



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The practice of occupational therapy means the therapeutic use of everyday life activities (occupations) with individuals or groups for the purpose of participation in roles and situations in home, school, workplace, community and other settings. Occupational therapy services are provided to those who have or are at risk of developing an illness, injury, disease, disorder, condition, impairment, disability, activity limitation, or other participation restriction. Occupational therapy addresses the physical, cognitive, psychosocial, sensory and other related aspects of performance in a variety of contexts to support engagement in everyday life activities that affect health, wellbeing, and quality of life (AOTA, 2004).

Admission Requirements

Applicants must apply to both the MSOT Program and CSU Dominguez Hills Graduate Studies Office. Applications to the program are accepted one time each year. Students planning to seek admission to the program should submit a complete application packet including all supporting materials to the OT office no later than **September 15** preceding a spring semester admission to the program. Applications received after **September 15** will be considered if class space is available. OT applications are available on line at www.csudh.edu/hhs/OT/ and the Graduate Studies application is available at www.csumentor.edu.

Students must have completed a Bachelor of Arts or Sciences degree from an accredited college or university. The degree must be completed at the time of admission to the program but may be in progress during the application process. In addition the students must have completed separate courses in Anatomy with laboratory (3 credits), and Physiology with laboratory (3 credits), Developmental Psychology, Life Span (3 credits), Abnormal Personality (3 credits), and Statistics (3 credits). Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in bachelor's degree and pre-requisite coursework and completed of 80 hours of documented volunteer experience under the super vision of a registered occupational therapist. Students should have basic computer skills including word processing and file management abilities. Three letters of recommendation are required. One must be from the occupational therapist supervising volunteer hours and the other two from professionals that can attest to student's ability to complete graduate coursework. To meet the University writing proficiency standards for graduate admission, applicants are required to achieve a minimum Analytic Writing score of 4 on the GRE. Also required is a combined minimum cumulative Verbal and Quantitative GRE Score of 800. A personal inter view with members of the Occupational Therapy Program Admissions Committee will be scheduled and if accepted, students will complete the CSUDH medical history questionnaire and physical examination and provide proof of required immunizations.

Graduation requirements

Successful completion of all required didactic and clinical work and Comprehensive Examination within five years of admission to the MSOT Program.

Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD, 20824-1220. The AOTA telephone number is: (301) 652 AOTA. Beginning Jan. 1, 2007, Occupational therapy educational programs will only be accredited at the post-baccalaureate degree level.

Certification: Graduates of the MSOT Program are eligible to sit for the national certification

examination for occupational therapists administered by the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this examination, the graduate will be an Occupational Therapist Registered (OTR).

Licensure: Graduates wishing to practice in the state of California must apply for a state license to practice. State licensure is based on successful completion of the NBCOT Certification Examination.

Felony conviction and the National Board Examination: A student having record of a felony conviction is advised to submit necessary documents to the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) for a background review prior to application. This is recommended because a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the certification examination administered by the NBCOT or to attain state licensure. NBCOT’s certification examination application contains character review questions that must be answered by all exam candidates applying for the certification examination. Applicants who answer “yes” to any of these questions must submit an explanation and official documentation regarding their background to NBCOT’s Regulatory Affairs Department at the time of application to take the examination. This information will be reviewed by the NBCOT on an individual basis prior to determining exam eligibility. An individual who is considering entering an Occupational Therapy educational program or has already entered an educational program can have his or her background reviewed prior to actually applying for the exam by requesting an early determination review. The fee for this review is \$100. If you have additional questions or would like additional information, you may contact the Credentialing Services at NBCOT, located at 800 S. Frederick Avenue, Suite 200, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877; (301) 990-7979. Contact character.review@nbcot.org.

Faculty:

Claudia G. Peyton, Department Chairperson Ph.D., University of Nebraska Lincoln	Marilyn Noriega, MSOT, University of Southern California
Terry Peralta, Ph.D., University of Southern California	Pat Nagashi, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles
Eric Hwang, Ph.D., State University of New York Buffalo	Shawn Phipps, MS, OTR/L, University of Southern California
Diane Mayfield, Academic Fieldwork Coordinator Ed.D., University of Southern California, LA	Joan Surfus, B.S.O.T., Western Michigan
Yan-Yua Huang Ph.D., University of Southern California	Mary Groves MS, Loma Linda University
Kathleen Shanfield MS, OTR/L, University of Southern California	April Rhodes MS, OTR/L, University of Southern California

Career Options:

The need for occupational therapists in the United States is urgent. Current U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data indicates the nation wide shortage of Occupational Therapy personnel through 2020 to be between 34-37%. Because the demand for occupational therapy services out distances the supply of qualified personnel in Occupational Therapy, the employment picture is excellent. New CSUDH Occupational Therapy graduates typically have in excess of four employment offers at graduation and frequently a sign-on bonus is included as an employment incentive. Career opportunities exist in many areas of practice. The most popular practice areas are: Pediatrics in the Schools System, Acute and Long term Rehabilitation, Community Mental Health and In-Patient Behavior Health, Health Promotion and Illness Prevention and Geriatric Rehabilitation. Salary range varies with the type of practice setting. New graduates from the CSUDH Program enter practice at an annual salary of approximately \$60,000-\$70,000 with excellent benefits and working conditions.

