



# Occupational Therapy Assistant

NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH

636.584.6616

[eastcentral.edu/nursing/occupational-therapy-assistant](http://eastcentral.edu/nursing/occupational-therapy-assistant)



## PROGRAM

The AAS in Occupational Therapy Assistant is a one-plus-one hybrid degree program which prepares students to practice as certified occupational therapy assistants (COTA) after meeting certification and state licensure standards. East Central is one of five colleges in the Missouri Health Professions Consortium (MHPC) currently selected to offer the program coordinated through State Fair Community College. Through the combination of general education, professional-level coursework, classroom, laboratory practice and clinical fieldwork experiences, students learn the profession of occupational therapy assistant.



## EMPLOYMENT & SALARY OPPORTUNITIES

The occupational therapy assistant profession is experiencing high job growth, per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. By 2026, the number of positions is projected to increase by 28 percent.

In May 2018, the industries employing the largest numbers of occupational therapy assistants and their annual median salaries were:

• Offices of Other Health Practitioners	\$60,440
• Nursing Care Facilities	\$65,930
• General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	\$55,680
• Elementary and Secondary Schools	\$50,380
• Home Health Care Services	\$65,330



## CAREER

Occupational Therapy Assistants work under the direction of Occupational Therapists to provide rehabilitative services to persons with mental, physical, emotional or developmental impairments. The ultimate goal is to improve clients' quality of life and ability to perform daily activities.

For example, Occupational Therapy Assistants help injured workers re-enter the labor force by teaching them how to compensate for lost motor skills or help individuals with learning disabilities increase their independence. Occupational Therapy Assistants work in a variety of settings including long-term care, acute and outpatient rehabilitation centers, school districts and home care.



## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To enter the program, students must have completed:

- High school diploma or the equivalent (documentation must be sent to the registration office)
- Application for admission to ECC
- A placement test as specified by the college (some coursework requires minimum placement results)
- A cumulative college GPA of 2.5 or better
- Prerequisites with a "C" or better prior to starting the program
- Enrollment in the MHPC Occupational Therapy Assistant program is selective and an information packet with application materials is available online or at the Union campus.



ACOTE c/o Accreditation Department • American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)  
7501 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 510E • Bethesda, MD 20814  
(301) 652-2682 | TDD (800) 377-8555 • [accred@aota.org](mailto:accred@aota.org) • [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org)

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## Program Prerequisites/Gen Ed

*Prior to entering the program, students must complete the following prerequisite coursework and meet the required 2.5 cumulative GPA.*

Course	Hours
• COL*100 Campus Orientation	0.0
• COL*101 Falcon Seminar	1.0
• ENG*101 English Comp I	3.0
• BIO*206 Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lec & Lab	4.0
• BIO*207 Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lec & Lab	5.0
• PSY*101 General Psychology	3.0
• PSY*250 Human Development	3.0
• SOC*101 General Sociology	3.0
• MTH*110/140/150 Int. Algebra, Cont. Math, Statistics or higher	3.0
• COM Core 42 Oral Communication	3.0
• HSC*113 Medical Terminology	3.0
• HST/PSC Core 42 Civics	3.0
• PSC*CIVICS Civics Achievement Exam	0.0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>34.0</b>

Prerequisites for Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II Lecture/Lab:  
 - CHM 106 Chemistry for Health Science Lecture/Lab or one year High School Chemistry with a "C" or better (within five years)  
 - BIO 111 General Biology Lecture/Lab or two years high school biology with lab (must have at least a "B" grade within the last five years)

## MHPC Occupational Therapy Assistant Program (48 Credit Hours)

Fall	Hours
• OTA*200 Foundations of Occupational Therapy	4.0
• OTA*205 Medical Conditions in Occupational Therapy	3.0
• OTA*210 Analysis of Occupations	2.0
• OTA*215 Mental Health & Psychosocial Practice	4.0
• OTA*220 Pediatric & Adolescent Practice	4.0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17.0</b>

Spring	Hours
• OTA*250 Functional Kinesiology	2.0
• OTA*255 Physical Disabilities Practice	4.0
• OTA*259 Professional Skills: Capstone	3.0
• OTA*260 Community Practicite	3.0
• OTA*265 Ethics, Management & Leadership	3.0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15.0</b>

Summer	Hours
• OTA*290 Level II Fieldwork A	8.0
• OTA*295 Level II Fieldwork BA	8.0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>16.0</b>

\*OTA is a hybrid program. Coursework is delivered via internet-based technology. Labs and clinical fieldwork are in person.