



COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## OTA Program Application Packet - Fall 2009

November 2008

Dear Prospective Occupational Therapy Assistant Student:

Thank you for expressing interest in the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at Green River Community College (GRCC). As you may already be aware, the need for occupational therapy practitioners is very high and employment opportunities are plentiful. With current unemployment rates rising, Laurence Shatkin (2008) lists occupational therapy as one of the "150 Best Recession-Proof Jobs." According to Penny Moyers Cleveland, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA, president of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), "The numbers don't lie. Demand for occupational therapy services is on the rise and new practitioners are needed to full the demand."

The OTA program at Green River Community College is designed to offer an education to young adults pursuing their first career, older adults who have been out of school for a while or those who are changing careers.

If you would like further information on the OTA program, please do not hesitate to contact us. In addition you will find attached information describing the two OTA program tracts available at Green River.

Sincerely,

*Noel Hepler*

Noel Hepler, MS, OTR/L  
OTA Program Coordinator  
nhepler@greenriver.edu

*Jennifer Lewis*

Jennifer Lewis, M.Ed., OTR/L  
OTA Faculty  
jlewis@greenriver.edu

*Jenny Nyblod*

Jenny Nyblod, M.Ed., OTR/L  
OTA Faculty  
jnyblod@greenriver.edu

# 2009-10

## Occupational Therapy Assistant Application

### General Information

#### Seven quarters, full time, day classes

#### FALL QUARTER, 2009

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program will accept qualified students until filled. If this program fills, applicants will be placed on an alternate list. The program is seven quarters (two calendar years) in length. Courses are offered during daytime hours and must be taken in an approved sequence. Space permitting, qualified applicants may enroll on a part-time basis with a maximum of 12 quarters allowed for completion. Level 2 full-time fieldwork must be completed within 18 months of program academic coursework. Applications will be accepted beginning February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and will end September 21, 2009 unless the program fills earlier. For additional information, email [jarnhold@greenriver.edu](mailto:jarnhold@greenriver.edu).

You may submit your Occupational Therapy Assistant application to Enrollment Services, second floor, Lindbloom Student Center.

**For OTA ADMISSION purposes complete the following with a 2.0 or better:**

Course Title	GRCC Course Number	Specific Information
Anatomy and Physiology 1	AP 103 or AP 205	The two-quarter sequence of A&P must be taken at the same level (100 or 200) from the same college. Should have been completed after 8/31/2004.
Anatomy and Physiology 2	AP 104 or AP 206	The two-quarter sequence of A&P must be taken at the same level (100 or 200) from the same college. Should have been completed after 8/31/2004.
English Composition	ENGL 102 or 110	ENGL 102 transferability is limited.
Speech Communications, or General Psychology, or Survey of Sociology	COMM 100 or 101 or 110 or 212 or 234 or 238 or PSYCH 100 or SOC 110	One course is required as a prerequisite. Remaining two courses are required for graduation and may be taken during enrollment in the OTA Program.

Candidates who have not completed all prerequisites at the time of application must submit their plan for the completion of the required courses. Applicants are considered as fully qualified for acceptance when all prerequisites are completed satisfactorily.

All students applying to the Occupational Therapy Assistant program must apply for admission to Green River Community College and receive a Student Identification number (SID) prior to submitting the Occupational Therapy Assistant application. The SID number is required on the application. Applicants may apply by submitting the Application for Admission to Enrollment Services, second floor, Lindbloom Student Center, or online at [www.greenriver.edu](http://www.greenriver.edu). Along with

a GRCC application, applicants who have attended other colleges or universities must submit official copies of those transcripts with a transcript evaluation request form to Enrollment Services.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program requires a Certified Background check (current processing fee of \$48) of each student to be in compliance with the Child/Adult Abuse Information Act (RCW 43.43.830-43.43.840). The form for the Certified Background check will be provided upon acceptance into the program. Each student is also required to participate in a Washington State Patrol investigation for criminal history prior to entry into the program. The clearance must be free of any violations or convictions, including domestic violence. The check will be done upon acceptance into the program. Students must have a clear record to be assigned to fieldwork sites. A criminal background will limit or prevent clinical placement and/or employability.

Applicants will write a personal statement reflecting his or her interest in the Occupational Therapy field. This may include personal history, work experience, or volunteer experience. Please limit the personal statement to one page.

