

Fall 2020 Cohort

The program will not be opening another application cycle for the fall 2020 cohort. The next application cycle will be open in spring 2021 for a fall 2021 start date.

Is This Program Right for Me?

The Missouri Health Professions Consortium OTA one-plus-one program combines general education, professional-level coursework, laboratory practice, and clinical fieldwork. You will be required to take general education prerequisite courses before beginning year two of the program.

The program prepares you to practice as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) after meeting certification and state licensure standards. To succeed in this field you need social perceptiveness; active learning and listening skills; the ability to organize, plan and prioritize work; compassion for others; and the ability to perform physical activities such as lifting, balancing and stooping.

Admission

Admission is competitive, requires an additional admission application and class size is limited. You must apply both to Three Rivers College and to the program and meet the following admission requirements:

- Minimum 2.5 grade point average in required general education coursework
- Minimum of a C grade in required general education classes
- Observation, volunteer or work experience under the supervision of a licensed OT or OTA
- Note—additional admission requirements may be added; check with Admissions and Outreach at (660) 530-5833 for more details.

Admission to TRC does not guarantee entrance into the OTA program. This program plans to change the start time from January to Fall, beginning in 2020, **Applications that met the May 15, 2019, deadline will be given preference for the upcoming Fall 2020 cohort.**

Occupational Outlook

OTAs work primarily in hospitals, schools and long-term care facilities. Employment of OTAs was projected to grow 40 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. Salaries range from \$40,100 to \$52,400.

Data Sources – The website mynextmove.org, which is developed and maintained by the National Center for O*NET Development, under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, and the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC).

Accreditation

The MHPC Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is on Probationary Accreditation status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) effective September 25, 2019. Following successful completion of coursework and passing of the certification exam, individuals will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). **Even with successful coursework completion students may be prohibited from sitting for the NBCOT Certification Exam if they have a felony conviction.** In Missouri, state licensure is required in order to practice and acquisition of a license is contingent upon passing the NBCOT Certification Exam. For more information regarding accreditation, please contact the American Occupational Therapy Association:

ACOTE

Accreditation Department
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