

OT OBSERVATION REQUIREMENT ALTERNATIVE

We recognize that many applicants will be unable to meet the 20 hour OT observation requirement. In lieu of this pre-requisite, applicants have two essay options.

Submit paper under OTCAS for Observation Hours.

OPTION 1: ESSAY BASED ON AOTA REVIEW

1. Visit the AOTA website <https://www.aota.org/Practice.aspx>
2. Review information on OT practice with Children and Youth, Aging Adults and Mental Health clients.
3. In your essay Define Occupational Therapy
4. Explain how occupational therapists provide valuable and unique services/interventions to these three populations (Young, Aging, persons with Mental Illness).
Specifically, what kinds of issues/challenges could an OT address in these populations (give examples)
What types of services could an OT address in these populations (give examples)
How does OT (and the services they offer) differ from other disciplines such as physical therapy.
5. Include title page, in-text citations, and references, (sources used beyond AOTA).
6. Min./Max: 400 - 700 words (excluding references.)

OPTION 2: ESSAY BASED ON 2 OT INTERVIEWS

1. Interview 2 registered occupational therapists, they must work with different patient/consumer populations.
2. Ask OTRs to define occupational therapy, describe their patient/client population, the issues/challenges they address and the services they provide.
3. In your essay compare and contrast their definitions of occupational therapy to definitions from other sources.
4. Using other resources, expand on how each occupational therapist provides valuable and unique services/interventions to their distinct patient/client populations (Young, Aging, persons with Mental Illness, etc.).
5. How does OT (and the services they offer) differ from other disciplines such as physical therapy.
5. Include title page, in-text citations, and references.
6. Min./Max: 400 - 700 words (excluding references.)