

**Occupational Therapy Educational Program
Minimal Skills/Eligibility Requirements**

Applicants to the program must possess aptitude, abilities, and skills in the areas of observation, communication, sensory and motor functions, intellectual/cognitive skills, and behavioral/social attributes.

Observational Skills

- Observe and interpret client behavior, movement, and occupational performance
- Observe a client from varying distances and recognize verbal and non-verbal signals

Communication Skills

- Elicit information from clients and/or significant others in a timely manner
- Relate effectively, objectively, and compassionately with clients and/or significant others
- Communicate clearly in speech and writing to clients, significant others, other healthcare professionals, and community and professional groups
- Listen and accurately perceive what is being communicated
- Participate in group meetings
- Complete forms in a timely manner
- Demonstrate computer literacy
- Direct/supervise supportive personnel

Sensory and Motor Functions

- Demonstrate sufficient sensory and motor abilities to elicit information from client assessment
- Demonstrate sufficient strength and balance to transfer, move, and assist clients in occupational performance without injury to the client or self, or the ability to instruct others in performance of these tasks
- Demonstrate gross and fine motor coordination skills necessary to perform therapeutic activities, or the ability to instruct others in performance of these tasks

Intellectual/Cognitive Skills

- Engage in the clinical reasoning process in a timely manner
- Analyze, synthesize, and interpret data from a variety of sources in a timely manner
- Engage in problem solving in an efficient and timely manner
- Engage in evidence-based clinical practice
- Respond to feedback in an appropriate manner

Behavioral/Social Attributes

- Exercise sound judgment
- Follow detailed written and verbal instructions
- Recognize and respond appropriately to individuals of all ages, genders, races, religions, and cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds
- Adapt to changing environments
- Demonstrate ethical and legal behavior
- Demonstrate a commitment to life-long learning

These abilities may be accomplished through direct student response, through the use of prosthetic devices, or through personal assistance (e.g. readers, signers, notetakers, etc.) The responsibility for the purchase of prosthetic devices serving a student in meeting the above required abilities remains with the student and/or the agency supporting the student. The University will assist with providing notetakers, readers, signers, and other attending services.

Upon admission, an otherwise-qualified student who discloses a disability (with certification) is assured of reasonable accommodation. These accommodations include: opportunities for individual and group counseling; peer counseling; linkages with community services; faculty advisory committees that are aware of disabled students and their needs; career counseling; assistance with job searches and interview skills; and, of course, the more familiar accommodations of extended test-taking time, and other enabling services. Students seeking accommodation initiate their request in the Student Services Office, College of Health Professions.

Revised 5/28/05: BAT