

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY



SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

APPLICATION PROCESS

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy



**Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University
School of Allied Health Sciences**

**Division of Occupational Therapy
Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT)**

APPLICATION PROCESS

Thank you for your interest in the Florida A&M University's School of Allied Health Sciences' Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) Program, accredited through the Accreditation Council of Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) www.acoteonline.org.

Applying to the MSOT Program is a **Two-Step** process in which applicants must:

1. **Applying to the Occupational Therapist Centralized Application Service (OTCAS).** Go to <https://otcas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>, Select the "Create New Account" button to begin your application or enter your username and password to log back into your current OTCAS application. There is a non-refundable OTCAS Application fee (the fee is based on a graduated scale that varies according to the number of institutions you designate to receive your OTCAS application.) Be sure to **read all OTCAS and program-specific instructions** in order to properly complete the application process, including the submission of transcripts, references, test scores, OT observation hours, essay, supplemental materials, and other important items the Florida A&M University MSOT Program requires.
 - Allow up to **4 weeks** for OTCAS to process and verify your application once your application, official transcripts, and fee are received. Applying early is a good way to avoid mishaps with missing information and deadlines OTCAS has in place.
 - You are encouraged to pay the OTCAS Application fee online by credit card (OTCAS accepts VISA and MASTERCARD credit cards ONLY.)
2. **Florida A&M University's School of Graduate Studies & Research** requires applicants have a Graduate Studies & Research Application completed and submitted online (<https://graduateschool.famu.edu/students/prospective.php>) with a \$30.00 non-refundable application fee. Only the application is required. All other documents, including the official transcript(s), are obtained through OTCAS.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MSOT PROGRAM

The procedures and requirements for admission into the University and the MSOT Program are outlined within this packet. The information given must be complete and submitted by **ALL** applicants. The Admission Committee will only consider candidates whose applications are "Complete," therefore it is your responsibility

to ensure all your materials have been received by OTCAS (www.otcas.org) **and** by the School of Graduate Studies & Research. Eligible candidates may be interviewed by the Admissions Committee. The MSOT Program selects applicants based on the completion of all requirements within the packet.

1. The candidate **MUST** meet the following **minimum** requirements identified by the University and send scores to OTCAS and the School of Graduate Studies & Research.
 - A. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university or an equivalent degree from an institution of recognized standing in another country. No particular undergraduate degree or concentration is required. Diversity of backgrounds is encouraged.
 - B. A **GPA of 3.0 or better** in the last 60 semester hours (or equivalent) of completed undergraduate coursework.
 - C. Completion of **ALL prerequisite** coursework by end of Spring of the admission year with a **GPA of 3.0** better.
 - D. An official **score of 300 or better on the combined Quantitative and Verbal sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and a GRE Analytical Writing score of 3.5 or better.**
 - Official scores should be submitted to OTCAS and the School of Graduate Studies & Research by **the application deadline** (Institution Code: **FAMU #5215**)
 - **The GRE is not required, but is recommended.**
 - Be sure that your GRE is not more than 5 years old
 - E. Students from countries where English is not the official and primary language must also take and receive a **score of at least 250 on the computer version or 500 on the written version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).**
 - Official scores should be submitted to OTCAS and the School of Graduate Studies & Research by the application deadline (Institution Code: **FAMU #5215**)
2. **Transcripts:** Applicants must submit OFFICIAL copies of all transcripts from ALL colleges and/or universities attended to OTCAS. Transcripts from foreign colleges and universities must be evaluated by an accepted international credentialing agency before being sent to OTCAS. **Course Description:** You may be contacted to submit a syllabus or course description to the Division if there is a question.
3. **Clinical Observation (Volunteer)/Work Hours:** Candidates for admission to graduate level coursework must provide documentation of **significant inquiry** into the practice of Occupational Therapy. Documentation must reflect **completion of a minimum of forty (40) hours** of clinical observation and/or work experience in at least **two (2)** Occupational Therapy settings (i.e. Hospital, Outpatient Clinic, Skilled Nursing Facility, or School System). Documented evidence must be submitted to OTCAS **signed by a licensed/registered occupational therapist.**
4. **Letters of Recommendation:** Applicants **MUST** submit **three (3) letters of recommendation** (using the Reference Information Form provided by OTCAS) from:
 - A. The first recommendation letter from **an instructor.**
 - B. The second recommendation letter from **a supervisor in a professional or work capacity.**
 - C. The third recommendation letter from **a health care or related profession.**

****Letters of Recommendation CANNOT be from any of the FAMU OT Faculty members. ****

PREREQUISITE COURSES

The following prerequisite courses must have been taken within the past 10 years, and the overall GPA for these courses must be a 3.0 or better. Indicate where and when these courses were taken, and the grades received for each course (the information is listed on OTCAS):

Course Title	Credits	Date Taken	Institution	Grade
Human Growth and Development/Lifespan	3			
Introduction to Psychology	3			
Abnormal Psychology or equivalent	3			
General Biology Lecture	3			
General Biology Lab	1			
College Physics I and lab (substitute: Kinesiology w/out Lab)	3 or 4			
Anatomy and Physiology I	3			
Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1			
Anatomy and Physiology II	3			
Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1			
Introduction to Statistics	3			
Health Research or equivalent	3			
Total Required Prerequisite Credits	30 or 31			

****The School of Graduate Studies & Research does NOT recognize Plus (+)/Minus (-) grade categorization at this time.** **Any course not completed will delay a definitive answer regarding admission to the MSOT Program. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the program.****

Visit our website: <https://ahealth.famu.edu/departments-and-centers/occupational-therapy/msot-program.php>

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Scholarships and Financial Funding

<https://www.famu.edu/students/scholarships/index.php> <https://graduateschool.famu.edu/funding-opportunities/index.php> <https://www.famu.edu/administration/foundation/index.php>

Financial Aid is a limited source in Graduate School. You must be admitted as a full-time student to receive funding. You may visit the School of Graduate Studies & Research website and the FAMU Foundation to search for funding options.

Assistantships

Applicants may seek work-study positions in Occupational Therapy **after** their first semester of graduate school. Students will be expected to complete 10 hours of work per week. Please contact Dr. Aurelia K. Alexander, Interim Director for the Division of Occupational Therapy (Aurelia.alexander@famu.edu) with the following information: name, address, email address, GPA, and a one-page statement of need for assistantship.