



**Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program
Admission Packet**



**2025
GENERAL APPLICATION
INFORMATION
AND INSTRUCTIONS**

Overview

Enrollment in the Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) program is limited each year to 30 students. Application scores include the following factors:

- Academic status – prerequisite and overall GPAs
- Application essay
- Three pre-professional evaluations and recommendations (See required form in this document.)
- Community/Volunteer service (Does not have to be with an Occupational Therapist, healthcare related, or in a healthcare facility.)

To be considered for the OTD program, applicants must apply to **BOTH** the Arkansas State University (ASU) graduate school and the OTD program. Admission into the graduate school does not guarantee admission into the OTD program. We prefer applicants to apply to the graduate school before you submit your program application in February. If you do not have a Bachelor's degree, please include your most current transcript through the Fall semester before your application in the Spring semester.

For information on how to apply to the graduate school, go to <https://www.astate.edu/info/admissions/graduate/how-to-apply/>.

For information on the OTD program, go to <https://www.astate.edu/college/conhp/departments/occupational-therapy/>.

The Occupational Therapy Doctorate program at Arkansas State University is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE):

Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education
American Occupational Therapy Association
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E
Bethesda, MD 20814
Phone: 301.652.6611
Email: accred@aota.org
Website: www.acoteonline.org

The Occupational Therapy Doctorate program consists of 9 semesters totaling 120 credit hours. Upon graduation from the OTD program, students must take the required National Board exam hosted by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) to practice occupational therapy. Students are strongly encouraged to take the NBCOT board exam within six months after graduation.

The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) requires all graduates to pass a background check prior to taking the NBCOT board exam. Failure to pass the NBCOT background check prohibits the licensed practice of occupational therapy.

Upon passing the NBCOT examination, the student will become a registered Occupational Therapist (OTR) and then may apply for state licensure. All 50 states have regulatory laws for occupational therapists and require licensure. Frequently these state requirements are met through the same education and training required to maintain certification with NBCOT.

Program expectations: Matriculation

The OTD program is a lock-step program. Students must maintain satisfactory grades in each semester; otherwise the student can be placed on probation or dismissed from the program. The OTD Program requires timely completion of the all degree requirements, including all didactic coursework, Level II Fieldwork rotations, OTKE exam for third-year entry and Capstone. To progress in the professional curriculum, students must:

1. Maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA in all Occupational Therapy Program courses, fieldwork, and Capstone,
2. Receive grades of 75% or better in all professional courses,
3. Maintain academic integrity and professional behavior in classroom, laboratory, any fieldwork sites visited, and in the community,
4. Maintain the standards of affiliating fieldwork facilities, and
5. Exhibit affective behaviors consistent with the Professional Behavior Expectations and AOTA Code of Ethics.

Fieldwork Requirements

Level I

The curriculum includes four (4) Level I fieldworks, allowing the student to acquire 40 hours of clinical experience in each of the following areas: aging adults, psychosocial, neurorehabilitation and pediatrics. The Level 1 fieldworks support students' integration of learned information to applied clinical contexts. Fieldwork assignments are designed to foster students in developing clinical reasoning skills and to develop knowledge about the principles of occupation. Level I experiences are integral to the curriculum design and include direct observation and participation in selected aspects of care. Level I experiences may relate to occupational therapy service delivery, or they may be under the supervision of related professionals in emerging practice areas.

Level II

The curriculum also includes two (2) Level II fieldworks each 12 weeks in length. Students are at fieldwork sites full-time during Level II experiences. Level II Fieldwork is designed to facilitate the student's personal and professional development. The integration and application of clinical reasoning and practical skills will be required in both of the Level II experiences, during which students will provide occupational therapy services to a range of individuals. The fieldwork experiences are provided at approved facilities with supervision to meet professional accreditations standards. Students are responsible for all aspects of the occupational therapy process during the Level II experiences.

