The domain of occupational therapy is to support health and participation in life through engagement in occupation (it is everything people do to occupy themselves)
Admission Criteria

The following are requirements for admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Technology Program at Cuyahoga Community College. **ALL** of these requirements must be fulfilled and evidence of their completion must be submitted. Failure to submit evidence of fulfilling **ALL** admission requirements will exclude applicants from consideration for admission.

Applicants must achieve or complete the following requirements before applying to the program:

- Completion of a Cuyahoga Community College Application. Do this before you submit your transcripts.
- Completion of the Health Careers Application/Occupational Therapy Assistant.
- Submission of an official high school transcripts or GED certification (Request your HS transcript or GED office to forward the transcript to any Tri-C Enrollment Center).
- Submission of official copies of transcripts from all colleges or universities attended.

Your application will not be considered complete until all external transcripts have been evaluated by the Tri-C Enrollment Center, which takes 4-8 weeks. Applicants must also demonstrate an overall minimum cumulative **GPA of 2.50.**

Basic Core Courses:

EN - 1010 College Composition I  
MA – 1020 Medical Terminology I  
BIO – 2331 Anatomy and Physiology I

Core courses **may be repeated only once** to improve a grade.

All **science courses must have been completed within the past seven (7) years** at the time an application is submitted.

Applicants may request on their applications that core courses more than seven (7) years old be exempted from the repeat rule and the GPA calculation. All exempted core courses must be retaken prior to submitting the application.

Additional Criteria:

- Prospective students must complete **50 hours of documented volunteer experience** in an occupational therapy department under the supervision of a licensed Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant. It is the applicant’s responsibility to contact an occupational therapy department to arrange for this observation of occupational therapy. Most area occupational therapy departments are accustomed to student volunteers and will help you in obtaining these observation hours.
In lieu of volunteer experience you can take the OTAT-1300 Occupational Therapy Principles course which is being offered at the Metro Campus during the Fall, Summer and Spring Semesters. Fall and Spring – Hybrid course (50% on line and 50% face to face), Summer session – 100% face to face interaction

Paid work experience as an Occupational Therapy/Rehab Aide will be recognized in lieu of volunteer experience

Non-native speaking applicants: Applicants whose native language is not English and test into the ESL series must take the TOEFL, IBT http://www.toefl.org and score minimally: Reading – 15, Listening - 26, Writing - 24, and Speaking - 22. Arrangements and costs incurred for the TOEFL will be the responsibility of the student.

Students may be required to undergo drug testing prior to starting a clinical experience. The student is responsible for the cost of this testing. The type of testing needed, time restrictions and the cost of the testing will be dependent on the clinical site. Test results will be sent to Clinical Site Coordinator, Healthcare Career Initiatives at Cuyahoga Community College and they will be kept confidential.

If a student fails a drug test, Cuyahoga Community College is under no obligation to place a student at another clinical site. It is the student’s responsibility to provide proper documentation to the Clinical Site Coordinator, Healthcare Career Initiatives if they failed the test due to justifiable drug use.

A student may not be able to complete the health career program if they cannot be placed in a clinical site due to a failed drug test.

Upon acceptance into the program and prior to matriculation, the student will be required to submit evidence of good health, Hepatitis B inoculations, and current certification in CPR and immunization record.

Candidates must possess good health plus abilities and skills in the following areas: observation, communication (written and verbal), interpersonal/intrapersonal, cognitive abilities (i.e. problem solving, good judgment, etc.) and psychomotor.

It is mandatory that students carry personal health insurance in order to participate in clinical experiences.

The completion of a criminal background check (BCI) is one of the admission requirements to a Health Career program. The background checks are required in order to (i) ascertain the ability of students to eventually become licensed, registered and/or certified in their health career profession and (ii) the ability of the students to attend mandatory clinical, practicum and/or internship rotations at internal and external facilities in accordance with the requirements of the applicable program of study. The BCIs include fingerprinting, a social security number trace, county record search, state search and a check of Federal Bureau of Investigation records. Log on to http://www.tri-c.edu/programs/healthcareers/Pages/BackgroundCheckInformation.aspx for further information.

Felony convictions may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state license. Applicants for National Certification are required to provide additional documentation if convicted of a felony or have a history of chemical/substance abuse.

The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) offers an early determination Review to individuals who have been charged with or convicted of a felony. Further information regarding this issue can be obtained from NBCOT at 800
Once all the admission requirements have been verified, a letter of acceptance with a projected starting date will be mailed to the applicant.

Twenty six (26) new students will be admitted to the OTAT program to start during the summer session. Accepted students will be required to attend an orientation to the program before the first week of classes.

It is the policy of Tri-C that all terms of employment and educational benefits will be administered without regards to race, color, religion, sex, national origin or ancestry, age, sexual orientation, disabilities, or status as a disabled Vietnam veteran. Persons with physical disabilities must be able to perform essential functions of an Occupational Therapy Assistant.

NOTE: An enrollment waiting list will be kept when there are more qualified applicants than openings. Applicants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as admission requirements are met. Applicants on a waiting list must maintain good academic standing with the College for final enrollment into the program. Basic computer skills and use of the Internet is necessary for success in the program, as the OTAT courses incorporate the use of technology.

For more information about the profession of occupational therapy, visit The American Occupational Therapy Association web-site at www.aota.org and click on the tab that reads consumers.

For more information about the Tri-C program, please contact Hector L. Merced, MS, OTR/L, and Program Manager at 216-987-4498, email hector.merced@tri-c.edu or visit our web-site at http://www.tri-c.edu/programs/healthcareers/ota

Listed below are some occupational therapy and other health-related sites you may find of interest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Occupational Therapy Association Homepage</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Outlook Handbook</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revised 2014
To Whom It May Concern;

The bearer of this letter, ____________________________________________ is an applicant to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program. Applicants to this program are required to observe occupational therapy treatment in order to gain familiarity with the OT treatment process and requirements of the field. We would appreciate your verification of the following information.

Number of Hours

1. The applicant has been employed or volunteered in an Occupational therapy clinic 50 or more hours.

A licensed occupational therapist or occupational therapist assistant must sign this form. Please indicate your OT license # __________

_____________________________
Supervisor Signature

Please print/type Supervisor’s name, facility address and phone number

____________________________________  ________________________________
Name                               Health Care Agency

____________________________________  ________________________________
Address                             Date

____________________________________
Phone