

Springfield College Occupational Therapy Department
Entry-Level Master of Science Degree Program
Application Information

The entry-level master's degree program is for applicants who wish to become occupational therapists and who have, or will have by program entry, baccalaureate degrees in other majors. Applications must be completed online through OTCAS at <https://portal.otcas.org/> by January 1 for admission the following fall.

Our review of applications takes into account the following factors:

- **Academic qualifications:**
 - Cumulative grade point average (CGPA) minimum of 3.00
 - Even if you are still completing your degree and/or prerequisite courses when you apply, you must enter grade information and submit transcripts to OTCAS for any work you have completed so far, and then update that information to verify courses completed after submitting the application.
 - Grades of at least 2.7 in each prerequisite course, with a minimum grade point average of 3.00 across and within each of the four prerequisite areas
 - The attached worksheet is provided to help you identify your prerequisite status and prepare for entering information into the OTCAS online application. Worksheets are not to be submitted as part of the application.
 - While you may apply while still completing some prerequisite courses, the minimum number of courses within each category that must be completed at the point of application is indicated on the worksheet.
- **Related experience:**
 - The OTCAS provides space for you to list employment experience as well as volunteer, service, and internship experiences. We do not specify a minimum number of observation hours, but we do consider both depth and breadth of experience in OT and in related areas. Successful applicants must have observed OT services in at least two, preferably three or more, different service delivery settings.
- **References:**
 - Taken together, the references should address your strengths and weaknesses in the areas of intellectual or academic skills, creativity, problem-solving skills, and interpersonal qualities. References from an employer, from someone who has known you in an academic setting, and from an OT are strongly recommended.
 - OTCAS requires that you submit three, but you may submit up to five electronic references.
- **Personal statement**
 - You may wish to include within this statement such issues as how your personal and professional experiences and exposure to OT have shaped your decision to enter the profession, the personal qualities you will bring to the program and the profession, and how your own values and beliefs compare with those of the profession.
- **Interview**
 - Springfield College does not require a personal interview. You are encouraged to visit the college and the OT Department to see how well the program meets your needs. A list of OT Department information sessions is posted on the department webpage, www.springfieldcollege.edu/OT at the start of each semester. Campus tours may be arranged through Graduate Admissions, (413) 748-3225.

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT
Entry-Level Master of Science Degree Program
Prerequisite Worksheet for Applicant Use Only – Not To Be Submitted With Application

Name of applicant _____

Date form completed _____

Accuracy of course grades will be verified by OTCAS upon receipt of official transcripts. At least half of the courses in each category* must have been completed by the application deadline of January 1 in order to be considered for admission. Grade point averages within each category and as a total will be calculated by the evaluators; minimum standards are listed in the table.

Category	Prerequisite Courses	College/Univ	Dept/Course#	Course Title	Credits	Grade	Date Comp. or Expected	Minimum Standard
I *2 must be completed by Jan. 1 application deadline	Natural Sciences (9-12 SH):							
	Anatomy & Physiology I with lab**							
	Anatomy & Physiology II with lab**							
	Third natural science with lab (e.g. biology, chemistry, physics, kinesiology)							3.00
II *2 must be completed by Jan. 1 application deadline	Social Sciences (12 SH):							
	Introduction to sociology or anthropology							
	Introduction to psychology							
	Abnormal psychology							
	Developmental psychology or child development							3.00
III *1 must be completed by Jan. 1 application deadline	Written & Oral Communication in English (6 SH)							
	Writing or composition							
	Elective English (e.g. advanced composition, writing intensive course, public speaking, literature)							3.00
IV	Statistics (3 SH or 4 QH) (business, math, or behavioral statistics all acceptable)							
	Total GPA of all prerequisites							3.00

**completed within last 5 yrs.