

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Occupational Therapy Admissions Committee selects students for admission after they have met the general Tuskegee University requirements for admission to the Graduate Program. Tuskegee University offers a 3+2 program. For students beginning as freshmen, 3 years of undergraduate course work is required and 2 years of graduate work. Prior to the end of their third year, students must make application to the graduate phase of the program. Admission is not automatic. Applicants may start as a freshman or sophomore at Tuskegee University or come as a transfer student with a maximum of 80 hours of allowable, undergraduate transfer credit from an accredited college or university. Students transferring to the program with a Bachelor's degree will be exempt from the university's orientation, physical education, and English Proficiency Exam requirements.

* For additional information please refer to the Graduate Handbook.

Pre-Professional Program

All students must meet the following criteria to gain admission to the Master of Science program in occupational therapy. All pre-professional students must be admitted to the University through the Admissions Office. Admission to the pre-professional or undergraduate curriculum is designed to develop foundational knowledge necessary for entry to the professional or graduate phase of the program. Upon completion of 3 years in the pre-professional phase, students then apply for admission to the graduate/professional phase of the program. Admission to Tuskegee University as a pre-occupational therapy major does not include admission to the graduate or professional program.

Students who apply to the program as incoming freshmen must have the following requirements:

- **High School GPA: 3.0 on a 4.0 scale**
- **SAT: 1000 or Above**
- **ACT: 21 or Above**

Transfer students without a degree applying to the Occupational Therapy Program must have the following requirements:

- **Cumulative GPA 3.0 on a 4.0 scale**
- **SAT: 1000**
- **ACT: 21**

Transfer students with a degree applying to the Occupational Therapy Program and do not have the required prerequisites may apply to the program in the pre-professional phase and complete prerequisites. Students must also have the following requirements:

- **Cumulative GPA 3.0 on a 4.0 scale**
- **Bachelor's or higher degree in a related area**

Pre-Professional Course Requirements:

Course	Semester Hours
English Composition I	3
English Composition II	3
Advance Writing	3
Public Speaking	3
College Algebra & Trigonometry	4
World Civilization	3
World Civilization II	3
General Biology	3
Individual Development I & II (College orientation)*	1 or 2
Introduction to Computer Science	3
Physical Education (2-1 credit courses)*	2
Elementary Physics I	3
Elementary Physics I Lab	1
Student Success for Health Science Majors (2 courses)*	2
Health Care Systems	2
Medical Vocabulary	2
Introduction to Psychology	3
Human Development	3
Abnormal Psychology	3
Statistics	3
Introduction to Sociology	3
Philosophy	3
General Chemistry	3
General Chemistry Lab	1
Anatomy & Physiology I	4
Anatomy & Physiology II	4
Gross Anatomy Lab	2
Art or Music Appreciation	2
Political Science/Business Elective	3
Foundations of Occupational Therapy (+)	3
Occupational Therapy Performance & Media (+)	3
Occupational Therapy Performance & Media Lab (+)	1

***Transfer students with Bachelor's or higher degree are exempt from these courses. Transfer students without a degree who transfer 30 credit hours or more will be required to take only 1 credit hour of orientation. (+) Occupational therapy courses must be taken at Tuskegee University. (Revised 9/20/13)**

(No grade below "C" will be accepted for graduate credit. Applicants must have an overall CGPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for admission to the professional/graduate phase of the program.

The Professional Program

Applications for the professional or graduate program must be requested from the Occupational Therapy Program. To obtain application forms, prospective students should write to:

Tuskegee University
Occupational Therapy Program Director
School of Nursing and Allied Health
John A. Kenney Hall, Room 71-266
Tuskegee, AL 36088

New students and transfer students should also apply for admission to Tuskegee University. An application may be obtained on-line at www.tuskegee.edu or from:

Tuskegee University
Admissions Office
Margaret Murray Washington Hall
Tuskegee, AL 36088

Transfer Students

Students who enter Tuskegee University from other colleges and universities with or without a bachelor's degree must:

- Successfully complete prerequisite courses with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- Submit an official transcript from all colleges and universities attended. Transcripts should be sent to Tuskegee University Admission Office at the above address. Each transcript should bear the signature of the registrar, the seal of the granting institution, the years of attendance, courses taken, grades received, and the degree, diploma, or certificate conferred (if applicable). *These transfer credits cannot exceed 80 credit hours.* Occupational therapy professional courses taken at other institutions are not transferable. Courses with a grade lower than "C" and pass/fail courses are also not transferable.

