

keiser university occupational therapy assistant program

keiser university occupational therapy assistant program offers a comprehensive and specialized education designed to prepare students for a rewarding career in occupational therapy assisting. This program focuses on equipping students with the necessary skills and knowledge to support occupational therapists in helping individuals improve their daily living and working skills. With a blend of theoretical study and practical experience, the keiser university occupational therapy assistant program emphasizes hands-on training, clinical practice, and evidence-based techniques. Students benefit from a curriculum that covers anatomy, kinesiology, therapeutic interventions, and patient care strategies. Graduates of this program are well-prepared to enter the workforce as competent occupational therapy assistants, ready to contribute positively to healthcare teams. This article explores the program's curriculum, admission requirements, career prospects, and the unique benefits of studying at Keiser University.

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Program Overview

The keiser university occupational therapy assistant program is designed to provide students with a solid foundation in occupational therapy principles and practices. This associate degree program prepares students to work under the supervision of licensed occupational therapists to assist patients in regaining and improving their functional abilities. The program emphasizes a balance of academic knowledge and practical skills, ensuring graduates are job-ready upon completion.

The program duration typically spans two years, integrating classroom instruction with clinical fieldwork. Through this structure, students develop a thorough understanding of therapeutic techniques, patient care protocols, and professional ethics. The program also aligns with the standards set by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), ensuring that students meet national certification requirements.

Curriculum and Coursework

The curriculum of the keiser university occupational therapy assistant program is carefully structured to cover essential topics that prepare students for their roles in occupational therapy. Coursework includes anatomical sciences, human physiology, therapeutic activities, and patient assessment methods.

Core Courses

Students engage in a series of core courses that build foundational knowledge and skills necessary for occupational therapy assisting. These courses typically include:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Introduction to Occupational Therapy
- Therapeutic Modalities and Interventions
- Psychosocial Aspects of Occupational Therapy
- Medical Terminology
- Pathology relevant to Occupational Therapy

Skills Development

The coursework emphasizes the development of practical skills, such as therapeutic exercise techniques, adaptive equipment training, and patient communication. This hands-on approach ensures students gain confidence and competence in assisting patients with varying needs.

Admission Requirements

Admission into the keiser university occupational therapy assistant program requires candidates to meet specific criteria that demonstrate their readiness for this healthcare field. These requirements ensure that students possess the academic background and personal attributes necessary for success.

Academic Prerequisites

Prospective students typically need a high school diploma or GED with satisfactory completion of courses in biology, chemistry, and mathematics. Some programs may also require prerequisite college credits in science or health-related subjects.

Application Process

The application process usually involves submitting transcripts, letters of recommendation, and a personal statement. Some campuses may require an interview or entrance exam to assess applicants' motivation and aptitude for the occupational therapy assistant profession.

Clinical Experience and Hands-On Training

One of the distinguishing features of the keiser university occupational therapy assistant program is its strong emphasis on clinical experience. Students participate in supervised fieldwork at approved healthcare facilities, allowing them to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings.

Fieldwork Opportunities

Fieldwork placements include hospitals, rehabilitation centers, schools, and outpatient clinics. These experiences expose students to diverse patient populations and treatment modalities, enhancing their practical skills and professional development.

Supervision and Evaluation

During clinical rotations, students receive guidance and feedback from licensed occupational therapists. This mentorship ensures that students refine their techniques and adhere to ethical standards in patient care.

Career Opportunities and Job Outlook

Graduates of the keiser university occupational therapy assistant program are well-positioned to enter a growing job market. Occupational therapy assistants play a vital role in supporting therapists and improving patient outcomes across various settings.

Employment Settings

Occupational therapy assistants find employment in environments such as:

- Hospitals and rehabilitation centers
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Schools and pediatric clinics
- Home health care services
- Outpatient therapy clinics

Job Growth and Salary

According to labor statistics, the demand for occupational therapy assistants is expected to grow significantly in the coming years. This growth is driven by an aging population and increased awareness of rehabilitation services. Salaries for graduates are competitive, with opportunities for advancement through continued education and specialization.

Benefits of Choosing Keiser University

Keiser University offers several advantages for students pursuing the occupational therapy assistant program. The institution combines quality education with supportive resources to enhance student success.

Experienced Faculty

Faculty members bring extensive clinical experience and academic expertise, providing students with up-to-date knowledge and mentorship throughout their studies.

State-of-the-Art Facilities

Students benefit from modern classrooms, simulation labs, and access to the latest therapeutic equipment, fostering an effective learning environment.

