



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

Associate in Science Degree

The Health and Exercise Science Department at County College of Morris (CCM) is offering a joint Associate in Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at Rutgers was developed in response to the demand for OTA practitioners at the local, state and national levels. This collaboration between Rutgers and CCM prepares students for employment in healthcare, education and other community settings. In the workplace, OTAs follow guidelines and treatment plans established by Occupational Therapists.

The program's mission is to prepare OTAs as professionals who contribute to the health and well-being of individuals and groups. Disease, injury, depression, stroke, advanced age and other challenges prevent people from participating independently in activities of daily living. OTAs make it possible to achieve independence and improve their quality of life.

Graduates of an accredited OTA Program are eligible to sit for a national certification exam. Once certified, the graduate can obtain state licensure to practice as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) in New Jersey. Students may choose to further their education by completing a master's degree or entry-level clinical doctorate and becoming certified as an Occupational Therapist. For more information, visit <http://shrp.rutgers.edu/dept/psyr/programs/asdota/index.html>.

continued on back...

Curriculum Checksheet: www.ccm.edu/checksheets

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Occupational Therapy has recently been named one of the nation's 150 best recession proof jobs. Due to the rising number of patients and an aging population, employment in this field is increasing with an anticipated 18 percent growth rate by 2028. This growth rate is greater than the average for all occupations. Students can look forward to dynamic careers working in a variety of settings with people of all ages.

There also is a growing demand for OTAs working in healthcare and government agencies assisting returning military personnel. OTAs also work with children with learning disabilities, behavioral issues, cerebral palsy or Down syndrome. They work with individuals in their homes, community centers, nursing homes and rehabilitation hospitals.

AFFILIATION

This is a joint Associate in Science Program in Occupational Therapy Assistant with CCM and Rutgers. The curriculum includes a total of 74 credits. 32 general education credits are completed at CCM and 42 additional credits of professional/clinical coursework are taken at Rutgers. Students completing the 32 required credits at CCM must complete a separate application into Rutgers at the Scotch Plains campus to complete the 74 credits required for the A.S. degree.

ACCREDITATION

The OTA program at Rutgers is accredited 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.

TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

The admission process is highly competitive. Students from CCM will be competing for admission to Rutgers with students from other institutions. Rutgers accepts only 20 students annually into the fall full-time program and only 10 students into the spring part-time program. Admission into Rutgers is based on a minimum GPA of 3.0, two letters of recommendation, 20 hours of occupational therapy observation, an interview process and an on-site writing component. Visiting the OTA website at http://shrp.rutgers.edu/prospective_students/admissions05_brochures.html is encouraged.

CURRICULUM

General Education Foundation (32 CR)

COMMUNICATION (6 CR)

English Composition I	ENG 111	3
English Composition II	ENG 112	3

MATH/SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY (11 CR)

Anatomy and Physiology I	BIO 101	4
Anatomy and Physiology II	BIO 102	4
Statistics OR	MAT 124	3
College Algebra	MAT 110	

SOCIAL SCIENCE (3 CR)

General Psychology	PSY 113	3
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HUMANITIES (3 CR)

Ethics	PHL 114	3
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SOCIAL SCIENCE OR HUMANITIES (3 CR)

Developmental Psychology	PSY 219	3
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GENERAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES (6 CR)

Principles of Sociology	SOC 120	3
Diversity Elective		3

TOTAL CCM CREDITS 32

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CORE (42 CR) 42

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

The professional phase consists of 42 credits, which must be completed at Rutgers, Scotch Plains Campus.

TOTAL 74

Note: You must see a faculty advisor to plan your sequence of courses. For the most up-to-date listing of courses, see the Curriculum Checklist for this program on the CCM website at www.ccm.edu/checksheets.