- Be eligible to re-enter the last institution attended.
- Meet Tuskegee University's general education requirements for graduation including occupational therapy introductory courses offered in the third (3rd) year of the pre-professional program.
- Complete all other application procedures as required below.

Other Application Procedures

1. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on all course work attempted is a pre-requisite for admission to the 4th year or graduate phase. If a student is accepted on a conditional basis, a minimum of nine hours of graduate course work must be completed during the first term of the graduate program with a minimum average of 3.0 for admission to full graduate status.
2. Demonstration of knowledge concerning yourself and the occupational therapy profession by submitting:
 - a. An essay (2-3 paragraphs) detailing the reasons the applicant desires to become an occupational therapist (i.e. your philosophy, life goals, knowledge of the field, etc.).
 - b. An autobiographical sketch of approximately 250 words(describe birth history, early life, family members, schools attended, family life and other events that shaped you as a person).
 - c. Documentation of a minimum of 40 hours of first hand observation or work experience in occupational therapy. This experience must be substantiated in writing by a registered/licensed occupational therapist.
3. Two recommendations from persons acquainted with the applicant's ability to be successful in a graduate program. One recommendation must be completed by a community leader and one completed by a member of the academic community. This information should be submitted on the required forms located in the admissions package.
4. A personal interview with the Occupational Therapy Admissions Committee and a minimum score of 75% on the interview (average of at least two evaluators). Applicants must interview on site in the department's designated areas unless prior approval has been obtained for another type or location of interview.
5. Submission of scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) from the aptitude portions of the test (verbal and quantitative) of 156 and above is required prior to admission. Applicants doing pre-professional work at Tuskegee University will be required to report GRE scores during the beginning of the third year of course work and prior to applying to the professional (or graduate) phase. Students transferring to the program should submit GRE scores (not older than 5 years) as a part of their application materials.

6. Preference for admission will be given to applicants who have completed all prerequisite courses by the end of the summer session prior to their admission to the graduate program. The graduate program begins *only* in the fall semester of every year.
7. A criminal background check (CBC) is required for all applicants. A CBC must be completed before admission to the graduate program and prior to fieldwork placements. Applicants will be notified of the required information and fees associated with this service.
8. Applications for the graduate program should be submitted by January 15 of the year in which applicant plan to enter the program.
9. Additional standardized tests may be administered to all applicants as a part of the admissions process.

Acceptance Policy

After applying to the occupational therapy program the applicant will be notified of their acceptance status. If the applicant is not presently enrolled at Tuskegee University, he or she will be asked to submit a non-refundable application fee to the university. The Occupational Therapy Admissions Committee will consider several factors in making its decision for admission of a student. Criteria such as cumulative grade point average, prior experiences, recommendations, personal interviews, and GRE scores will be considered as part of the Committee's decision to accept an applicant for the graduate program of study.

Residence and Credit Hour Requirements

The occupational therapy graduate program requires a student to be in residence at least two academic years as a regular graduate student including the satisfactory completion of all credit hours of graduate coursework in order to complete requirements for a professional Master's degree in occupational therapy.

Admission to Candidacy

Admission to the graduate program in occupational therapy does not automatically qualify a student as a candidate for the Master's degree. The request for admission to candidacy should be filed by the student with the assistance of the major professor after the completion of the 4th year of course work or thirty (36) semester hours of graduate credit and in accordance with the dates published in the University Calendar. To achieve candidacy, the student must:

1. Satisfy all requirements for matriculation as a graduate student.
2. Possess a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of at least 3.00 (The grade point average is computed for all **graduate courses** taken while enrolled at the University—whether the courses are in the student's current curriculum or not.)

