

SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR CAREER SUCCESS

The student in the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program will be required to meet the demands listed below for physical, environmental, visual, and cognitive essential job functions. These demands could be present in the classroom, on field trips, during community-engaged learning, in the OTA/PTA Clinic, on fieldwork placements, or other site visits related to coursework and grading. They are also representative of typical demands expected by community facilities that hire occupational therapy assistants. Students must be able to meet the essential functions of the program with or without accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students who cannot meet these will not be successful candidates for job placement in the workforce as occupational therapy assistants.

Physical Demands:

- Sit on a standard chair for extended lengths of time.
- Lift 20-50 pounds occasionally (up to 1/3 of the workday), and 10-25 pounds frequently (more than 1/3 to 2/3 of the workday).
- Be independently mobile within a building and between buildings.
- Travel to and from fieldwork placements, field trips & assigned locations off-campus.
- Show sufficient balance to protect and assist the client(s).
- Demonstrate strength, agility, and flexibility to manipulate and position a client.
- Have endurance and attention to actively engage in classroom activities for the entire required weekly contact hours.
- Have endurance and attention to actively engage in client treatment for an entire full-time work week.
- Reach and grasp bilaterally overhead, in front of the body, to the sides, and down.
- Demonstrate fine motor coordination/dexterity bilaterally to be able to grasp, handle, hold, cut, push, pull and feel.
- Identify and respond to changes in temperature in modalities and in the client.
- Work in confined spaces such as: assisting clients in a bathroom or working in an office with several people.
- Provide individual/group OT services that achieve at least 75% of the professional productivity level requirements at each assigned fieldwork placement.

Communication Skills:

- Audibly communicate with clarity in person to exchange accurate information on a one- to-one basis, in a small group, large classroom setting, or large group.
- Exhibit legible, properly spelled, and grammatically correct written communications.

- Complete a progress note within 15 minutes.
- Use therapeutic communication: attending, clarifying, coaching, and facilitating, and using and responding to nonverbal communication.
- Communicate effectively, efficiently, and appropriately with peers, faculty, supervisors, other professionals, clients, and their significant others.
- Demonstrate sufficient observational skills to collect data on client performance and assure client safety during treatment activities.

Personal Traits:

- Work within clinical environments, which involve exposure to persons with physical and mental disabilities, and to pain, grief, death, stress, communicable diseases, blood and body fluids, toxic substances, noxious odors, and irritating particles.
- Work with a diverse client population including persons of various ages, ethnic, racial, religious, alternative lifestyle, and socioeconomic backgrounds without prejudice or repulsion.
- Conduct oneself in accordance with professional ethics.
- Exhibit teamwork skills and a spirit of cooperation and respect for peers, faculty, supervisors, and other professionals, clients, and their significant others.

**If you are unable to perform one of the above essential functions, please contact the Health Sciences Admissions Office at healthsciencesadmissions@slcc.edu before submitting your application.

I have read and understand the essential functions.

Print name

Signature

Date