

Pre-occupational therapy at Clemson University

Plan your path

Core prerequisites checklist for many occupational therapy programs:

- Anatomy and physiology
- Psychology
- Abnormal psychology
- Sociology or anthropology
- Statistics
- Oral communication
- Physics
- Medical terminology (per program)

These additional classes may be required by some schools:

- Psychology of aging
- Bioethics
- Kinesiology
- Neuroanatomy
- Physical sciences

Prerequisites vary by school. Please refer to your preferred school's website for detailed requirement information.

Occupational therapy is a dynamic and progressive profession with continued advances in innovative practice, education, lifelong learning and public advocacy.

There is increased demand because of an aging population and more access through expanded insurance coverage. There are many reasons students choose occupational therapy as a career. Occupational therapists help their clients so they can have independent, productive and satisfying lives. It is a great career for people who want to make a difference in other people's lives. Part-time employment is also possible as nearly 30% of OTs choose to work part time.



Applying to occupational therapy programs

In addition to strong academics, OTs must have patience and strong interpersonal skills to inspire trust and respect. Ingenuity and imagination in adapting activities to individual needs is crucial. Occupational therapists need either a master's degree or a doctoral degree to practice.

Gain experience

- ▶ Job shadow.
- ▶ Apply for internships in a health care facility that has occupational therapy.
- ▶ Seek opportunities for research experience.

Find out more

The American Occupational Therapy Association provides resources for students considering occupational therapy as a career.

- ▶ Visit aota.org for more information.

Occupational therapist career options

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Health practitioner offices
- ▶ Public and private schools
- ▶ Nursing care facilities
- ▶ Home health care services
- ▶ Outpatient care centers
- ▶ Government agencies
- ▶ Private practice

OT versus PT

Occupational therapy and physical therapy are closely related but distinctly different careers. A PT works on the injury and preventing future injuries. An OT works on helping patients understand their abilities and ways to manage health. A PT focuses on movement and mobility. An OT focuses on restoring function.



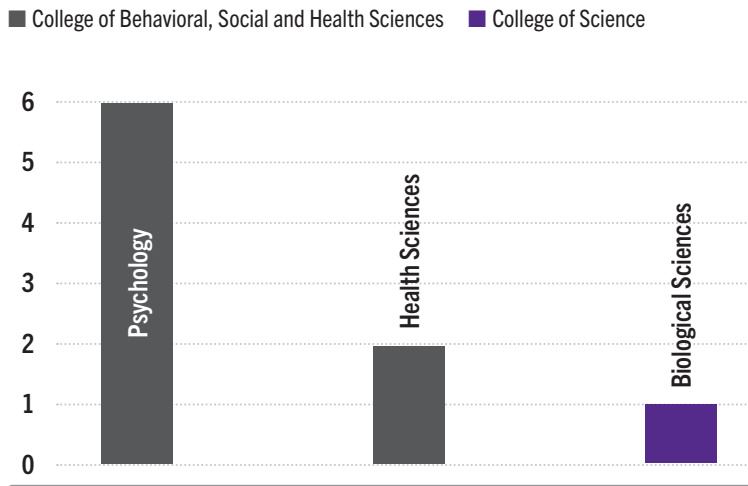
To learn more, connect with Clemson's pre-occupational therapy and speech language pathology club:
Instagram: [@preostclubclemson](https://www.instagram.com/preostclubclemson)

Or contact Health Professions Advising: Email: cuhpa@clemson.edu



Occupational therapy matriculation profile

Accepted undergraduate students by major



Average GPA

of accepted Clemson students

3.61

299

Average overall GRE

of accepted Clemson students

Average writing GRE

of accepted Clemson students

4

290

National average GRE

of accepted OT students

National average GPA

of accepted OT students

3.5

Top opportunities

Top employment opportunities for occupational therapists:

- ▶ Medical offices
- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Schools
- ▶ Home health care
- ▶ Nursing care

OTD programs in South Carolina

- ▶ Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)
- ▶ Presbyterian College
- ▶ Francis Marion University



\$93,180
average OT salary

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2022

Projected growth in employment

2021–31: **14%**