The student must successfully complete all coursework and Level II fieldwork and pass a pre-NBCOT competency practice examination requirement prior to the commencement of the doctoral experiential component.

Capstone

The third level of fieldwork is called Capstone and affords students with a final learning experience in clinical practice, research, theory, leadership, program development, policy development, advocacy or education. Capstone is a minimum of 14-weeks or 560 hours and must occur under the supervision of a mentor with expertise in the area of the Capstone. Prior fieldwork or work experience may not be substituted for Capstone. Capstones may not occur at a student's place of employment. Capstone is student driven and provides the opportunity to apply didactic knowledge, leadership and advocacy skills in an area of interest. Students participate in two capstone preparation courses to develop their capstone project. The semester leading up to the Capstone rotation focuses beyond generalist content in order to round out the student skills for the capstone experience.

****Students are responsible for all fieldwork and Capstone expenses.**

Program completion and Graduation

To graduate from the program, students must achieve a final grade of 75% or higher on all didactic courses, have a 3.0 overall GPA at the time of graduation, pass all fieldwork levels, and pass Capstone.

Students have up to 24 months after completion of the didactic coursework to complete both Level II Fieldwork rotations and Capstone experience. Timely completion of the program is monitored by the student and his/her faculty advisor using the *Degree Works* system (<https://www.astate.edu/a/registrar/FAQ/degree-works/index.dot>).

Certification and Licensure

NBCOT Certification Exam Procedures

Graduates of our program are eligible to sit for the National Certification Examination for Occupational Therapy, administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of the exam, the individual will be a registered Occupational Therapist (OTR). (NBCOT Exam Handbook - [https://www.nbcot.org/-/media/PDFs/Cert Exam Handbook.pdf](https://www.nbcot.org/-/media/PDFs/Cert_Exam_Handbook.pdf)).

To be eligible to take the NBCOT certification exam, "OTR candidates must graduate with an entry-level occupational therapy degree from an ACOTE®-accredited occupational therapy (OT) program." (<https://www.nbcot.org/get-certified/eligibility>).

NBCOT® Academic Credential Verification Policy U.S. graduates examining for the first time must submit an official final transcript from the university that confirms eligibility for admission to the examination.



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Licensure in the State of Arkansas

In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. The Arkansas State University OTD Program school code is **30508**.

Felony Conviction Statement

**A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Admission Requirements

In order to be eligible for application to the Occupational Therapy Doctorate program, applicants must meet the following minimal requirements:

- Within 1 semester of completing a Baccalaureate degree from an accredited University or College if you do not already have a bachelor's degree.
- Application to AState graduate school.
- All transcripts submitted to the AState graduate school.
- Program prerequisites with a minimum grade of "B" required in all courses. Applicants must have a minimum of 20 prerequisite credit hours completed at the time of application on February 1.
- A prerequisite GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale of all college work attempted.
- 30 hours of documented community service. 20 hours must be in a single location.
- 3 pre-professional recommendations (must use admission packet forms).
- English proficiency requirements, if foreign born (see application p. 6).
- Applicants scoring 70 or higher on the admission application will receive automatic consideration by the admissions committee.
- Scores between 65 and 70 will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for admission.
- Scores below 65 will not be considered for admission.
- Any incomplete application will not be considered for admission.

Prerequisite Courses

If you are applying from another university, the course titles may be different. Courses in column 3 are examples of course titles that will substitute for prerequisite requirements. Contact the OTD program director to make sure your prerequisite courses are acceptable. Course descriptions for Arkansas State University are in the undergraduate bulletin at www.astate.edu/registrar/.

