

Navarro College  
Occupational Therapy Assistant  
Program



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NAVARRO COLLEGE

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Application Packet  
2018

Navarro College  
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

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Welcome

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in occupational therapy as a career and the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program at Navarro College. We appreciate your interest and look forward to serving your educational needs.

The material included in this packet will describe the admissions process to the Navarro College Occupational Therapy Assistant Program and contains all the forms needed for application to the program.

The 22-month program leads to an Associate in Applied Science Degree (A.A.S. O.T.A) and helps to prepare the graduate to take the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) national examination to become a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA). Graduates must meet additional requirements for state licensure.

Admission to the OTA Program is a separate procedure from admission to Navarro College. **Applicants must meet all admission criteria for Navarro College before submitting an application to the OTA Program.** Positions in this program are limited. Admission to the OTA Program will be made on the applicant's ranking through a point system.

Applications will be accepted beginning November 1st, 2017 and must be postmarked no later than April 2nd, 2018.

If you have questions about the occupational therapy assistant program or the admissions process, please contact the Health Professions Department at (903) 875-7581 or email [jeanette.krajca@navarrocollege.edu](mailto:jeanette.krajca@navarrocollege.edu). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Faculty

Navarro College  
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

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General Information

**ACCREDITATION**

The curriculum is designed to meet the standards of the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The Navarro College Occupational Therapy Assistant Program has been granted **Accreditation** by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). ACOTE can be contacted at: Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, c/o Accreditation Department, American Occupational Therapy Association, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449, Phone: (301) 652-2682 (AOTA). The website for ACOTE is [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org).

**LOCATION**

Occupational therapy courses are offered on the Corsicana campus of Navarro College. **Beginning in July 2018, the Midlothian program will move to the Waxahachie campus.** Students are assigned to a home campus upon admission to the program. Some OTHA courses may be offered in hybrid format with a portion of the course completed via distance education. Many students commute significant distances to attend classes. Travel distances are considered by faculty members in the development of course schedules each semester, but students should consider individual travel time requirements prior to applying to the program.

**ADMISSION**

A new class is admitted into the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program each fall. The program typically accepts 36 students to begin the summer II semester on both the Corsicana and Waxahachie campuses (72 total). Current dates for admission can be found in this packet and on the OTA webpage of the Navarro College website. **Late applications or inquiries will not be considered for admission.**

**PROGRAM COURSES**

OTA courses are offered in a set sequence. Once admitted into the program, the student must progress through the curriculum as designed. This means a student may not “jump ahead” in the curriculum and take advanced occupational therapy courses. Academic courses not completed prior to acceptance into the OTA Program are the student’s responsibility to arrange around OTA courses.

**GRADES**

The OTA program will follow the Health Professions grading system listed below:

A = 100-90      B = 89-80      C = 79-75      D = 74-60      F = 59-0

Students must earn a “75” or above in all OTA coursework in order to progress in the program. A grade of “C” or better (70 or above) must be obtained in all other academic core courses in the OTA degree plan.

**DRESS CODE**

Student professional dress is expected for all classroom and clinical activities. Examples are as follows:

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Lecture/Lab:</b>  | Students may wear black scrubs with the OTA monogram and closed-toe shoes (no heels or boots). The student may also wear the approved OTA t-shirt and/or jacket as permitted by the instructor. Undershirts should be black, red, or white. Hair is to be neat and pulled back for labs. Jewelry is to be simple. Students may also choose to wear the professional dress uniform (stated below). |
| <b>Professional:</b> | Instructors may request that students dress professionally in class at times during the semester. Professional dress includes slacks, the OTA collared shirt (tucked in), belt, and closed-toe shoes (no heels or boots). No denim in any form is allowed. Tattoos are to be covered.   |

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General Information

**CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK**

The student will obtain a **national** background check prior to application to the OTA Program. Upon admission to the program, the student will be required to obtain a federal background check to meet fieldwork education requirements. Additional background checks may be required by fieldwork education sites. Costs associated with all required background checks are the responsibility of the student.