3. Submit the following information with 6 signed originals on the appropriate application form and through the major professor and College Dean to the Dean of Graduate Programs:
 - A complete list of all graduate courses (with grades) completed in residence at Tuskegee University.
 - A copy of the official transcript.
 - A list of courses that satisfies the course requirements for the degree.
 - Approval by the major professor of courses selected, and place of research project.
4. Present scores on the Aptitude Test of the Graduate Record Examination.
5. Satisfy any additional requirements which may be specified by the college, department or both.
6. Obtain approval of admission to candidacy by the College Dean and the Dean of Graduate Programs.

All applications for candidacy should follow the standard procedures as described in the Tuskegee University Graduate Handbook for Academic Regulations and Procedures except the *thesis* requirement.

Non-Thesis-Comprehensive Examination for the Master of Science Degree

This program offers a non-thesis Master's degree. However, each candidate for the degree in occupational therapy must complete a detailed research project and pass a computerized, comprehensive examination in occupational therapy. In addition, an oral examination will be required by the Comprehensive Examination Committee. Students will be required to pass with a minimum score of 75% on the comprehensive examination in order to be eligible for graduation and Level II fieldwork.

Level II Fieldwork (Clinical Internship)

After completion of the didactic portion of the program, the occupational therapy major is required to complete six (6) months of full-time fieldwork in occupational therapy within 24 months after completing their coursework, to be eligible to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) examination. The student is responsible for providing his/her traveling and living expenses for fieldwork. Graduates must receive a passing score on the "Fieldwork Performance Evaluation" for Level II fieldwork in order to receive approval from the Program Director to take the NBCOT certification examination. *A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the certification exam or attain state licensure.*

Program Costs and Fees

At Tuskegee University, undergraduate tuition per semester is \$9,797 and graduate school tuition is \$10,189 per semester. See the Bursar's website (<https://www.tuskegee.edu/programs-courses/bursar>) for current tuition, fees, and room and board costs. Fees for occupational therapy courses will vary and are charged per course at registration. The total lab fees for 5 semesters of didactic work are approximately \$600. Other professional program fees in addition to tuition and living expenses include books (\$900); clinical uniforms with patches and name tags (\$115); transportation to off campus Fieldwork I sites (\$200); and AOTA and other professional fees (\$100). For 6 months full time fieldwork placement (Level II) and some Level I sites, students have costs for round trip transportation to sites (\$200-\$500); room and board at sites (\$3,000); criminal background check (\$110); and health and safety requirements at sites [CPR, medical exam, TB screening (\$85-\$100)]. **All fees are estimated and are subject to change without notice due to market fluctuations in housing, transportation and health care.**

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM
MASTER OF SCIENCE CURRICULUM (3+2)
Undergraduate Curriculum Based On General Core (Pre-professional)
Revised 11/09/2022

FIRST YEAR

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course	Title	Credits	Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 0101	Composition	3	ENGL 0102	Composition	3
MATH 0107	College Alg & Trig I	4	HIST 0104	World Civilization II	3
BIOL 0111 or 0112	General Biology I/II	3	PSYC 0270	Intro to Psych	3
HIST 0103	World Civilization I	3	SOCI 0240	Intro Socio	3
OREN 0100	Indiv. Dev & Growth	1	OREN 0101	Indiv.Dev&Growth	1
PHED	Elective	1	PHED	Elective	1
HLSC 0100	Student Success for Health Care Majors	1	HLSC 0101	Student Success for Health Care Majors	1
Total		16	Total		15

SECOND YEAR

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course	Title	Credits	Course	Title	Credits
CHEM 0221	Gen. Chemistry	3	PHYS 0301	Elem. Physics I	3
CHEM 0223	Lab	1	PHYS 0303	Lab	1
ANPH 0201	Anat & Physio I	4	CSCI 0100	Intro Computer	3
ENGL 0201	Adv. Writing	3	PSYCH 0377	Human Dev.	3
POLS/BUSN	Elective in Business or Political Science	3	ANPH 0202	Anat & Physio II	4
+FPAR 0101	Art Appreciation or Music	2	HLSC 0201	Sophomore Seminar II	1
Total		16	Total		15

