

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

NATURE OF THE WORK

Occupational Therapists assist people with physical and mental disabilities in maintaining or regaining their maximum level of independence in day-to-day activities. Activities may include assessing client's current and potential level of functioning; developing and implementing a treatment plan in the client's various environments; maintaining clinical and statistical records; designing programs for the community; and conducting research. Occupational therapists work collaboratively with clients, who may be individuals, groups, agencies or organizations to enable them to choose, organize and perform those occupations they find useful and meaningful in their environments.

HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

- Students will have completed a minimum of five university preparatory grade XII level courses with an overall average of 70 percent or higher and no individual grade below 60 percent.
- Grade XII academic English with a grade level of 65 percent or higher and grade XI academic mathematics are required together with at least two grade XII courses from the following: biology, chemistry, global geography, global history, mathematics, modern languages and physics.
- The remaining two grade XII subjects may be taken from the above or from other university preparatory subjects approved by the provincial department of education and acceptable to the University/College where the program of study is offered. Those courses include: accounting, computer-related studies, economics, geography, geology, law, modern world problems, home economics (human ecology), music, political science and sociology.

UNIVERSITY LEVEL PREREQUISITES

- You must have completed a 4-year undergraduate degree from a recognized university with successful completion of university-level prerequisite course with an overall minimum average of 70% B.
- Prerequisite courses include 3 credits in Human Anatomy, Statistics, and Human Development as well

as 6 credits in Human Physiology and Social Sciences and 0.5 credits in Behavioral Sciences.

REQUIREMENTS

Occupational Therapists need a university degree in occupational therapy and a period of supervised practical training. To be a qualified occupational therapist, you must successfully complete the national examination for occupational therapists and be licensed to practice in Nova Scotia by the College of Occupational Therapists of Nova Scotia. There is also mandatory membership in the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists and the Nova Scotia Society of Occupational Therapists.

THE PROGRAM IS OFFERED

Dalhousie University offers the only accredited occupational therapy educational program in the Atlantic Region. The Dalhousie School of Occupational Therapy offers a 22 month Master's Entry-Level Program (effective 2006).

Contact Information

Dalhousie University
5869 University Avenue
Forrest Building, Room 215
Halifax NS B3H 3J5

Telephone: 902-494-8804

Fax: 902-494-1229

E-mail: occupational.therapy@dal.ca

www.occtherapy.dal.ca

EARNING POTENTIAL

Occupational Therapist Salary Scale - 2008
\$50,201 - \$63,393

GENERAL

To work in occupational therapy, you must have a genuine and sensitive interest in people and their ability to achieve. You must be able to communicate effectively with people and demonstrate a strong sense of responsibility, good judgment, patience and self-discipline. Occupational therapists must be creative and unique in their approach to each client. There is an ongoing need to continually update knowledge and skills.

For additional information please visit www.nssot.com & www.cato.ca

