types of intervention(s) include therapeutic exercises and activities, motor and life skills training, Basic Activities of Daily Living (BADL), and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) training, adaptive technological use and training, splint construction and usage, home modification, work-related intervention, psycho-social group programs, and consumer/care-giver education. Portions of the program's courses incorporate the use of technology and/or may be offered in a distance learning format (online or hybrid).



Program CIP Code: 51.0803

Cost of Attendance: <https://www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/tuition-calculator/>

The credit totals are displayed in two key locations: 1. At the end of each semester: You'll find the total number of credits for that specific semester. 2. At the end of the degree plan: The total number of credits for the entire degree program is listed at the bottom of the plan.

### First Year

#### Prerequisite Semester

Course Name	Credits:	Term Taken	Grade	TX Core
HPRS 1201 - Introduction to Health Professions	Credits: 2			
PSYC 2301 - General Psychology	Credits: 3			
BIOL 2301 - Anatomy & Physiology I (Lecture)	Credits: 3			
BIOL 2101 - Anatomy & Physiology I (lab)	Credits: 1			
OTHA 1301 - Introduction to Occupational Therapy	Credits: 3			

**Semester Total: 12**

#### First Semester - Fall

Course Name	Credits:	Term Taken	Grade	TX Core
OTHA 1305 - Principles of Occupational Therapy	Credits: 3			
OTHA 1309 - Human Structure and Function in Occupational Therapy	Credits: 3			
OTHA 1315 - Therapeutic Use of Occupations or Activities I	Credits: 3			
PSYC 2314 - Lifespan Growth & Development	Credits: 3			

**Semester Total: 12**

#### Second Semester - Spring

Course Name	Credits:	Term Taken	Grade	TX Core
OTHA 2301 - Pathophysiology in Occupational Therapy	Credits: 3			
OTHA 2335 - Health Care Management in Occupational Therapy	Credits: 3			
OTHA 1319 - Therapeutic Interventions I	Credits: 3			
OTHA 1241 - Occupational Performance from Birth through Adolescence	Credits: 2			

**Semester Total: 11**

#### Third Semester - Summer

Course Name	Credits:	Term Taken	Grade	TX Core
OTHA 2302 - Therapeutic Use of Occupations or Activities II	Credits: 3			
OTHA 2305 - Therapeutic Interventions II	Credits: 3			
• XXXX #3## - Humanities/Fine Arts Elective Credits: 3 <sup>1</sup>				

**Semester Total: 9**

**Second Year**

**First Semester - Fall**

Course Name	Credits:	Term Taken	Grade	TX Core
OTHA 1253 - Occupational Performance for Elders	Credits: 2			
OTHA 2331 - Physical Function in Occupational Therapy	Credits: 3			
OTHA 2209 - Mental Health in Occupational Therapy	Credits: 2			
OTHA 1161 - Clinical-Occupational Therapist Assistant	Credits: 1			
OTHA 1162 - Clinical-Occupational Therapist Assistant	Credits: 1			

**Semester Total: 9**

**Second Semester - Spring**

Course Name	Credits:	Term Taken	Grade	TX Core
OTHA 2330 - Workplace Skills for the Occupational Therapy Assistant	Credits: 3			
OTHA 2266 - Practicum (or Field Experience) Occupational Therapy Assistant	Credits: 2			
OTHA 2267 - Practicum (or Field Experience) Occupational Therapy Assistant (Capstone)	Credits: 2			

**Semester Total: 7**

**Total Minimum Credits for the AAS Degree: 60**

<sup>1</sup> A list of electives appears in the Core Curriculum section of this catalog.

**Notes:**

## Estimated Costs

Tuition is estimated using the Texas resident rates. Out of district and out of state residents will have a higher tuition fees. Please visit <http://www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/tuition-calculator/> for more information.

Tuition is for core coursework only. General Education and Support courses are not included. These are high estimates; actual costs will vary depending on health insurance coverage.

Due to increases/decreases in books and supplements, please check the book store website at <http://hccs.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=19561&catalogId=10001&langId=1> for updated cost information. Only required books are included in the estimate.

<b>PROGRAM COSTING SHEET(In-District)</b>	
<b>Pre Entrance</b>	
Criminal Background/Drug Screening	\$70.00
Physical Exam	\$85.00
Immunization (varies)	\$150.00
Supplies	\$100.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$405.00</b>
<b>1st Semester (12 semester hours)</b>	
Tuition	\$1020.00
Books	\$460.00
Uniforms	\$185.00
TMC Parking	\$ Varies
Lab Fees	\$24.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,689.00</b>
<b>2nd Semester (11 semester hours)</b>	
Tuition	\$935.50
Books	\$250.00
TMC Parking	\$ Varies
Lab Fees	\$24.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,209.50</b>