| Subject | Credit Hours | Courses from Arkansas State | *Potential Course Substitutes from Other Universities |
|--------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Biology | 3 | BIO 2203: Human Anatomy and Physiology I | Anatomy/Human Functional and Structure I |
| Biology | 1 | BIO 2201: Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab | Anatomy Lab/ Human Functional and Structure I Lab |
| Biology | 3 | BIO 2223: Human Anatomy and Physiology II | Physiology/ Human Functional and Structure II |
| Biology | 1 | BIO 2221: Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab | Physiology Lab/ Human Functional and Structure II Lab |
| Health Professions | **1 – 3 | HP 2013: Medical Terminology | Healthcare Terminology |
| Physics | 3 | PHYS 2133: Physics for Health Professions or PHYS 2054: General Physics (Algebra-based not Calculus-based. Sometimes called “College Physics”.) | General or “College” Physics (Algebra-based not Calculus-based) Physics for Health Science Majors |
| Psychology | 3 | PSY 2013: Psychology, Introduction to | General (Introduction to) Psychology |
| Psychology | 3 | PSY 2233: Psychology, Abnormal | Abnormal Psychology |
| Psychology | 3 | PSY 2133: Psychology, Developmental | Developmental Psychology (“Lifespan Development” is also acceptable.) |
| Statistics | 3 | STAT 3033: Statistics for Health Science Majors or PSY 3103: Quantitative Methods in Psychology or SOC 3383: Social Statistics [Course must include inferential Statistics. Probability only is not acceptable.] (Biostatistics, Business statistics, or | Applied Statistics/Statistics in Psychology/Statistics in Sociology [Course must include inferential statistics. Probability only is not acceptable.] |



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| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| | | Research & Statistical Methods in Exercise Science are not accepted as a substitute.) | (Biostatistics, Business statistics, or Research & Statistical Methods in Exercise Science are not accepted as a substitute) |
|--|--|---|--|

*If you attend a university/college other than Arkansas State, we advise you to contact Dr. Christine Wright, OTD Program Director, to confirm the acceptance of your prerequisite courses. Contact Dr. Wright at cwright@astate.edu.

**If your Medical Terminology course is less than 3 credits, it may affect your prerequisite GPA. We recommend taking the full 3 credits for Medical Terminology.

Bonus courses: Applicants that have completed courses listed at level 3000 or higher with a grade of A or B can earn up to 5 bonus points. Bonus courses can be in any academic discipline except for athletic courses. Prerequisite courses cannot be used for bonus courses. List your bonus courses on p. 21 of the application.

Application Scoring

The maximum score for any applicant is 100 points. A minimum score of 70 guarantees consideration for admittance to the program. Scores of 65 - 70 may be considered for admittance to the program. A score below 65 will not be considered for admittance to the program.

A. Academic status: The maximum points for academic status is 65. Prerequisite and overall GPA's that fall below 3.0 are not accepted.

Prerequisite GPA points: 40

| GPA | Points |
|------------------------|------------|
| 3.0 – 3.15 | 12 |
| 3.16 – 3.30 | 16 |
| 3.31 – 3.45 | 20 |
| 3.46 – 3.60 | 24 |
| 3.61 – 3.75 | 28 |
| 3.76 – 3.90 | 34 |
| 3.91 – 4.00 | 40 |
| Prerequisite GPA score | /40 |



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Overall GPA points: 20

| GPA | Points |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 3.0 – 3.15 | 8 |
| 3.16 – 3.30 | 10 |
| 3.31 – 3.45 | 12 |
| 3.46 – 3.60 | 14 |
| 3.61 – 3.75 | 16 |
| 3.76 – 3.90 | 18 |
| 3.91 – 4.00 | 20 |
| Overall GPA score | /20 |

Bonus courses points: 5

| Courses | Points |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1 – 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 |
| 5 | 4 |
| 6 | 5 |
| Bonus courses score | /5 |

