# Occupational Therapy

## Nature of the Work
For descriptions of this profession see:

- *About Occupational Therapy* section of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) website ([www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org))
- [www.explorehealthcareers.org](http://www.explorehealthcareers.org)

## Course Requirements
- Requirements vary by school
- Check the *Find a School* section on the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) website ([www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org))
- Generally, course work should include general biology, human anatomy and physiology, psychology, sociology, and statistics

## Application Timeline
Occupational therapy school directly after Gettysburg College:

- Required courses completed by end of senior year (although preference may be given to applicants who complete the required courses sooner)
- Apply summer between junior and senior years

## Standardized Test
- Graduate Record Exam (GRE) revised General Test ([www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre))
- Given year-round at computer-based test centers
- Length ~ 4 hours
- 3 sections: Verbal Reasoning (score 130-170), Quantitative Reasoning (score 130-170), Analytical Writing (score 0-6)
- Register on-line ([www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre))
- Free and low-cost preparation materials ([www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre))
- Unofficial scores on test day, official scores in 10-15 days

## Application Service
- Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service (OTCAS) ([www.otcas.org](http://www.otcas.org))
- Available ~ mid-July
- APPLY EARLY!!! Do not wait until application deadlines!

## Admissions Criteria
- GPA
- GRE
- Letters of evaluation
- OT-related experience
- Personal statement

## Length of Program
- Varies by school
- ~ 2-3 years for Doctorate degree programs
- ~ 2 years for Master’s degree programs
| Degree                  | • OTD (Occupational Therapy Doctorate) or DOT (Doctorate of Occupational Therapy) (several programs)
|                        | • MS (Master of Science), MA (Master of Arts), or MOT (Master of Occupational Therapy) (most programs) |
| Additional Resources   | • The American Occupational Therapy Association (www.aota.org) |