+ FPAR 0105 or FPAR 0110 may be substituted for FPAR 0101

THIRD YEAR

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course	Title	Credits	Course	Title	Credits
PSYCH 0567	Abnormal Psych	3	HLSC302L	Gross Anatomy Lab	2
HLSC 0303	Medical Vocabulary	2	OCTH 0315	Occupation, Community Health & Wellness	3
OCTH 0311	Foundations of Occupational	3	ENGL 0327	Public Speaking	3
OCTH 0312	Occ. Perf. & Media I	4	PHIL (Approval from Advisor)		3
OCTH 312L	Lab	1	PSYCH 0306	Psychological Statistics	3
HLSC 0209	Health Care Systems	2			
Total		15	Total		14

The GRE must be taken prior to or during the 3rd year. Completion of the indicated courses with a grade of "C" or higher is a prerequisite for admission to the graduate phase curriculum. "D" grades are unacceptable. Overall CGPA must be 3.0 for eligibility for the graduate phase. This curriculum is subject to revision pending approval by Tuskegee University's administration, and the Provost for Academic Affairs.

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SCHOOL OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM
MASTER OF SCIENCE CURRICULUM (3+2)
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FOURTH YEAR

First Semester

Course	Title	Credits
HLSC 0521	Ethics & Interprofessional Health Care	3
OCTH 0516	Functional Kinesiology	3
OCTH 516L	Lab	1
HLSC 0512	Neuro Basis Rehabilitation	3
OCTH 0519	Community Serv. / Seminar I	2
OCTH 0501	Graduate Seminar I	1
Total		13

Second Semester

Course	Title	Credits
OCTH 0520	Community Serv./ Seminar II	2
OCTH 0518	Behavioral Health & OT Process	4
OCTH 0518L	Lab	1
OCTH 0517	Adult Physical Dys & OT Process	4
OCTH 0517L	Lab	1
OCTH 0510	Introduction to Research	3
OCTH 0502	Graduate Seminar II	1
Total		16

SUMMER SESSION

Course	Title	Credits
OCTH 0621	Organization & Adm.	3
Total		6

Course	Title	Credits
OCTH 0622	Research Project I	2
OCTH 0600	Graduate Seminar III	1

FIFTH YEAR

First Semester

Course	Title	Credits
OCTH 0617	Leadership & Prof. Role Dev.	3
OCTH 0610	Environmental Modifications & Assistive Technology	3
OCTH 0612	Pediatric Dys & OT Process	4
OCTH 612L	Lab	1
OCTH 0630	Fieldwork I & PBL Seminar III	2
OCTH 0624	Research Project II	2
OCTH 0601	Graduate Seminar IV	1
Total		16

Second Semester

Course	Title	Credits
OCTH 0614	Older Adults & OT Process	4
OCTH 0614L	Lab	1
OCTH 0619	Contemporary Practice in OT	3
OCTH 0619L	Lab	1
OCTH 0632	Capstone & Evidenced-Based Practice	3
OCTH 0631	Fieldwork I & PBL Seminar IV	2
Total		14

SUMMER SESSION

OCTH 0652	Level II Fieldwork (A)	1
OCTH 0752	Continuous Registration (as needed)	0
OCTH 0754	Candidate for degree	0

FALL SESSION

OCTH 0652(B)	Level II Fieldwork II (B)	1
OCTH 0752	Continuous Registration (as needed)	0
OCTH 0754	Candidate for degree	0

- No grade below "C" will be accepted for graduate credit. A graduate student must maintain a "B" (3.0) average in all work included in the program of study as outlined for the degree. No more than 6 semester hours of "C" grades are allowed.

FIELDWORK (Level II)

Two (3 months) fieldwork rotations are required after didactic requirements have been met. Students must enroll for FWII (OCTH 652-A & OCTH 652-B) and schedule rotations within 24 months after didactic requirements are met.

Candidacy for the Master of Science degree

Admission to the graduate program does not qualify a student for the degree. The request for admission to candidacy must be filed by the student after the completion of 36 graduate semester credit hours and in accordance with the dates published in the University Calendar. Refer to Tuskegee University's Graduate Programs Bulletin.

Non-Thesis (Research Project) & Exit Exam

This is a non-thesis Master's, but students must score a 450 (75%) on the NBCOT Practice Exam, and complete a research project in occupational therapy and an oral defense as approved by the department.

*This curriculum is subject to revision pending approval by Tuskegee University's administration, and the Provost for Academic Affairs.

Revised 11/09/2022