Applicants must take responsibility for knowing and meeting all admission and graduation requirements. Please read and understand the college catalog and OTA Essential Functions for specific details regarding the Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

*The completed OTA application should be submitted to:*

Green River Community College  
Enrollment Services  
Occupational Therapy Assistant Application  
12401 SE 320<sup>th</sup> St  
Auburn, WA 98092

*and must include the following items:*

- Occupational Therapy Assistant application
- Official copies of other college transcripts if any courses were completed
- A Transcript Evaluation Request form for other college transcripts
- An unofficial copy of Green River Community College transcript
- A tentative plan to complete prerequisites if not already completed
- A personal statement regarding your interest in the Occupational Therapy field
- A signed "Essential Functions for the OTA Student" form
- Washington State Patrol criminal History Check form completed

**GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM OPTIONS**

<b>TRADITIONAL FULL-TIME DAY PROGRAM</b>	<b>PART-TIME EVENING FLEX PROGRAM</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Curriculum Design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed for students who are free to attend full-time day classes Monday through Friday</li> <li>• For those who desire a structured program in a traditional classroom lecture/lab format</li> <li>• Seven (7) quarters in length; quarters 6 and 7 consisting of full-time internship/fieldwork</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Curriculum Design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed for students unable to attend day classes</li> <li>• Courses offered either Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday evenings with occasional Saturday intensive labs</li> <li>• Courses offered on-line and in face-to-face format</li> <li>• Students must be self-directed, computer literate, and have ready access to computer technology to use on-line course delivery method</li> <li>• Occasional Level I (part-time) fieldwork required involving day-time clinic observations</li> <li>• Nine (9) quarters in length; quarters 8 and 9 consisting of full-time day hour internship/fieldwork</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Curriculum Sequence</b></p> <p><b>First Quarter (12 credits)</b> H SCI 150 Life Span Growth &amp; Development OT 100 Introduction to Occupational Therapy OT 110 Occupational Therapy Principles</p> <p><b>Second Quarter (12 credits)</b> H SCI 104 Fundamentals of Gerontology OT 102 Physical Disabilities 1 OT 109 Developmental Disabilities</p> <p><b>Third Quarter (17 credits)</b> OT 105 Clinical Seminar 1 OT 106 Professional Advocacy Experience OT 108 Psychosocial Dysfunction OT 115 Therapeutic Activities 1 OT 116 Physical Disabilities 1 OT 177 Application of O T Co-op 1</p> <p><b>Fourth Quarter (13 credits)</b> OT 178 Application of O T Co-op 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Curriculum Sequence</b></p> <p><b>Quarter 1 (8 credits)</b> H SCI 150 Life Span Growth and Development OT 100 Introduction to Occupational Therapy</p> <p><b>Quarter 2 (8 credits)</b> OT 110 OT Principles OT 102 Physical Disabilities 1</p> <p><b>Quarter 3 (13 credits)</b> OT 109 Developmental Disabilities OT 116 Physical Disabilities 2 H SCI 104 Fundamentals of Gerontology</p> <p><b>Quarter 4 (11 credits)</b> OT 106 Professional Advocacy Experience OT 108 Psychosocial Dysfunction OT 115 Therapeutic Activities 1 OT 105 Clinical Seminar 1 OT 177 Application of O T Co-op 1</p>

<p>OT 202 Ethics, Values, &amp; Responsibility in Health Care</p> <p>OT 204 Application of Activities</p> <p>OT 206 Clinical Seminar 2</p> <p>OT 215 Work Place Issues</p> <p><b>Fifth Quarter (12 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 210 Therapeutic Adaptations</p> <p>OT 211 Pre-Fieldwork Experience Seminar</p> <p>OT 212 Therapeutic Activities 2</p> <p>OT 220 Therapeutic Group Leadership</p> <p><b>Sixth Quarter (13 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 250 Fieldwork Experience Seminar 1</p> <p>OT 277 Co-op Fieldwork Experience 1</p> <p><b>Seventh Quarter (13 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 251 Fieldwork Experience Seminar 2</p> <p>OT 278 Co-op Fieldwork Experience 2</p>	<p><b>Quarter 5 (8 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 202 Ethics, Values &amp; Responsibility in Health Care</p> <p>OT 215 Work Place Issues</p> <p>OT 178 Application of O T Co-op 2</p> <p>OT 206 Clinical Seminar 2</p> <p><b>Quarter 6 (10 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 204 Application of Activities</p> <p>OT 210 Therapeutic Adaptations</p> <p><b>Quarter 7 (7 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 211 Pre-Fieldwork Experience Seminar</p> <p>OT 212 Therapeutic Activities 2</p> <p>OT 220 Therapeutic Group Leadership</p> <p><b>Quarter 8 (13 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 250 Fieldwork Experience Seminar 1</p> <p>OT 277 Co-op Fieldwork Experience 1</p> <p><b>Quarter 9 (13 credits)</b></p> <p>OT 251 Fieldwork Experience Seminar 2</p> <p>OT 278 Co-op Fieldwork Experience 2</p>
--	--



COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Option A
C/O Enrollment Services
12401 SE 320th St., Auburn, WA 98092-3622
(253) 833-9111 Auburn • (206) 464-6133 Eastside
(253) 924-00180 Tacoma • Fax: (253) 288-3467
www.greenriver.edu

2009-2010 HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

Occupational Therapy Assistant Degree

Program Application for FALL QUARTER 2009

Program will remain open until filled but no later than September 21, 2009

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ GRCC SID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

This program is seven quarters, full time, day classes, and begins September, 2009.

