



Doctor of Occupational Therapy

A Full-time, 8 Semester Professional Degree Program (100 credit hours)

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree or higher (in any field) from regionally accredited institution prior to matriculation.
- A grade of "C" or above is required for all prerequisite courses. AP and CLEP credits are not acceptable for prerequisite coursework.
- Three letters of recommendation from current/recent academic and/or professional contacts are required. Recommenders will complete an evaluation form via OTCAS and upload a recommendation letter. No personal references are accepted.
- Personal Essay: Please write an essay explaining your motivation for choosing a career in Occupational Therapy. Discuss how pursuing this degree aligns with both your short-term and long-term professional goals. Additionally, demonstrate your understanding of Occupational Therapy as a profession. Ensure that your writing is professional and adheres to proper grammar and punctuation.
- Observation hours: In order to obtain an understanding of Occupational Therapy, we recommend shadowing a licensed OT, preferably in multiple settings. While this is not mandatory, it is highly recommended in order for applicants to demonstrate knowledge of the profession.

Interviews will be held monthly September 2026 through July 2027

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

No more than 9 outstanding credits of prerequisite course work permitted at time of application. Outstanding credits must be shown in OTCAS as courses "in progress" or "planned" and must be completed prior to matriculation.

Credits	Course
3	General or Introductory Psychology (Waived for Psychology major/minor applicants)
3	Abnormal Psychology
3	Statistics (Course content must include descriptive and inferential statistics)
6 (minimum)	Human Anatomy & Physiology (Two sequential courses) Content must include lecture and laboratory sections to include human structure and function, including the musculoskeletal system and an overview of the nervous system.
6	Social Science (Two 3 credit hour courses) can include courses in: sociology, anthropology, ethics, economics, political science, community or public health, epidemiology, gerontology, religion, philosophy, gender studies, or cultural or urban studies.
3 (minimum)	Life Span Human Development (Course content must cover infancy through elderly; students may have to take more than one course to meet this requirement)
1	Medical Terminology (CEU courses/certificates are not accepted)

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term

Fall (August) 2027

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to <https://otcas.liaisoncas.com>

Admission Deadline

Priority Deadline – November 15, 2026

Rolling Deadline – Up to July 7, 2027 based on space availability

PREREQUISITES: Bachelor's Degree

GPAs:

Minimum Cumulative & SU Prerequisite – 3.0

Preferred SU Prerequisite – 3.2

Format/Location

Hybrid with weekly on-campus classes (Tuesdays) at the Health Professions Building, Winchester, VA.

Required Tests

GRE not required.

International students, please visit the below website for English language testing requirements: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students/>

Foreign Transcripts

Must be evaluated by WES per OTCAS requirements. Please visit https://help.liaisonedu.com/OTCAS_Applicant_Help_Center for more information.

Contact Us

OTD Admissions
otdadmissions@su.edu | 540-678-4313

Office of Graduate Admissions
SUGradAdmissions@su.edu
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-401-5709

Office of Financial Aid
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>
finaid@su.edu | call: 540-665-4538



PROGRAM LOCATION



Health Professions Building
1775 North Sector Court
Winchester, VA 22601
(540) 678-4313



Additional university offerings include Global Experiential Learning opportunities and specialized certifications, such as:

- Public Health
- Performing Arts Health & Fitness
- Esports Health & Fitness
- Esports Medicine
- Performing Arts Medicine
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Population Health

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Shenandoah University's Division of Occupational Therapy (SUDOT) offers an innovative hybrid graduate program leading to a Doctor of Occupational Therapy. At SU, hybrid education means learning occurs in three environments: online, the classroom, and the community. The majority of didactic content is delivered online through podcasts/lectures, interactive learning activities and cutting-edge e-learning platforms. Classroom-based face-to-face experiences emphasize skill development, small group learning forums, and faculty-student/clinician-student mentoring.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DOCTORATE CURRICULUM

Shenandoah University's Doctor of Occupational Therapy program is delivered in a hybrid format, with much of the content delivered online. Students attend classes on campus one day per week (Tuesdays) for the face-to-face portion of their courses. All fieldwork experiences are completed on non-campus days and during normal working hours. Additionally, students are expected to engage in application in their home communities as directed by faculty. Non-classroom time commitment will take at least 40 hours per week. This dynamic and demanding curriculum recommends that full-time students not engage in outside employment greater than 10 hours per week.

The learning model requires students to think critically and act professionally in independent, interpersonal and community-based problem-solving experiences. Graduates of this program enter the field as passionate, self-reflective learners, critically thinking practitioners, and professionals who understand the importance of ethics, leadership and service.

WINCHESTER LOCATION

The Winchester location is housed in the Health Professions Building located on the grounds of the Winchester Medical Center. The OT facility features multimedia classrooms, plus numerous smaller classrooms and laboratories for demonstrations, problem-solving exercises, and simulations. A low student-to-faculty ratio enhances personalized education. Wireless technology provides instant web access throughout the entire building, including the laboratories, conference rooms, library, and fitness area.

ACCREDITATION

Shenandoah University's Doctor of Occupational Therapy program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and is located at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E Bethesda, MD 20814. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is 301-652-AOTA and its web address is www.acoteonline.org. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.



ACOTE C/O Accreditation Department
 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E
 Bethesda, MD 20814
 301-652-AOTA
www.acoteonline.org