About the Profession

In its simplest terms, occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants help people across their lifespan participate in the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities (occupations). Common occupational therapy interventions include helping children with disabilities to participate fully in school and social situations, helping people recovering from injury to regain skills, and providing supports for older adults experiencing physical and cognitive changes. See more at www.aota.org.

Located at:
Kettering College
Ollie Davis Center
68 Darst Road
Beavercreek, Ohio

About the Degree

The occupational therapy doctoral program prepares graduates for competent entry-level occupational therapy practice. The program provides the rich academic environment for students to develop professional and technical skills and become caring, compassionate, respectful, competent occupational therapists.

Approval & Accreditation

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. 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.

Admission Requirements

Minimal requirements to be considered for admission into the Kettering College occupational therapy doctoral program are:

1. A Bachelor’s or Master’s degree from a regionally accredited higher education institution with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4-point scale. For students with a degree in progress and admitted on a conditional basis, evidence of degree completion must be submitted to the Kettering College Occupational Therapy Program prior to the first day of class.
2. Completion of the following prerequisite courses with a minimum grade of C. If a prerequisite course was taken longer than 5 years ago, evidence of use of the prerequisite course content in work must be shown or applicant must retake the required prerequisite course (a "C-") or below does not meet requirement):
   - Anatomy and Physiology with lab - 8 credits
   - Abnormal Psychology - 3 credits
   - Developmental Psychology - 3 credits
   - Sociology - 3 credits
   - Statistics - 3 credits
   - Writing and Rhetoric - 3 credits
   - Medical Terminology - 1 credit
3. A minimum of 20 observation hours of an Occupational Therapist (OTR). *Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the observation hours requirement has been waived for the 2022-23 admissions cycle.
4. Applications must be completed on the Occupational Therapy Centralized Admission Service (OTCAS) by the published deadline.
5. Three letters of recommendation.
6. Meets Professionalism Standard throughout the application process. The Kettering College OTD Program values exceptional professional skills and endeavors to hold all faculty, staff, and students to the highest levels of professionalism as ambassadors for the profession of occupational therapy and the Kettering Health brand of care. This expectation is comprehensive and includes all interactions; face-to-face, virtual, phone conversations, and communications via e-mail even during the application process.

Kettering OTD Advantage

Kettering College in close collaboration with Kettering Health has been educating health-care providers as they make service a life calling and view health as harmony with God in body, mind, and spirit. Kettering Health employs over 130 OT professionals, who work closely with the OTD program. Many of these highly qualified clinicians are respected experts and leaders in the profession of OT. Students in the Kettering College OTD program will have the advanced opportunity to unite with these top-notch occupational therapists within Kettering Health.