Students cannot participate in lab or fieldwork studies involving clients without a “clear” criminal history background check. Clinical training sites, in accordance with the regulations of the State of Texas and national accreditation agencies, require employees, students, and volunteers who work with children, the elderly, or the disabled to have a “clear” criminal history background check. Agencies vary as to what the definition of “clear” means. The facilities may choose to request additional nationwide and international criminal history background checks. The final decision regarding acceptance of a student for fieldwork training based on previous criminal history rests with each facility.

A student who does not have a clear criminal history record is required to meet with the OTA Program Director prior to admission into the OTA Program to discuss the implication of the criminal record on his/her potential progression in and completion of all requirements of the curriculum. Counseling may include referral to the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners (TBOTE) and the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). **A felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy certification examination or attain state licensure.**

**IMMUNIZATIONS AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SCREEN**

Upon acceptance to the program, the student is to submit required proof of current immunization status. It is recommended that the student have completed 2/3 of the Hepatitis B series prior to application to the program. Refer to page 12 of the **Application Packet** for a list of required immunizations.

Each student must undergo a physical health examination by a certified health professional **once admitted into the program**. Please note the health examination requires the student to read the “Performance Standards” beforehand, and both the student and the health professional must sign the form indicating the ability to perform as described and/or any limitations which may be present.

The responsibility for maintaining current health testing and immunizations, including costs, are the responsibility of the student.

**DRUG SCREEN**

Drug screens will occur randomly after acceptance into the program. The student will be responsible for any cost involved in a drug screen. Failure to comply with the drug screen or to pay for the drug screen will result in dismissal from the OTA Program.

**PERSONAL HEALTH INSURANCE**

Students are required to carry personal health insurance and show proof of insurance prior to enrollment in fieldwork education courses.

## **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Students enrolled in the OTA Program are required to have professional liability insurance. Students pay a predetermined fee to the Cashier's office each summer, and the College secures the limited liability insurance coverage. Students may wish to purchase additional liability insurance. **NOTE: The liability insurance that each student will have does not pay for injuries to the student – only for injuries to the patient. The student is completely responsible for personal medical costs incurred while at fieldwork sites. If a patient is injured by the student, the limited liability insurance may or may not cover all legal costs.**

*Navarro College is committed to providing a safe and nondiscriminatory employment and educational environment. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age veteran status, or other status protected by the law in its programs or activities or in the context of employment. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator at 3200 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Corsicana, TX 75110 or 1-800-NAVARRO.*

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Curriculum Requirements

Associate in Applied Science

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program provides the basic knowledge and skills required of an entry-level occupational therapy assistant into the workforce. Upon satisfactory completion of this curriculum, the student will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree and will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) to become a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA).

Major course requirements (OTHA courses) must be taken in sequential order at the advisement of the program director or program faculty. This means a student may not “jump ahead” in the curriculum and take advanced occupational therapy courses. A grade of “C” or better is required for satisfactory completion of all courses, including academic core courses. Refer to the **Navarro College Catalog** for the OTA Degree Plan.

<b>1. Prerequisite Courses</b>	<b>9 hours</b>
BIOL 2401 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
HPRS 1101 Introduction to Health Professions	1
OTHA 1201 Introduction to Occupational Therapy	2
<b>2. Core Curriculum/Related Requirements</b>	<b>13 hours</b>
HPRS 1206 Medical Terminology	2
PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth & Development	3
PHIL 1301 or PHIL 2306	3
MATH 1342 Statistics	3
<b>3. Major Course Requirements</b>	<b>44 hours</b>
OTHA 1305 Principles of Occupational Therapy	3
OTHA 1311 Occupational Performance Across the Lifespan	3
OTHA 1309 Human Structure and Function	3
OTHA 2201 Pathophysiology in OT	2
OTHA 1241 Occupational Performance Birth-Adolescence	2
OTHA 1315 Therapeutic Use of Occupations I	3
OTHA 2204 Neurology in OT	2
OTHA 2309 Mental Health in OT	3
OTHA 1161 Clinical in OTA I	1
OTHA 2331 Physical Function in OT	3
OTHA 2402 Therapeutic Use of Occupations II	4
OTHA 1162 Clinical in OTA II	1
OTHA 2235 Health Care Management in OT	2
OTHA 2366 Practicum in OTA I	3
OTHA 2367 Practicum in OTA II	3