B. Application essay: The maximum points for the application essay is 15.

- 0 = Does not meet criteria
- 3 = Meets some but not all of the criteria
- 5 = Meets criteria

| Essay | 0 | 3 | 5 |
|--|---|---|------------|
| Factual and Logical (makes sense): The applicant' essay included references. The sequence and presentation of ideas makes sense to the reader. | | | |
| Concise (does not ramble): The applicant' essay was free of jargon. The writer did not attempt to "fill space" in the essay with unnecessary or unimportant details. | | | |
| Depth of Reflection: The applicant communicates to the reader a thought out, clear point of view. The applicant demonstrates a passion and excitement for the profession. The applicant provides detailed information. | | | |
| Total score for essay: | | | /15 |

C. Community/Volunteer Service: The maximum points for community service are 10.

Community Service – applicant must provide evidence of 30 hours of community service (unpaid) work. Twenty of the thirty hours must be at a single facility. All 30 hours can be completed at one facility. Community service does not need to be at a health care facility or other organization that has Occupational Therapy. The applicant must provide written documentation of their service.

Documentation must include:

1. Letter, on agency letterhead, from the applicant’s supervisor verifying the date, purpose, and number of the community service hours completed.
2. A one-page summary that includes:
 1. A description of the community service hours.
 2. The role and associated activities attended to by the applicant.
 3. The mission of the entity served.
 4. Self-reflection of the volunteer experience.

| Service | Points |
|---|--------|
| Completed all 30 service hours with a minimum of 20 hours at a single location. | 10 |
| Completed 20 hours at one location but not the full 30 required hours. | 5 |
| Completed less than 30 hours of community service or did not complete 20 hours at one location. | 0 |
| Community/Volunteer Service score | /10 |

D. Pre-professional recommendations: The maximum points for the pre-professional recommendations are 10. The Pre-professional rater must return the evaluation form in a sealed envelope with the rater’s signature across seal.

| Applicant’s Attribute Average | Points |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 30 – 31 | 1 |
| 32 – 33 | 2 |
| 34 – 35 | 3 |
| 36 – 37 | 4 |
| 38 – 40 | 5 |
| Attribute average | /5 |
| | |

| Rater recommendation | Points |
|----------------------|--------|
| Do not recommend | 0 |
| Reservations | 1 |
| Neutral | 3 |
| Recommend | 4 |
| Strongly recommend | 5 |
| Attribute average | /5 |

Final Application Score and Ranking

An applicant's total score is calculated by summing $A + B + C + D = \frac{\text{sum}}{100}$. The admission committee ranks the applicants in numerical order highest to lowest. The top 30 applicants receive a position in the program. Remaining eligible applicants are ranked from 31 onward and placed on a waiting list. If a top 30 applicant declines, the admissions committee offers the position to the next applicant on the waiting list. The waiting list remains open until the first day of the fall semester. All remaining applicants are notified that they are declined a position in the program.

Spanish Proficiency Bonus

Spanish proficiency is not required for application but can enhance the applicant's overall score. Students must prove their proficiency by taking the ACTFL – OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview). Spanish proficiency scores must be submitted **before February 1**. Additional information can be found at <http://www.languagetesting.com/oral---proficiency---interview---op>

Students Applying to the AState OTD Program from non-AState Undergraduate Programs

The AState OTD program does not admit students preferentially with a baccalaureate degree from AState and/or prerequisite coursework from AState.

To be considered for the AState OTD program, an applicant must complete a baccalaureate degree from an accredited school recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and a regional accrediting body. Prerequisite coursework must also be completed from an accredited school recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and a regional accrediting body. If an applicant takes any OTD prerequisites at another school, the OTD program director may request a copy of the course syllabus to assure that the course covers the same content as the Arkansas State University prerequisite courses.

To ensure that prerequisites from other schools will meet the AState OTD program requirements, applicants are encouraged to request course reviews from the OTD program director/Department Chair prior to submitting an application.

