Essential Functions / Technical Standards for OTA Students

Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTA) must possess the knowledge and skills to work with diverse populations in a variety of settings including: hospitals, long term care facilities, schools, supported employment environments, homes, community programs, assisted living and adult daycare settings.

Listed below are the abilities students must possess to successfully complete coursework in the OTA Program:

- The ability to observe and successfully participate in academic and fieldwork settings.
- The ability to read and comprehend written material at a college level including, but not limited to: texts; journals; articles; and electronic healthcare records.
- The ability to communicate effectively in oral and written form with students, faculty, staff, clients, family, and other professionals in both the academic and healthcare settings using appropriate grammar and spelling.
- Effective interpersonal skills necessary for productive classroom discussion and respectful interaction with classmates, faculty, fieldwork educators and clients. These skills include, but are not limited to: expressing ideas and feelings clearly, being able to exchange information effectively and communicating with others in a respectful confident manner.
- Cognitive skills for problem solving, clinical reasoning and judgment and ability to respond and make decisions in a safe and effective manner.
- Emotional health and stability required for exercising good judgment, full use of intellectual abilities and prompt completion of all academic and fieldwork responsibilities as well as the ability to be flexible and to adapt to changing environments.
- **Be aware that the work required of an OTA is very physically demanding.** For example, OTA’s are very often required to transfer and transport patients that are too weak to physically assist. Therefore OTA’s must possess the motor and sensory ability to safely complete required tasks in a timely manner and perform simple and repetitive tasks as needed, independently, as well as the ability to direct others, and / or use assistive technology perform complex and varied tasks as needed, independently.

Reasonable Accommodations

Tulsa Community College is committed to creating and promoting accessible learning environment for all students. "Reasonable accommodation" refers to ways in which the College addresses any barriers to full participation in the academic and co-curricular experience.

Examples of reasonable accommodations include but are not limited to: instructional materials in alternative formats; alternative testing arrangements; and use of assistive technology such as text-to-speech software. While reasonable accommodation does not mean that students will be exempt from required tasks, *it does mean* that the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program desires student success and is committed to working with all students giving every opportunity for success.
Students accepted into the OTA program who wish to request reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the Education Access Center prior to the start of the program. The College has policies regarding documentation of disability and a process for requesting accommodations. Reasonable accommodations in classroom and in fieldwork settings cannot be provided without the formal request and the required documentation.

To learn more contact the Education Access Center at 918-595-7115.

By completing the OTA application, you verify that you can perform all of these function, with or without reasonable accommodations.