Attached evidence of completion of the following college courses with a 2.0 grade or better in each course. If "in progress", so state:

Table with 4 columns: Course Name, Grade, School Attended, and a checkbox. Rows include Anatomy & Physiology 1, Anatomy & Physiology 2, English Composition, General Psychology or, Survey of Sociology or, and Speech Communication.

- Checkboxes for: A personal statement with this application explaining your interest and/or experience in this profession. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all college courses. Current GPA \_\_\_\_\_. If needed, a plan for completing required OTA prerequisite courses by September 19, 2008. Official copies of transcripts for non-GRCC courses has been submitted plus a transcript evaluation request form to Enrollment Services. Unofficial copies of college transcripts, including Green River, attached. Essential Functions for the OTA student form signed. Submit application to Enrollment Service, second floor, Lindbloom Student Center. Washington State patrol Criminal History Form Completed

By signing this, I verify that this application is accurate and complete as of this date.

SIGNATURE:

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PROGRAM

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

---

## ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

for the

Occupational Therapy Assistant Student

Becoming an occupational therapy assistant requires the completion of an education program that is both intellectually and physically challenging. The student will be expected to acquire knowledge, motor skills, and behavior and attitudes that are necessary to provide ethical, safe, effective, compassionate patient care. The purpose of this document is to inform candidates to the occupational therapy assistant (OTA) program of the demands that they can reasonably be expected to meet, with or without reasonable accommodation, while participating in the program.

Decisions made by the candidate to enter this program should be made after careful consideration of the following technical standards. These standards reflect reasonable expectations of the OTA student for the performance of common occupational therapy functions encountered in the program. They are also reasonable expectations of employers; however, employers may have different standards. The ability to meet these standards with or without accommodations does not guarantee employment upon graduation.

Each candidate in this Associate in Applied Science degree program should possess the following abilities and skills:

- **Motor:** The candidate should have sufficient gross and fine motor capabilities to execute the movements and skills required to provide safe and effective occupational therapy treatment. This includes, but is not limited to:
  1. Sufficient coordination, speed, strength and agility to assist and guard (protect) patients who are walking, exercising or performing other activities.
  2. Ability to adjust, move and position patients and equipment which involves bending, twisting, pushing and pulling, and reaching in order to guide, transfer and lift equipment and individuals.

3. Ability to guide, resist, and assist patients, and to provide emergency care, which involves activities including standing, kneeling, sitting, walking and crawling.
  4. Ability and dexterity to fabricate, apply and monitor adaptive equipment, perform and demonstrate functional activities and administer components of sensory, motor and Activities of Daily Living Skills (ADL) assessments.
  5. Sufficient endurance to move about a classroom or clinical environment steadily throughout the day, including movement across distances, movement from one floor to another, and negotiation of small spaces.
- **Sensory:** Candidate should have sufficient sensory abilities to assess and monitor patients, observe physical movement, participate in physical measures, and recognize and respond to patient needs and unsafe situations. Candidate should have the ability to obtain information in classroom, laboratory or clinical settings through observation, auscultation, palpation and other measures, and requires abilities including, but not limited to:
    1. Visual ability (corrected as necessary) to recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language, to observe patient performance in therapy, to read or set parameters on occupational therapy equipment, and to interpret and assess the environment.
    2. Auditory ability (corrected as necessary) to recognize and respond to verbal directions and requests, to be aware of safety mechanisms in the environment, and for effective communication between patients/families/co-workers.
    3. Tactile ability to palpate muscle contractions, to discriminate hot and cold modalities, to exert the necessary pressure to fabricate splints, and to identify joint articulations.
  - **Communication:** Candidate will need to communicate effectively and efficiently with peers, faculty, patients and their families, and other health care providers orally, in writing, and non-verbally. This includes, but is not limited to:
    1. Ability to read at a level that allows the essential functions of an assignment to be completed safely and effectively.
    2. Ability to effectively articulate and interpret information to patients, family members, other health care professionals and third party payers as appropriate.
    3. Ability to recognize, interpret, and respond to nonverbal behavior of self and others.
  - **Behavior:** Candidate should be capable of exercising good judgment, developing empathic and therapeutic relationships with patients and others, working in stressful situations, and tolerating close physical contact with co-workers and patients. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Ability to work with multiple patients/families and colleagues at the same time.
2. Ability to work with lab partners, patients, families and others under stressful conditions, including but not limited to medically or emotionally unstable individuals, situations requiring rapid adaptations, the provision of CPR, or other emergency interventions.
3. Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, integrate information and make decisions.
4. Ability to work with individuals of varying ages and socioeconomic, ethnic and cultural backgrounds.
5. Ability to consistently act in the best interest of patients/clients and promote a therapeutic environment.
6. Ability to work collaboratively with all (both male and female) OTA students and with program faculty in classroom, lab and clinical settings.
7. Ability to accept feedback and appropriately modify behavior in response to supervisory feedback.
8. Ability to demonstrate values, attitudes, and behaviors consistent with the OT Professional Code of Ethics.
9. Ability to handle personal and professional problems appropriately so they do not interfere with classroom and clinical performance.