Pre-requisite requirements from an accredited university other than AState:

- **Anatomy I and II with labs (2000 or higher):** Minimum of a 2000 level and a grade of B or higher. . If the course is not at the 2000 level or at least 3 credits, the applicant must seek permission from the Department Chair to accept the course.
- **Medical Terminology (1000 or higher):** 1 – 3 credit hours and a grade of B or higher in an undergraduate (1000 level or above). If your Medical Terminology course is less than 3 credits, it may affect your prerequisite GPA. We recommend taking the full 3 credits for Medical Terminology even if more than one course needs to be completed.
- **Physics (2000 level or higher):** Minimum of 3 credit hours and a grade of B or higher. Physics lab is not required. If the course is not at the 2000 level or at least 3 credits, the applicant must seek permission from the Department Chair to accept the course.
- **Introduction to Psychology (1000 level or higher):** Minimum of 3 credit hours with a grade of B or higher. If the course is not at least 3 credits, the applicant must seek permission from the Department Chair to accept the course.
- **Abnormal Psychology (2000 level or higher):** Minimum of 3 credit hours with a grade of B or higher. If the course is not at the 2000 level or at least 3 credits, the applicant must seek permission from the Department Chair to accept the course.
- **Developmental Psychology (2000 level or higher):** Minimum of 3 credit hours with a grade of B or higher. If the course is not at the 2000 level or at least 3 credits, the applicant must seek permission from the Department Chair to accept the course.
- **Applied Statistics (2000 level or higher):** Minimum of 3 credit hours and a grade of B or higher. If the course is not at the 2000 level or at least 3 credits, the applicant must seek permission from the Department Chair to accept course.



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English Proficiency Requirements

The Department of Occupational Therapy requires a high level of proficiency in English so that all students will be able to fully meet academic and clinical objectives as well as meet criteria for professional licensure. All *foreign-born students must take one of the following tests:

1. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 83 on the preferred internet-based test (iBT), 570 on the paper-based test, or 213 on the computer-based test.
2. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a score of at least 6.5 and a spoken band score of 7.
3. Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE) with a score of 56.

The TOEFL is available at the A-STATE Testing Center. When taking the exam off campus, the report code for Arkansas State University is 6011.

Advanced Placement

The admissions process for the Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program requires letter grades to determine overall and prerequisite GPA's, therefore, AP exam scores will be calculated in the following manner: Exam scores of 3 or above are three credits at a grade level of B.

Credit for Experiential Learning or Work Experience

Experiential learning and prior work experience are not accepted as substitutes for academic requirements.

Transfer Students

Transfer students will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students that are currently enrolled in another accredited OTD program may apply to the AState OTD program using the regular admissions process. Should a transfer student be admitted to the AState OTD program, up to nine graduate credit hours may be used to satisfy degree requirements of the OTD. The OT department admissions committee reviews syllabi from previous OT program and determines which courses meet AState OTD standards. The OT department admissions committee and AState graduate school determine if a student may transfer.

Application Procedure

1. Submit the full and complete application packet on or before **February 1** using the following address: Arkansas State

Dr. Christine Wright, Chair
Occupational Therapy Department
PO Box 910
State University, AR 72467

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Students will be notified of their acceptance status by **March 31**.

2. Apply to the graduate school at Arkansas State University. Application instructions can be found online at <http://www.astate.edu/info/admissions/graduate/how-to-apply/>.
3. Submit all transcripts and immunization records to the graduate school. **DO NOT** send transcripts and immunization records to the Occupational Therapy department or submit transcripts and immunization records with the Occupational Therapy application.

Questions: For questions regarding the application, please contact **Dr. Christine Wright**, Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy at cwright@astate.edu. Please send questions via email. Messages left by phone are difficult to return during application season between August 1 and April 30.

Application Instructions

Use the following guidelines when preparing your application packet for the Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program. Read and follow the directions carefully as incomplete applications will not be considered for admission to the program.