**Total 60 Hours**

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Admission Process

Instructions for applying to the OTA Program

**Admission to Navarro College:**

The following documents need to be on file with Navarro College **PRIOR TO** application to the OTA Program:

1. College Application for Admission (online)
2. Official Transcripts
  - Beginning students: Official transcript of high school record
  - Transfer students: Official transcripts from other colleges and universities
3. Assessment Scores
  - Students must take a state-approved placement test and submit scores at the time of registration.
  - **The student will must be “complete” in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics to be eligible to apply to the OTA Program.** For questions, please contact the Admissions office.

**Application to the OTA program:**

The applicant will complete and submit an application portfolio no later than April 2, 2018 for acceptance into classes beginning in the summer II semester. The application portfolio **MUST** contain the following completed items:

1. Evidence of admission to Navarro College
2. OTA Application for Admission
3. Prerequisite Requirements Table
  - Attach copies of transcripts from other colleges/universities previously or currently enrolled - official copy NOT required
4. Copy of national background check
  - Go to [www.directscreening.com](http://www.directscreening.com)
  - Order National Background Check – National Search (\$16.95)

**Ranking points will be awarded for courses taken and completed by the end of the first 8 weeks of the spring 2018 semester. No ranking points will be awarded for courses taken after this time.**

Bring all documentation to the Health Professions Department located in the Bain Center on the Corsicana campus of Navarro College OR mail to the address listed on the application (Attn: OTA Program – Jeanette Krajca). Applications will not be accepted on other Navarro College campuses.

During the month of April, all complete portfolios will be reviewed. Points will be totaled for each applicant based on the *Applicant Entrance Criteria Worksheet*, which can be found in this packet. The highest total point applicant sets the mark for ranking. Applicants will be numbered in descending order based on point total. If two or more applicants tie for total points, core GPA will be used as a tiebreaker with the higher GPA ranked higher.

Students will be notified in May 2018 as to their status in the OTA Program. **A correct and current email is very important in the notification process.** The applicant must reply within the specified time to assure their position in the program. Students selected for admission into the OTA program will be required to attend a mandatory orientation in May 2018, and classes will begin July 2018.





List any professional licenses or certificates you may have (not including Driver's License):

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Have you been employed in the healthcare field: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, when: \_\_\_\_\_

Where (Location): \_\_\_\_\_

Job Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Write an essay introducing yourself to the faculty. Explain why you aspire to become an occupational therapy assistant and discuss professional goals that you have set for yourself. Identify your perceived strengths and weaknesses, as you seek to further your academic career. You may type the essay and attach to this application.

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**Please read carefully before initialing:**

I understand that the presence of an offense on my criminal background record may interfere or negate progression in the OTA program, and that I may not be eligible for OTA licensure in the state of Texas and/or certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

The program for which you are applying may require extended travel for clinical assignments in the early morning, late evening, and/or Saturdays. Are you prepared to meet this requirement?

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

I have read and understand the conditions for admission to the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program at Navarro College. I understand that failure to complete all steps of the application process will cause me to be ineligible for admission into the OTA Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

I understand I must first be accepted into Navarro College prior to submitting an application to the OTA program. I understand positions in the OTA program are limited and acceptance into Navarro College does not guarantee acceptance into the OTA program.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

I acknowledge ranking points will be awarded for courses taken and completed by the first 8 weeks of the Spring 2018 semester. No ranking points will be awarded for courses taken after this time.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

I understand that if accepted for admission to the program, I will be required to attend a mandatory orientation prior to the start of the summer II semester. Should I fail to attend the orientation session, I acknowledge that I will not be eligible to enroll in program courses and will forfeit my position in the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

I understand that it will be necessary to provide evidence of current medical health insurance while enrolled as a student in the OTA Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

I certify that the statements made by me on this application are true, complete, and correct. I also understand that I am responsible for submitting all requested transcripts and/or other documents for the completion of the application process.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)

**Please indicate the campus you would prefer to attend \*:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Corsicana campus**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Waxahachie campus**

\* Please note that campus preference cannot be guaranteed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Prerequisite Requirements Table

Course name and number	College Name	Semester & Year	Final Grade
<b>BIOL 2401</b> Anatomy & Physiology I			
<b>BIOL 2402</b> Anatomy & Physiology II			
<b>HPRS 1101</b> Introduction to Health Professions			
<b>OTHA 1201</b> Introduction to Occupational Therapy			

Complete the table above and submit with the application.

