

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Occupational therapists work with individuals and their families to improve the quality of their everyday lives. Services are provided to individuals who are at risk for or have disabling conditions that limit their ability to participate in everyday activities. These problems include developmental and learning disabilities, autism, arthritis, cancer and other debilitating illnesses, head and spinal cord injuries, orthopedic, work and sports-related injuries, amputations, burns, head trauma, stroke and other neurological conditions, and mental illness. Occupational therapists evaluate the impact of the disability or illness on the person's ability to participate in daily life activities. Occupational therapists then provide interventions that promote health and quality of life with a focus on the activities that are important and meaningful to individuals and society.

At Saint Louis University the Bachelor of Occupational Science degree (B.S.O.S.) is our Pre-OT program.

Occupational science focuses on the meaningful activities and occupations that comprise everyday lives, such as caring for oneself and others or participating in valued activities that contribute to the community and to society. It also addresses the cultural and social influences on occupation, and how involvement in activities contributes to physical, psychological and spiritual well-being.

DEGREES OFFERED

- Bachelor of Science in Occupational Science (B.S.O.S.)
- Master's in Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.).

Students have guaranteed entry into the graduate level master's program if they have successfully completed all the requirements of the undergraduate program.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates have a variety of employment opportunities in traditional health care environments such as hospitals, rehabilitation units, mental health facilities, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, school systems, and private practice. Additional opportunities include consultation to industry, community settings, teaching, and research.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Freshman Entry: A high school GPA of at least 3.0; three years of sciences, including one year of chemistry and one year of biology; three years of math; four years of English; an ACT composite score of at least 22 or a combined SAT score of no less than 1100.

Transfer Entry: Transfer students may enter the program during the sophomore or junior year. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 and pre-requisite courses are compulsory.

Post Baccalaureate Entry: Students who have a bachelor's degree may apply to the MOT program. Although prerequisite courses are compulsory, the GRE is not required. Saint Louis University Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy values non-traditional students (students who are older, have various life experiences or who have earned another degree). Customized matriculation plans are developed for such students.

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Saint Louis University's Student Occupational Therapy Association's (SLU/SOTA) purpose is to enhance student's understanding of occupational therapy through professional, educational, community and social activities. SLU/SOTA facilitates opportunities for camaraderie among students, and provides meaningful, productive interaction with faculty.

FIVE DIMENSIONS

Reflective of its mission, Saint Louis University strives to engage its students in five interrelated dimensions contributing to the development of the whole person

- Scholarship and knowledge
- Intellectual inquiry and communication
- Community building
- Leadership and service
- Spirituality and values

WHY CHOOSE SLU

- We are one of only 4 U.S. programs focused on Occupational Science (the Occupational Therapy profession's foundation), as well as Occupational Therapy.
- Undergraduate students have guaranteed entry into the MOT program if they maintain the entrance standards.
- Students are matched with a faculty mentor who supports the student's professional development.
- Curriculum emphasizes learning that includes exposure to local and international opportunities in practice, research, and service.
- Undergraduate opportunities to conduct research and produce projects/papers acceptable for publication and presentation at professional conferences.
- Interprofessional focus of core curriculum to build a team approach to healthcare.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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