- Use a one-inch 3 ring binder. A white binder is preferred but the binder can be in any solid color other than red. (The OTA application binders are red). Your name must be affixed to the outside panel edge (binding) of the binder. The inside contents will begin with a FACE SHEET and APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST followed by five (5) dividers ordered and labeled according to the guidelines below.
- **FACE SHEET:** The first page will be a FACE SHEET. Copy the FACE SHEET found in this packet. Fill it out completely and place it first in the binder before divider 1. You can type or neatly handwrite the information.
- **APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST:** The second page will be the application packet checklist. Use the checklist to make sure you have included everything you need in the packet. The items on the checklist are in the order of how the packet should be organized. Place the checklist behind the face sheet and before divider 1.

DIVIDER 1 – RESUME. Your resume should include the following information:

| |
|--|
| Name (First, Middle, Last) |
| Email Address |
| Address (s) Street address, city, state, zip |
| Permanent Address |
| Local Address (If different from permanent) |
| AState Student ID Number (if you are a student already enrolled at AState) |
| <u>Phone Number(s)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent • Cell • Work |
| <u>Secondary Education</u> List all past and present secondary institutions attended; list the most recent first in reverse chronological order. |
| <u>Work Experiences</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List all past and present work experience; list the most recent first |
| <u>Optional</u> The following items are optional – provide as applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards and honors received • Special skills: knowledge of technology, special certification or skills • Conferences, seminars or continuing education programs attended (list the most recent first) |

DIVIDER 2 – PREREQUISITES AND BONUS COURSES. Complete the prerequisite form. Put the grade next to the course(s) you have already completed and include the institution where you completed the course. If you have not completed all the prerequisites, indicate when and where you will be taking the remaining courses. If you have retaken a course, indicate the date of the first course, the grade, and each subsequent attempt and grade thereafter. Complete the bonus course form to earn up to an additional five points on your total admission score.

DIVIDER 3 – APPLICATION ESSAY. The essay must be typed, double-spaced and in 12-pt. font. No more than TWO pages for the essay. The applicant must answer the following questions:

1. Occupational therapy is a complex and sometimes misunderstood profession. In your own words, define and describe Occupational Therapy. Describe your reasons for choosing this profession. Describe any experiences you have had with Occupational Therapy.

2. Graduate school, especially a doctoral program, requires a lot of time, energy, and sacrifice. Discuss your plan on how you intend to be successful in the program. Provide details.

3. Describe why you think you will be a contributing professional to occupational therapy after graduation. Describe past experiences that reflect your personal and professional attributes. Describe past experiences about personal development and leadership.

DIVIDER 4 – COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER SERVICE (Does not have to be healthcare related.)

Community Service

- List the places where you completed your 30 hours of community service. 20 of the 30 hours must be completed in one location.
- Type a one-page summary from the place where you completed the 20 hours. Include the following in your summary.
 - A description of the community service experience
 - The role and associated activities you completed at the facility
 - The mission of the facility
 - Self-reflection about your time spent at the facility
- Letter from your supervisor at the facility verifying the date, purpose, and number of community service hours.

DIVIDER 5 – PRE-PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES.

- Arrange for three people to complete your **pre-professional reference forms** (Included in this packet. See p. 23 – 25). The individuals should know you through a professional relationship and preferably over time. Appropriate reference sources include a work supervisor, a work colleague, faculty member, or clinical supervisors. A family member, relative or close friend cannot provide a reference. References must be submitted in sealed envelopes with evaluator's signature across the seal on the back of the envelope. Put the envelopes in a page protector with a piece of tape over the top, so they do not slide out.
- Complete the **Reference Waiver Form** (included in packet).
- You should submit no more and no less than three (3) references in the packet.



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Summary

Submit all of the above materials together in one notebook in the order listed. Information arriving separately from the application packet is not accepted. **The admissions committee only evaluates complete applications submitted on or before February 1. No exceptions.** The applicant is solely responsible for reading and following all instructions.

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

<https://catalog.astate.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=240>

Arkansas State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of excellence and diversity among its faculty and staff. To that end, the university provides opportunities in employment practices, admission, and treatment of students without regard to color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, age, national origin, religion, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, or disability. Arkansas State University complies with all applicable federal and state legislation and does not discriminate on the basis of any unlawful criteria.