Please highlight all courses on transcripts where the courses were completed. Attach copies of transcripts to this form.

## IMMUNIZATIONS

### Navarro College Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

Please have your health care professional review your immunization record/status

Due to the nature of the learning experience and assignments, all OTA students must provide documentation of current immunization status for vaccine-preventable diseases & other testing. Immunizations and testing requirements are based upon recommendations and/or requirements from the following agencies and organizations: (1) fieldwork education sites; (2) Texas Department of Health; (3) Centers for Disease Control; (4) Texas Administrative Code Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 97, Subchapter B, Rule 97.64. The Texas Administrative Code mandates certain immunizations prior to patient contact.

**Students who fail to provide appropriate documentation will not be permitted to register for clinical/practicum fieldwork education and must withdraw from the program.**

**Document must include signature of health care provider and date(s).**

Appropriate documentation includes one of the following methods in most cases:

- Copy of official Immunization Record or health care provider immunization forms
- Copy of laboratory (serological) evidence of immunity (titers)

**Note: Some clinical agencies may require further documentation/testing or have additional requirements.**

#### **Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)**

- Evidence of two doses OR TITER (serological evidence of immunity). There must be 30 days or more between the two doses.

#### **Hepatitis B (Hep B)**

- Evidence of three doses or TITER (serological evidence of immunity). The series typically takes 6 months to complete.

#### **Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap)**

- Evidence of current Tdap vaccine (within 10 years) through anticipated completion of Level II fieldwork.

#### **Varicella**

- Evidence of two doses or TITER (serological evidence of immunity).

#### **Tuberculosis Skin Test (TB)**

- Required annually. If a chest x-ray is necessary, the student must document a negative chest x-ray within the past two (2) years.

EXCLUSIONS FROM COMPLIANCE are allowable on an individual basis for medical contraindications, reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, and active duty with the armed forces of the United States (Texas Administrative Code). Requests for exclusion will be handled on an individual basis and must be presented in a written request prior to the due date.

**NAVARRO COLLEGE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM  
Applicant Criteria Worksheet**

STUDENT:

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Application Complete                                 | YES | NO |
| 2. TSI Testing Complete (reading, writing, mathematics) | YES | NO |
| 3. Receipt of National Background Check                 | YES | NO |

**4. Healthcare Experience**

Yes = 5  
 No = 0  
 Multiply x .10 = \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Completion HPRS 1101**

Grade of "A" = 5  
 Grade of "B" = 2  
 Grade of "C" = 1  
 Grade <70 = 0  
 Multiply x .20 = \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Completion of Prior College Degree**

Master's = 5  
 Bachelor's = 4  
 Associate's = 3  
 No prior degree = 0  
 Multiply x .10 = \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Completion of BIOL 2401**

Grade of "A" = 5  
 Grade of "B" = 3  
 Grade of "C" = 1  
 Multiply x .20 = \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Application Essay**

Points = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maximum = 1 point

**10. Completion of BIOL 2402**

Grade of "A" = 5  
 Grade of "B" = 3  
 Grade of "C" = 1  
 Multiply x .20 = \_\_\_\_\_

**EXAMPLE**

**7. Completion of OTHA 1201**

Grade of "A" = 5  
 Grade of "B" = 3  
 Grade of "C" = 1  
 Multiply x .20 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Points**

Healthcare Experience	_____
Completion of Prior Degree	_____
Application Essay	_____
Completion of OTHA 1201	_____
Completion of HPRS 1101	_____
Completion of BIOL 2401	_____
Completion of BIOL 2402	_____

**TOTAL POINTS** /6.0