Flexible Scheduling

Keiser University offers flexible class schedules, including evening and weekend options, accommodating students who balance education with personal and professional commitments.

Career Services

The university provides comprehensive career support, including job placement assistance, resume building, and interview preparation, helping graduates transition smoothly into the workforce.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the duration of the Keiser University Occupational Therapy Assistant program?

The Keiser University Occupational Therapy Assistant program typically takes about two years to complete, including both classroom instruction and fieldwork experiences.

Is the Keiser University Occupational Therapy Assistant program accredited?

Yes, the Keiser University Occupational Therapy Assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), ensuring it meets the quality standards required for OTA education.

What are the admission requirements for the Keiser University OTA program?

Admission requirements generally include a high school diploma or GED, completion of prerequisite courses, a minimum GPA as specified by the university, and sometimes letters of recommendation or an interview.

Does Keiser University offer online courses for the Occupational Therapy Assistant program?

Keiser University offers some hybrid learning options, but the Occupational Therapy Assistant program requires hands-on clinical practice, so it includes both in-person and online components.

What career opportunities are available after graduating from the Keiser University OTA program?

Graduates can work as certified Occupational Therapy Assistants in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, schools, nursing homes, and outpatient clinics, assisting occupational therapists in patient care.

What kind of clinical experiences does the Keiser University OTA program provide?

The program includes supervised fieldwork placements in various healthcare settings, allowing students to gain practical experience working with patients under the guidance of licensed occupational therapists.

How does Keiser University support OTA students in passing the NBCOT certification exam?

Keiser University provides comprehensive coursework, practical training, and review sessions designed to prepare students thoroughly for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam.

What is the job placement rate for graduates of the Keiser University Occupational Therapy Assistant

program?

Keiser University reports a strong job placement rate for OTA program graduates, with many securing employment within six months of graduation, reflecting the program's effectiveness and industry demand.

Additional Resources

1. *Foundations of Occupational Therapy: Enabling Function and Participation*

This book provides a comprehensive overview of the principles and practices foundational to occupational therapy. It covers essential theories, models, and techniques that occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) need to understand. The text emphasizes client-centered care and the promotion of independence through therapeutic activities.

2. *Occupational Therapy for Physical Dysfunction*

A core resource for OTAs, this book explores interventions for individuals with physical impairments due to injury, illness, or disability. It offers detailed explanations of assessment methods and treatment plans to enhance functional mobility and participation in daily activities. The text includes case studies to illustrate practical applications.

3. *Assistive Technology in Occupational Therapy*

This publication focuses on the integration of assistive devices and technology to improve client outcomes. It discusses different types of equipment, their selection, and customization in various practice settings. OTAs will find guidance on how to assess needs and train clients in using assistive technology effectively.

4. *Therapeutic Activities for Occupational Therapy Assistants*

Designed specifically for OTAs, this book presents a variety of therapeutic activities tailored to different populations and conditions. It includes step-by-step instructions and rationale for each activity, aiming to develop clients' skills and promote engagement. The resource supports creativity and adaptability in therapy planning.

5. *Clinical Skills for the Occupational Therapy Assistant*

This text offers practical instruction on essential clinical skills, including patient handling, documentation, and communication strategies. It prepares OTAs to work confidently in diverse healthcare environments. The book also addresses safety considerations and ethical responsibilities relevant to occupational therapy practice.

6. *Psychosocial Approaches in Occupational Therapy*

Focusing on mental health and psychosocial interventions, this book explores strategies to support clients with emotional and cognitive challenges. It highlights the role of OTAs in facilitating social participation and coping skills. The content integrates theory with practical techniques to enhance holistic care.

7. *Occupational Therapy Assistant Exam Review Guide*

An invaluable study resource, this guide helps OTAs prepare for certification exams with practice questions and detailed explanations. It covers key topics such as anatomy, therapeutic methods, and professional standards. The book is structured to reinforce knowledge and build confidence for exam success.

8. *Developmental Milestones and Pediatric Occupational Therapy*

This book addresses the developmental stages of children and the application of occupational therapy to support growth and learning. It includes assessment tools and intervention strategies tailored for pediatric clients. OTAs will benefit from insights into working with families and educational teams.

9. *Healthcare Ethics and Professionalism for Occupational Therapy Assistants*

This text explores ethical dilemmas and professional conduct relevant to occupational therapy practice. It provides guidance on decision-making, patient rights, and interprofessional collaboration. The book encourages reflection on values and responsibilities to foster integrity in clinical settings.

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