

# Doctor of Occupational Therapy (DrOT) Program

# College of Health & Human Services

## Improving Lives Through Advanced Practice

No doubt about it. The dynamic nature of our nation's health and human services offers challenging opportunities for advanced and specialized occupational therapy practice. There's a compelling need for the practice scholar – the advanced practice occupational therapist who is actively involved in developing effective client-centered programs, while keeping pace with the latest research.

If you're ready to take it to the next level in your occupational therapy career, check out the College of Health and Human Services' Doctor of Occupational Therapy (DrOT) program. Students in our program will explore, apply and develop the best practice models, knowledge and expertise they will need to take on leadership, research, advocacy and educational roles in the profession. Considered an advanced practice, post-professional degree, the DrOT program will prepare you to be an innovator in both traditional and emerging areas of occupational therapy.

## Take it to the Next Level

If you're a certified and licensed occupational therapist with a master's degree in occupational therapy (or a bachelor's in occupational therapy and a master's in another field) and are looking for a way to progress in your field, consider our program. The current environment demands that advanced practice-prepared occupational therapists support all service delivery with hard evidence. The DrOT program will give you the ability to find, interpret, synthesize and apply findings from current research, theory and models of practice in order to ensure the very best service outcomes.

The Governors State University DrOT sequence of courses provides you with the skills and leadership needed to make significant contributions to the health and well-being of clients in a wide variety of settings, with a special emphasis on the care of vulnerable populations.

## Learn More!

If you'd like to speak to a program representative to learn more about the DrOT, or about the **College of Health and Human Services**, call **708.534.7293**, or email **Dr. Melanie Ellexson**, DHSc, MBA, OTR/L, FAOTA, **Coordinator of the DrOT program**, at [mellexson@govst.edu](mailto:mellexson@govst.edu).

## FACT

*"Empowering our practitioners with evidence-based clinical decision-making and encouraging the partnership of clinicians and academicians in the pursuit of knowledge are all part of a powerful recipe for success."*

Fred Somers, AOTA Executive Director



**Governors State**  
UNIVERSITY

1 University Parkway  
University Park, IL 60484

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## Admission Requirements

Applicants with either an entry-level master of occupational therapy degree or a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy plus an earned master's degree in any field

OR

Applicants with a baccalaureate degree in occupational therapy but who have not earned a master's degree\* must meet the following admission requirements:

1. Graduation from an occupational therapy program accredited by ACOTE. International students must have graduated from a World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) program and have received certification from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).
2. A minimum graduation GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 point scale.
3. Evidence of current certification from NBCOT.
4. Evidence of current state occupational therapy license.
5. Evidence of successful completion (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) of a statistics course or research methods course within the past five years. Alternatively, one may be taken concurrently with the first semester of graduate coursework.
6. Basic computer competency, including word processing and use of the Internet.
7. Students who are unfamiliar with web-supported instruction are encouraged to take ONTL 6101, Introduction to Online Learning, prior to or during the first term of enrollment; this is recommended.
8. Application essay.
9. Curriculum vita or resume.
10. Three letters of recommendation.
11. A personal interview with a graduate program faculty advisor/mentor.
12. Application fee.

\*The post-baccalaureate entry will require additional coursework within the Department of Occupational Therapy.

## Degree Requirements

Required DrOT Core Courses (33 Hours minimum)

OCCT 6100 Introduction to Academic Writing (3, may be repeated up to 6 credits)

OCCT 8220 Research Methods for Occupational Therapy (3)

OCCT 8310 Advanced Theories in OT (3)

OCCT 8320 Occupation-Centered Practice & Process (3)

OCCT 8340 Instructional Methods in Occupational Therapy (3)

OCCT 8345 Program Development and Evaluation (3)

OCCT 8350 Leadership, Policy and Program Development (3)

OCCT 8360 Advocacy and Empowerment in Legal and Ethical Occupational Therapy Policy (3)

OCCT 8370 Funding Sponsored Programs and Research (2)

OCCT 8415 Advance Research (4)

OCCT 8510 Pro-Seminar I (1-3, may be taken a total of 2 times for a total of 6 credits)

OCCT 8520 Pro-Seminar II (1-6, may be taken a total of 3 times for a total of 9 credits)

OCCT 8530 Pro-Seminar III (1-6, may be taken a total of 2 times for a total of 6 credits)

## Specialty Concentration Elective Required:

(6 Credit hours minimum)

Specialty concentration electives will be developed as part of the doctoral student study plan.

## Culminating Project Required Courses:

(6 hours)

OCCT 9910 Capstone I (3-6 credits, may be repeated up to 6 credits)

OCCT 9920 Capstone II (3-6 credits, may be repeated up to 6 credits)

## Minimum Total Credits:

45 Hours for Occupational Therapists who enter with a master's degree

60 Hours for Occupational Therapists who enter with a baccalaureate degree – additional courses will be determined based upon the learning needs of each student.