Questions regarding this policy should be addressed to the Affirmative Action Program Coordinator, P.O. Box 1500, State University, Arkansas 72467. Telephone (870) 972-2015. [2023 – 2024 Bulletin]

****ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION****

Based on recent legislation in Arkansas, students are required to complete a background check AFTER they receive conditional admission into the program. Arkansas State University's College of Nursing and Health Professions works with Verified Credentials, Inc. to establish an acceptable screening procedure. The cost of the background check is \$100.

The Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program requires all OTD students to carry personal health insurance. Students must provide hard copy proof of health insurance to the department Chair after acceptance into the program. Students must provide proof of health insurance by mail, fax, or hand delivery no later than August 1 every year in the program. Clear copies of both sides of insurance card will suffice as proof.

AState OTD students are required to carry a minimum of \$1,000,000 (one million) of liability insurance the entire time they are in the program. Student liability insurance cost varies but typically does not exceed \$90 per year.



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**2025
APPLICATION**



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FACE SHEET

Name _____
 Last First Middle Maiden or Former

AState Student ID Number (Applicable only if you are already an AState student) _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Arkansas State University----Jonesboro Email (Applicable only if you are already an AState student):

Do you hold a degree in another field? Yes No If "Yes," what major? _____

Do you have or have you ever had a professional license or certification in any field?
 Yes No If "Yes," what type of license? _____
 You MUST enclose a copy of the license with your resume.

Have you ever had a license, registration or certification as a professional denied, revoked,
 cancelled or suspended? Yes No
 If "Yes," state the reason. _____

Have you withdrawn, been dismissed or attended but did not complete any technical, college or
 university program? Yes No

If "Yes," you MUST submit a letter of good standing from the director or chair of the program.
 Include this letter with your resume.

Were you born in a foreign country? *Yes No If "Yes," what country? _____
 (*Submit test scores with application.)

 Signature of Applicant

 Date

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CHECKLIST

Insert this CHECKLIST directly behind the FACE SHEET and in front of the first divider. Check off all items before submitting Occupational Therapy Department Doctoral Program application binder.

AState Occupational Therapy Department Doctoral Program Application

- FACE SHEET
- CHECKLIST
- RESUME (Divider #1)
- PREREQUISITES (Divider #2)
- APPLICATION ESSAY (Divider #3)
- COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER SERVICE (Divider #4)
- PRE-PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES (Divider #5)
 - Reference Waiver Form
 - Reference #1
 - Reference #2
 - Reference #3

- Submitted separate **application to AState Graduate School** (This is a different from the admission application submitted to the Occupational Therapy department. Go to

<https://www.astate.edu/info/admissions/graduate/how-to-apply/> for instructions.)

- Official transcripts** from **all** post-secondary schools
(Even if it was just one course, we must have an official transcript from the college or university)

- Immunization records**



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PREREQUISITE FORM

| Prerequisite | If completed: Course Title, Credit Hours, Grade Received, Completion Date, University | If not completed: Expected Completion Date & University |
|--|--|--|
| Human Anatomy and Physiology I | | |
| Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab I | | |
| Human Anatomy and Physiology II | | |
| Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab II | | |
| Medical Terminology | | |
| Physics for Health Professions or General Physics | | |
| Introduction to Psychology | | |
| Abnormal Psychology | | |
| Developmental Psychology | | |
| Statistics for Health Science Majors (Course must include inferential statistics) or Quantitative Methods in Psychology | | |



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BONUS COURSES FORM

Applicants that have completed courses listed at level 3000 or higher with a grade of A or B can earn up to **5 points**. Bonus courses must be in an academic discipline. [E.g. the basic sciences (biology, chemistry, or physics), psychology, sociology, anthropology, philosophy and ethics, cultural or gender studies, physiology, religious studies, math/statistics, economics, law, business, etc.] Prerequisites cannot count for bonus courses.