<b>3rd Semester (9 semester hours)</b>	
Tuition	\$766.50
Books	\$160.00
TMC Parking	\$ Varies
Lab Fees	\$24.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$950.50</b>
<b>2nd year</b>	
<b>4th Semester (9 semester hours)</b>	
Tuition	\$766.50
Books	\$320.00
TMC Parking	\$ Varies
Lab Fees	\$24.00
Medical Ins.	\$Varies
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,110.50</b>
<b>5th Semester (7 semester hours)</b>	
Tuition	\$597.50
Books	\$320.00
Parking (4months)	\$ Varies
Lab Fees	\$24.00
Medical Ins.	\$Varies
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$941.50</b>
National Exam & License Fees	\$680.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$680.00</b>
<b>Total Program Cost</b>	<b>\$6,986.00</b>

## Paying For College

You can use a valid MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express card to pay for tuition and fees. You can also use debit card with Visa or MasterCard logo, but not a non-USA credit card. Online payment via check is also available.

Check or echeck payments have a 10 day hold on release of official transcripts. International students or their parents can also pay online from their country of origin with their local currency, where applicable. Online payment from other countries can be made through “International Fund Transfer” payment option.

### ➤ Additional Options for Payment

#### Financial Aid

If you need assistance paying for college, please visit the Coleman Financial Aid office for assistance or visit [www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/financial-aid/](http://www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/financial-aid/)

#### Capital IDEA Houston

Capital IDEA Houston fully funds participants’ tuition, fees, and books for an Associate’s Degree or College-level Certificate with no loans or paybacks required. Please visit [College Degree Programs | Capital IDEA Houston](#) to see the List of Sponsored Programs.

#### Scholarships

In addition to federal and state aid, scholarships are a great way to offset all or part of the cost of your education. Please visit <https://www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/financial-aid/scholarships/> for more information.

#### Installment Payment Plan

If you are paying out of pocket and need assistance on how to setup a payment plan please visit the Business Office at HCC Coleman or visit <https://www.hccs.edu/applying-and-paying/student-financial-services/> for more information.

## Program Information

#### Accreditation Agency

Accredited by American Council for Occupational Therapy (ACOTE): [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org)  
6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929  
Phone number 301-652-AOTA (2682)

#### Licensure Testing

Graduates are eligible to take the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Examination to become a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant

#### Employment Opportunities

Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant may find employment in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, school settings, nursing homes, mental health facilities, community centers, adult day care and emerging practice areas.

#### Average Salary

Entry-level salaries are in range between \$48,000 and \$55,000 annually. Find out the entry level wages, the medium wages and high wages for each career field in High School or less, Vocational Certificate, Associate's degree, Bachelor's degree and Graduate degree: [Career Coach | Houston Community College \(HCC\) | We are Houston's Community College \(hccs.edu\)](#)

## Required Essential Functions

<i>Functional Capacity</i>	<i>Standards (Tasks)</i>
<b>Psychomotor Skills</b>	
<b>Gross Motor</b>	<p>Bend forward and backward, stoop, squat, crawl, kneel, reach, balance, and sit.</p> <p>Assume prone, supine, and side-lying positions sufficient to perform manual therapy on a mat table, demonstrate patient/client positions for education, or support patients/clients (or other students) in placing them into these positions for therapy (e.g., especially in pediatrics, crawling around on the floor with patients/clients is common).</p> <p>Exhibit independent control of upper and lower extremity joints.</p>
<b>Fine Motor</b>	<p>Bilaterally grasp and release items of various sizes (e.g., perform manual therapy and range of motion exercise). Grasp and pinch, cut and open containers, bilaterally (e.g., assist in dressing and bathing ADLs, lift patients/clients into and out of wheelchairs, etc.).</p> <p>Possess bilateral grip strength of at least thirty-five (35) pounds (e.g., transfer or move a stack of patient/client charts; manipulate and operate equipment).</p> <p>Record and document legibly; complete electronic documentation.</p> <p>Repetitive hand use, bilaterally, without evidence of strain or pain (e.g., “strain or pain” as clinically defined to include wincing, grimacing, dyskinetic movements, use of compensatory muscles or leveraging, report of pain, increased blood pressure, red face, sweat, deference of activity, etc.).</p> <p>Key/type and otherwise operate common desktop computer accessories.</p>
<b>Physical Strength &amp; Endurance</b>	<p>Stand for at least thirty (30) minutes without evidence of fatigue(e.g., “fatigue” as clinically defined).</p> <p>Lift at least thirty (30) pounds without evidence of strain or pain (e.g., “strain or pain” as clinically defined to include wincing, grimacing, dyskinetic movements, use of compensatory muscles or leveraging, report of pain, increased blood pressure, red face, sweat, deference of activity, etc.).</p> <p>Demonstrate 5/5 upper and lower body strength and normal balance (e.g., “normal” as clinically defined) to transfer and/or assist patients/clients in performance of their daily occupations and functional skills, without injury to patient/client or self, and without evidence of strain or pain (e.g., “strain or pain” as clinically defined to include wincing, grimacing, dyskinetic movements, use of compensatory muscles or leveraging, report of pain, increased blood pressure, red face, sweat, deference of activity, etc.).</p>