- **Critical Thinking:** Candidate should possess sufficient abilities in the areas of critical problem solving, reasoning, and assessment to be able to comprehend and process information in a timely manner. Candidate will be asked to prioritize, organize and attend to tasks and responsibilities efficiently. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Ability to collect and interpret data.
2. Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, integrate information and make decisions.
3. Ability to apply knowledge from basic and technical education to the provision of occupational therapy care which includes the ability to plan and implement treatment programs that are applicable and practical and provide creative treatment alternatives.
4. The ability to problem solve in order to act safely and ethically in the occupational therapy lab and clinic.

- The **capstone experience** of this educational program occurs during the final two quarters, when the candidate provides occupational therapy care in clinic settings under the supervision of occupational therapy practitioners. The candidate should have the capacity to complete eight to ten hour days, and 40-hour weeks, in clinical education experiences for two ten week periods. The clinical education experience provides for an integrative measure of the candidate's capabilities, requiring that the candidate consistently demonstrate

skill and proficiency of performance at the entry level of an occupational therapy assistant.

**Additional information:** In order to be eligible for placement at a clinical education site, students admitted to the program will need to:

1. Obtain certification (health professional level) in cardiopulmonary resuscitation through an approved course for health care providers.
2. Complete an approved 7-hour course for health care providers on blood borne pathogens.
3. Provide proof of health status including but not limited to proof of MMR and chicken pox vaccination, hepatitis B vaccination (or signed waiver), current tetanus immunization, and current TB test.
4. Complete a Washington State Patrol background check (Children and Vulnerable Adults Act)
5. Complete other pre-clinical screenings as needed such as drug testing and finger printing.

Candidates for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program are required to certify that these standards have been provided to them. Applicants who believe they do not meet the standards may request accommodation. Accommodation is arranged through the Disability Support Services office. Additional information about requesting accommodation is available at <http://www.greenriver.edu/DSS/>.

# **Occupational Therapy Assistant Application Essential Functions Acknowledgment**

**Please sign and return this portion of the document to the admissions coordinator with the application packet.**

My signature acknowledges that I have been provided with the document "Essential Functions" for OTA students and am familiar with its content. I understand that I may request reasonable accommodations in order to meet these standards.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised November 2006

**PLANNING GUIDE FOR GRCC OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SID \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Prerequisites:**  
**To apply:** 15 credits of any academic 100 level or above course work (may include the below) with a 2.5 cum. GPA.  
**To begin the program, the following must be complete:**  
 Anatomy & Physiology (AP) 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Anatomy & Physiology (AP) 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 English Composition \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Psychology, Sociology or  
 Speech Communications (choose one) \_\_\_\_\_

- You Must...**
- complete prerequisites with a **2.0** grade or better (no exceptions). You must have a **2.5** cumulative GPA to apply to the program.
  - have 15 credits of academic 100 level or above coursework completed to *apply* to the program (which may include the courses listed to the left).
  - have all the prerequisites completed to *begin* the program (courses listed to the left).
  - be responsible for knowing the requirements of your funding source (regarding credit load, grades, etc.).
  - make an appointment to see your advisor every quarter (this is separate from your “registration access time” which means your records are open for registration activity. Your registration appointment is not an appointment with an advisor).
  - apply to the program (dates will be specified on the application).
  - read the program information guide for details regarding acceptance into the program, as well as other pertinent information.

QTR:		QTR:		QTR:		QTR:	
COURSE	CR/GR	COURSE	CR/GR	COURSE	CR/GR	COURSE	CR/GR
TOTAL CREDITS		TOTAL CREDITS		TOTAL CREDITS		TOTAL CREDITS	
QTR:		QTR:		QTR:		QTR:	
COURSE	CR/GR	COURSE	CR/GR	COURSE	CR/GR	COURSE	CR/GR
TOTAL CREDITS		TOTAL CREDITS		TOTAL CREDITS		TOTAL CREDITS	

EP office use:  
 App. revd. \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 WSP signed \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 Outside transcripts \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