| Course Number and Title | Credit Hours, Completion Date, University | Grade Received |
|-------------------------|---|----------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |



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REFERENCE WAIVER FORM
(Must be completed by applicant)

Name _____
Last First Middle Maiden or Former

AState Student ID Number (if applicable) _____

Please read the following statement:

THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DOCTORAL PROGRAM AT ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY DOES NOT ALLOW APPLICANTS TO READ ANY PRE-PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE FORMS SUBMITTED AS PART OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS EITHER PRIOR TO OR AFTER APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM.

Your signature below indicates that you understand that as an applicant you waive your rights to view any pre-professional evaluation forms submitted as part of the application process.

Applicant Signature

Date



Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program Admission Packet



PRE-PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE FORM

_____ is applying for admission to the Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program (OTD) at Arkansas State University (AState) and is requesting a *pre-professional evaluation* from you. You are one of three raters for this applicant. Ratings **are not** shared with the applicant and the A-State OTD Admission Committee keeps your identity confidential.

The purpose of the *pre-professional evaluation* is to express your opinion about the applicant's current professional abilities. This information will assist the admissions committee in evaluating the suitability of the applicant to the AState Occupational Therapy Doctoral program.

Please mark the box that reflects your opinion about the applicant. The applicant will not be penalized for any attributes you have not observed.

| Personal and Professional Suitability of the Applicant | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| The Applicant's Attributes | | Not Observed (0) | Below Average (1) | Average (2) | Above Average (3) | Outstanding (4) |
| 1. | Ability to learn new information | | | | | |
| 2. | Ability to work with others on a team | | | | | |
| 3. | Ability to communicate with others | | | | | |
| 4. | Ability to initiate new actions | | | | | |
| 5. | Ability lead others | | | | | |
| 6. | Ability to create solutions | | | | | |
| 7. | Ability to listen to others | | | | | |
| 8. | Ability to care for others | | | | | |
| 9. | Ability to manage stressful situations | | | | | |
| 10. | Ability to behave professionally towards others | | | | | |

PRE-PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE FORM (p. 2)

Please circle the response that reflects your relationship with the applicant. A pre-professional reference cannot be a family member, friend, family friend, member of a religious community, or member of a social community.

1. The applicant is currently an employee in my workplace who reports to me.
2. The applicant was an employee in my workplace and reported to me.
3. The applicant is currently a co-worker in my workplace.
4. The applicant was a co-worker in my workplace.
5. The applicant is a person that I do not know beyond that of a professional contact.
6. The applicant is currently a student or technician that I teach or supervise.
7. The applicant was a student or technician that I taught or supervised.

Please circle the statement that reflects your recommendation for the admission of this application into the Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program:

- A. *I strongly recommend this individual pursue doctorate level education for occupational therapy (5).*
- B. *I recommend this individual pursue doctorate level education for occupational therapy (4).*
- C. *I feel neutral about this this individual pursuing doctorate level education for occupational therapy (3).*
- D. *I have reservations about this individual pursuing doctorate level education for occupational therapy (1).*
- E. *I do not recommend this individual pursue doctorate level education for occupational therapy (0).*



**Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program
Admission Packet**



PRE-PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE FORM (p. 3)

By signing this document, I acknowledged that I am not related to the applicant, a friend of the applicant, a friend of the applicant's family, a member of the applicant's religious organization or member of the applicant's social organizations.

Evaluator's name (please print): _____

Evaluator's signature: _____ Date: _____

Evaluator Organization: _____

Evaluator phone: _____ Evaluator email: _____

****Very important!**

For the pre-professional reference form to be official, give it back to the applicant in **a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal**. The student will submit the envelope (unopened) in the application packet.

The applicant included a signed reference waiver form that they are not to view official reference forms before or after the application process.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

The Arkansas State University
Occupational Therapy Doctorate
Program Admission's Committee