<i>Functional Capacity</i>	<i>Standards (Tasks)</i>
<b>Mobility</b>	<p>Independently climb on and off of a 3-foot table.</p> <p>Ambulate independently without assistive devices that specifically aid in balance, stability, or mobility.</p> <p>Demonstrate bilateral coordination of gross and fine motor, upper and lower extremity movement patterns to perform therapeutic activities in daily life occupations.</p> <p>Demonstrate normal (e.g., “normal” as clinically defined) bilateral upper and lower extremity tone—as per Modified Ashworth Tone Scale—to perform patient transfers into and out of beds, chairs, wheelchairs, onto and off of mat tables, hand washing, manual therapy, and all student therapy assistant tasks as assigned.</p>
<b>Cognitive Skills</b>	
<b>Critical &amp; Analytical Thinking</b>	<p>Apply and generalize information learned in the curriculum to new work contexts.</p> <p>Identify cause-and-effect relationships in the classroom and work environment.</p> <p>Plan interventions that are relevant and applicable within the treatment environment.</p> <p>Utilize research to make informed practice decisions. Identify clear strategies for problem-solving in the work environment, and implement these strategies in a consistent and appropriate manner.</p> <p>Obtain relevant information to determine patient/client needs and guide interventions.</p> <p>Exercise clear clinical judgement.</p>
<b>Safety</b>	<p>Anticipate potentially hazardous situations and demonstrate ability to take necessary steps toward ensuring patient/client safety.</p> <p>Consistently adhere to safety regulations in classroom, laboratory, and clinical facility settings.</p> <p>Follow established universal precautions and chemical safety. Use safety equipment correctly.</p> <p>Maintain awareness of alarms and emergency signals, and respond appropriately (e.g., monitors, cries for help, fire alarms, etc.).</p>
<b>Sensory Skills</b>	
<b>Observation</b>	<p>Display adequate comprehension of dimensional and spatial relationships of structures.</p> <p>Monitor and assess equipment settings, dials, switches, and instructions.</p> <p>Recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language.</p>
<b>Perception</b>	<p>Recognize and understand content conveyed in English. Comprehend technical and professional materials (e.g., textbooks, magazine and journal articles, handbooks, and instruction manuals). Perceive vibrations, and differences in sizes, shapes, and surface characteristics (e.g., palpate pulses/veins, assess muscular tone and muscle movement, identify body landmarks, and determine the characteristics of anatomic structures).</p> <p>Determine safe temperature levels and appropriate use of tools, splinting materials, and appliances.</p>

<i>Functional Capacity</i>	<i>Standards (Tasks)</i>
	Comprehend instructional material delivered through a variety of communication mediums.
<b>Interpretation</b>	Implement techniques learned through live demonstration, video, graphic, or picture for proper positioning, hand placement, direction of force to ensure adequate patient/client intervention. Observe and interpret patient/client physical, emotional, and psychological responses.
<b>Social-Behavioral Skills</b>	
<b>Communication</b>	Correspond via telephone using proper technique and etiquette. Converse effectively and sensitively in order to elicit patient/client information. Demonstrate English language proficiency with patients/clients and members of the health care team (e.g., correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling) in printed and typed correspondence. Effectively communicate to patients/clients and family members about the status of the patient/client.
<b>Adaptability</b>	Be open to change (positive or negative), and to considerable variety in the workplace. Adapt effectively to changing environments and increasing tension levels in a variety of situations. Demonstrate flexibility and learn to function in the face of uncertainties and ambiguities inherent in the clinical problems of many patients/clients.
<b>Emotional Stability</b>	Monitor and appropriately regulate own emotions to maintain composure, without prompting from others (e.g., control anger and avoid aggressive behavior, even in very stressful or demanding situations). Tolerate taxing workloads and function effectively under stress, (e.g., seek appropriate assistance when feeling overwhelmed). Focus sustained attention on tasks. Recognize constructive criticism and performance feedback as avenues for improvement and respond accordingly.
<b>Interpersonal Skills</b>	Act with respect and empathy towards peers and superiors. Foster rapport in a therapeutic environment using effective communication. Interact appropriately with patient/client, caregiver/family members, and health care team to facilitate the accomplishment of established patient/client and institutional goals. Demonstrate and maintain mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients/clients, families, other students, faculty, and members of the healthcare team under all circumstances (e.g., especially those situations that are highly stressful).
<b>Ethics &amp; Professionalism</b>	Exhibit academic honesty. Respect authority. Maintain appropriate personal and professional ethical values in the classroom and clinical setting as set forth by the American Occupational Therapy Association Code of Ethics,



	<p>and the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners. Protect patients'/clients' privacy and confidential information (e.g. adhere to HIPAA restrictions).</p> <p>Display dependability, preparedness, compliance with departmental dress code, adequate work site maintenance, punctuality, time management, and adherence to deadlines. Demonstrate respect for all individuals including socioeconomic, spiritual, and lifestyle choices.</p>
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