Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
Application and Information Packet

OTA Department

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Mailing Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forrest County Campus</td>
<td>PRCC Attn.: OTA program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Health Building # 6</td>
<td>5448 US Hwy 49 South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA Department, Room # 243</td>
<td>Hattiesburg, MS 39401</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTA CONTACT INFO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tim Pulver, M.Ed, OTR/L</td>
<td>OTA Program Director/Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t <a href="mailto:pulver@prcc.edu">pulver@prcc.edu</a></td>
<td>601-554-5541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Page, MS, OTR/L</td>
<td>OTA Clinical Coordinator/Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l <a href="mailto:page@prcc.edu">page@prcc.edu</a></td>
<td>601-554-5485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl Breland, OTA Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:cbreland@prcc.edu">cbreland@prcc.edu</a></td>
<td>601-554-5507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AH Building, Upstairs, Room # 243</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All statements in this publication are announcements, present policies and procedures only, and are subject to change at any time by proper authority and without notice.
Dear Prospective OTA Student:

We are excited about what our program for Occupational Therapy Assistants has to offer. We hope that you will be a part of it! We have enclosed our application packet.

Applications will be accepted through May 1st. Only course work that is transcripted prior to May 1st will be used to compute GPA for the purpose of determining interview status. It is the responsibility of the applicant to complete the Application for Admissions into PRCC and return the OTA program forms to the proper department no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 1st. Please email for confirmation that your application is complete, if you are not sure. You will receive a confirmation or a list of missing items. Please do not wait until the last minute, as it may prove difficult obtaining your information!

Please send your ACT scores (may be on your high school transcript), your high school transcript or GED transcript and college transcripts from every college you have attended to the PRCC Forrest County Center Admissions address listed on this page. E-script is the most efficient manner to submit your transcript(s) if this option is available at the educational institution you are making the request from.

Also included in this packet is an application to the Occupational Therapy Assistant program itself, which needs to be printed, completed and delivered to, the Forrest County Center address below, with Attn: OTA Department, under PRCC.

Thank you for your interest in our Occupational Therapist Assistant program. If we may be of any assistance to you during the application process, please do not hesitate to call me at 601-554-5541 or call our secretary, Cheryl Breland at 601-554-5507. You may also reach Cheryl via email at: cbreland@prcc.edu.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Pulver

Tim Pulver, MS, OTR/L
Occupational Therapy Program Director
Email: tpulver@prcc.edu

Mailing Addresses for Occupational Therapy Assistant Application Process

**PRCC Admissions Office:**
Pearl River Community College
Attn: Admissions
5448 US Hwy 49 South
Hattiesburg, MS  39401

**OTA Department:**
Pearl River Community College
Attn: OTA Department
5448 US Highway 49 South
Hattiesburg, MS  39401

If you would like more information about PRCC, please visit our website at the following address.

Access the current PRCC catalog at:  [http://www.prcc.edu](http://www.prcc.edu)

Access OTA Information at: [http://www.prcc.edu](http://www.prcc.edu) * Academics * Career/Technical * OTA Program
THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROFESSION:

Occupational therapy is a health promoting and rehabilitation profession that helps individuals manage and overcome obstacles to achieve maximal independence in daily life activities. Occupational therapy practitioners work with people of all ages who, because of physical, developmental, social, or emotional problems may benefit from specialized assistance to fulfill their valued life roles.

Examples of people who benefit from occupational therapy practitioners might have as a client:

- Person who has had a stroke, severe burn, spinal cord injury or amputation
- Person with arthritis, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s disease, or other serious illness
- Children with birth injuries, learning problems, sensory processing deficit or developmental disabilities.
- Person with mental health or behavioral problems, such as depression, schizophrenia, post-traumatic stress disorder
- Person with substance abuse problem or an eating disorder
- Person with an injury from sport, fall, or accident
- Person with a work-related injury
- Person at risk for losing their driver’s license due to visual or cognitive problems
- Person who are trying to maintain independent living after incarceration
- Person who are trying to manage the effects of chronic disease
- Person who is trying to stay in her own home while managing low vision
- Persons in a retirement community seeking to maintain their general health.

Occupational Therapy puts knowledge and experience to work in designing specific programs to help individuals regain their well-being and productive “occupations”. The meaning of occupation in this context is important. Rather than merely referring to a person’s employment, occupation refers to all the vital and meaningful daily activities that individuals engage in. The focus of occupational therapy is to increase quality of life with respect to each person’s individuality and stations in life.

Occupational Therapy practitioners are skilled professionals. The registered occupational therapist (OTR) enters the field with a master’s or doctoral degree. The certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA) enters the field with an associate’s or bachelor’s degree. A COTA works in cooperative relationship with the OTR who is responsible for periodic supervision.