9. Letters of Recommendation: (List below, individuals who have agreed to submit recommendations on your behalf.)

	Name	Title	Telephone
a.	_____	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____	_____
c.	_____	_____	_____

10. Extra – Curricular Activities (List clubs, memberships, offices held, etc: specific accomplishments)

11. Please list all required course(s) that will be in-progress during Fall 2009.

Course Title	Course #	When Completed
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Applicant must certify by signature below:

I have read the Graduate Studies section of the University Catalog and understand and agree to the policies and procedures including the requirements, that if I am accepted, I will have to proceed in a cohort, taking all course work in the sequence offered. Furthermore, I understand that any credit earned in this program may or may not be accepted into another accredited program. Finally, no fees or expenses are refundable. By signing below, I understand and agree to all of the stipulations, policies and procedures associated with this program.

(Signature) **(Date)**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ By: _____

MSOT Application Packet Checklist

Please attach this checklist with your program application and make sure that each of the items listed on this chart have accompanying documentation. Unfortunately, those files that are incomplete due to missing documents or forms will be considered last for admission. Please make it your responsibility to ensure that your application is complete. Be sure to remind those persons you have asked for letters of recommendations to complete them on facility letterhead stationary and that they are submitted by the September 15th deadline. Typically, transcript requests require several weeks to arrive, so be sure to request transcripts early. If you have coursework in progress during the Fall semester, you will be asked to verify completion of all work in progress prior to beginning the program in January 2010. Any work in progress that is not satisfactorily completed before the beginning of the Spring semester in January will unfortunately invalidate any prior acceptance into the MSOT program.

The checklist below is a guide for you to follow to ensure that you have completed the necessary documents to be included in your application packet. Some documents will be sent directly to the OT program office.

Name:	ID#	Semester/year of Application:
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Forms	Complete	Anticipated Date of Completion	Missing
Completion of application for CSUDH Graduate Admission following application deadline for the OT Program			
All College Transcripts (2 copies)			
GRE or Miller Analogies Scores			
Completion of BS or BA Degree			
Statistics			
Developmental Psychology (Across the Life Span)			
Abnormal Personality or Abnormal Psychology			
Anatomy with Lab			
Physiology with Lab			
80 hour of volunteer experience with an OTR/L (Documented through one letter of recommendation)			
GWE: Score of 8+, or GRE score of 4 on Analytic Writing Test			
Letters of recommendation: 1 OTR(could be letter of verification from volunteer experience) and 2 others			

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

California State University, Dominguez Hills

Phone: 310-243-3300 University Main Number
www.csudh.edu

Website:

MyCSUDH is your one-stop shop for campus resources. CSU Dominguez Hills' applicants, students, faculty, and staff may access MyCSUDH for admissions, registration, financial aid, ToroPay, advising, human resources, and much more from anywhere in the world (24/7), except during maintenance periods. <https://my.csudh.edu>

College of Health and Human Services

- Deans Office (310) 243-2046 Welch Hall A-310
- Student Services Center (310) 243-2120 Welch Hall C-300

Occupational Therapy Program Office

Samuel Castruita, Administrative Assistant
(310) 243-2726
Welch Hall A-320

Department Website: www.csudh.edu/hhs/dhs/OT/intro.htm

Claudia G. Peyton, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy
Welch Hall WH A-320D
Voice: 310 243 3067
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cpeyton@csudh.edu

Admissions & Records Office	(310) 243-3645	Welch Hall C-290
Student Financial Services	(310) 243-3802	Welch Hall B-270
Bookstore	(310) 243-3789	Loker Student Union
Cashiers Office	(310) 243-3812	Welch Hall B-270
Financial Aid Office	(310) 243-3647	Welch Hall B-260

Apply For Admissions Online!

California State University's CSU Mentor

Simply use this website and locate
California State University Dominguez Hills
to apply for admissions.
On-line applications are encouraged by the College of Health and Human Services.

CSU Mentor is free to use.
You will only pay the \$55 application fee charged directly by the CSU campus when
An application for admission is submitted.

Submit your application today!

<http://www.csumentor.edu>

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR ADMISSIONS TO CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS

Spring: November 1

Personal data entered by the user is not released without the user's express consent and direction.