About the Profession

Occupational therapy is a health care profession that focuses on helping people of all ages regain, develop, or master everyday skills in order to live independent, productive, and satisfying lives.

Occupational therapists work in a variety of practice areas including: physical disabilities, mental health, pediatrics, academics and research. Within these practice areas occupational therapist have the opportunity to work in a multitude of settings including:

- Hospitals
- Acute care
- Inpatient rehab
- Outpatient rehab
- Specialty units (e.g. spinal cord injury)
- Psychiatric Units
- Pediatrics
- Nursing homes
- Home Health
- Work Rehabilitation
- Community Health
- Schools
- Private Clinics
- Private Practice
- Universities

Career Opportunities

- Employment of occupational therapists is expected to increase 33 percent between 2010 and 2020 according to the U.S. Department of Labor.
- The median annual salary of occupational therapists was $73,820 in 2011; 10% of OTs earned more than $104,350.
- FIU graduates are employed across Miami and the nation in the areas of mental health, productive aging, children and youth, health and wellness, work and industry, rehabilitation, disability and participation.

Program Highlights

The professional Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) at FIU prepares entry-level occupational therapists. This intensive hands-on program equips students with the tools, knowledge, and skills to promote health, wellness, and functional independence throughout the life span. Graduates of the MSOT are eligible for certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

Why FIU?

- Our faculty are doctoral prepared and are known nationally and internationally for their education, scholarship, and research.
- Over 90% of our graduates are employed within 6 months after graduation.
- Low, affordable tuition compared to private universities
- Individualized faculty advisement
- $800,000 in scholarships disbursed by the OT department since 2007
- Diversity in our student body uniquely positions our graduates to better serve multi-cultural communities both locally and globally
- Wide availability of clinical sites for fieldwork including emerging practice areas such as low vision, community mental health, and hippo-therapy.
- Opportunities to be involved in research with nationally renowned faculty
- Opportunity to study in Miami’s first and only four-year public research university that is worlds ahead in its service to the community.

Contact Information:

For program information:  
http://cnhs.fiu.edu/ot/index.html  
305-348-6068

For advising appointment:  
Barbara Anderson       Samantha Postigo  
Anderson@fiu.edu       Spostigo@fiu.edu  
305-348-3186           305-348-7730

For graduate school information:  
http://gradschool.fiu.edu/  
305-348-7442

Florida International University is an Equal Opportunity/Access Employer and Institution.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
- BS or BA degree in ANY FIELD from a regionally accredited college or university.
- A GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 hours of upper division undergraduate coursework.
- Prerequisite courses must be taken within 5 years of application.
- Complete the following prerequisite courses prior to the start of the fall admission term with a minimum grade of "C":
  - Biology with Lab
  - Statistics
  - Human Growth & Development
  - Abnormal Psychology
  - Medical Terminology
- Required cumulative GPA for all prerequisite courses is 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A grade of "B" or above must be earned in the following 4 courses:
  - Anatomy and Anatomy Lab
  - Physiology
  - Pathology
  - Neuroscience.
- 3 of these 4 courses must be completed prior to the February 15th OT Department Application submission deadline.
- All applicants must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). GRE scores must be received by February 15th.

Prerequisite Certificate for Occupational Therapy:
For students with a bachelor degree, who are returning to school to complete OT prerequisites, the prerequisite courses are offered as part of the Occupational Therapy Pre-requisite Certificate Program. To apply for the Occupational Therapy Pre-requisite Certificate program please go to: http://onestop.fiu.edu/_assets/docs/registar/Certificate_Program_Application.pdf

Fill out and print the forms and submit it to Samantha Postigo in Student Services, Room AMC3-124 with a copy of your transcripts and required residency documentation (not necessary for current FIU students).

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Applications are due February 15th. For application information go to: http://cnhs.fiu.edu/ot/admission.html
- Department application
- FIU Graduate School application
- Resume and letter summarizing professional and educational goals
- Three letters of recommendation
- Curriculum vitae/resume
- Students are responsible for the costs of required criminal background checks and drug screening

Florida International University
- BSC 1010/L OR BSC 2023/L
  - General Biology I OR
  - Human Anatomy, with lab
  - AND
  - HSC 3549
  - Clinical Physiology for Health Professionals (recommended)
  - OR
  - PCB 2099
  - Foundations of Human Physiology
- GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED

Miami Dade College
- BSC 2085/L AND
  - BSC 2086/L
  - Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II, with labs
- GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED

Broward College
- BSC 2085/L AND
  - BSC 2086/L
  - Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II, with labs
- GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED

Palm Beach State College
- BSC 2085/L AND
  - BSC 2086/L
  - Anatomy & Physiology I & II, with labs
- GRADE OF B OR BETTER IS REQUIRED

Program Information:
The MSOT program is a two year (7 semesters/80 credits) full time program. 50 students are admitted each fall.

Accreditation:
The Occupational Therapy Professional MS Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education, (ACOTE) located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220.

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1. Some of the above courses may have required prerequisites
2. Courses taken at other institutions need to be approved by OT department