Settings in which OT practitioners practice include hospitals, rehabilitation units, out-patient clinics, adult day care, pediatric clinics, long term psychiatric institutions, mental health centers, home health, private practice, school systems, nursing homes and other new emerging settings.

Occupational Therapy is a dynamic and fulfilling profession for those who desire to assist others in maximizing their quality of life.

OTA Program Statistics:  

https://secure.nbcot.org/data/schoolstats.aspx

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduating class</th>
<th>Number of Program Graduates</th>
<th>Number of students who started program for given graduation year</th>
<th>Percentage of students who graduated from program</th>
<th>Number of graduates taking NBCOT exam</th>
<th>Number of graduates who passed NBCOT exam within 1 year of graduation</th>
<th>Percentage of first-time test takers who passed the exam within 1 year of graduation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accreditation Status

The occupational therapy assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE – www.acoteonline.org) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at:

ACOTE, c/o Accreditation Department
American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)
4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200
Bethesda, MD 20814-3449
(301)-652-2682

ACOTE is the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. Accreditation has been a stated function of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA®) since 1923. AOTA’s Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) is recognized as the accrediting agency for occupational therapy education by both the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). ACOTE is also an active member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA). ACOTE currently accredits 347 occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant educational programs in the United States and its territories. You may obtain more information by logging onto: http://www.aota.org/education-careers/accreditation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program?  The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Pearl River Community College is a 2-year full-time program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, 4720 Montgomery Lane, suite 200, Bethesda, MA 20824-3449. We are located at the Forrest County Center on the second floor of the Allied Health Building. Our program can accommodate approximately 20 students per year.

How do I apply to the OTA program? Complete PRCC and OTA applications. Send a copy of your ACT score and official transcripts from all colleges you have attended as well as your high school transcript or GED. Please signify "Attention: OTA program" on OTA application. Other documents should be sent to Attn: Admissions at PRCC. Current PRCC students, we can obtain your PRCC transcript, no official transcript is required.

When does the program start and when is the deadline to apply? The deadline to apply to the program is 4 pm May 1st. Interviews for acceptance into the program will be held in May. The program starts in the fall semester.

How is admission into the OTA program determined? It is determined by a ranking system which takes into account academic history, ACT score, and an interview. The ACT and academic history are the primary determinants of which applicants will be invited for an interview to the program.

What prerequisites are necessary to enter the OTA program? It is strongly recommended that all incoming OTA students complete BIO 1514/1524 or BIO 2514/2524 (Anatomy and Physiology I & II or A&P for Allied Health I & II) prior to beginning semester 1. Please note that these courses can be taken during the summer following acceptance into the OTA program in May. They also count for the student’s required Math/Science academic elective. It is very advisable to complete as many academic requirements for your associate’s degree as possible prior to initiation of the OTA curriculum to allow for maximal focus upon OTA class work.

Does the OTA program require "observation hours" to apply? We do STRONGLY RECOMMEND that you observe at least 8 hours in one or more occupational therapy treatment setting(s). To find an observation site, you may call local hospitals, nursing homes, your local school, etc.
What does an Occupational Therapy Assistant do? Occupational therapy assistants (OTA) work under the direction of registered occupational therapists (OTR) to provide wellness-related or rehabilitative services to persons with mental, physical, emotional, or developmental impairments. The ultimate goal is to improve clients' quality of life by helping them overcome or compensate for limitations in performing daily life activities. Occupational Therapy practitioners work in health care, educational, social service and community settings with individuals of all ages.

Is there anything else I should know? To complete the OTA program, you must complete 16 weeks of fieldwork to graduate. You have 18 months to meet this requirement after your classroom work is completed. Once you have completed the program, you must pass a National Certification Examination (NBCOT) which is required to gain licensure in nearly all states, including Mississippi. If you have a felony conviction you may be prevented from taking the exam or participating in fieldwork and/or given a state licensure. This possible restriction is handled on a case-specific basis by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. Please note some fieldwork sites may require additional lab or drug tests which be the student’s responsibility. Faculty also reserves the right to deny Level II Fieldwork opportunities to students who have demonstrated repeated safety issues in lab or other fieldwork situations or if the faculty have concerns about student’s cognitive and/or emotional functioning, in which there would be reasonable concerns about patient safety in any fieldwork settings.

**IMPORTANT!!!** WHEN APPLYING TO THE OTA PROGRAM YOU (the applicant) MUST ENSURE THAT ALL COMPONENTS OF APPLICATION ARE RECEIVED BY THE OTA PROGRAM. DUE TO THE VOLUME OF APPLICATIONS COLLEGE WIDE, THE STUDENT MUST BE RESPONSIBLE TO CONFIRM APPLICATION IS RECEIVED BY THE OTA DEPARTMENT. PLEASE EMAIL OUR SECRETARY, CHERYL, TO RECEIVE AN EMAIL CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF COMPLETE APPLICATION. YOU WILL BE SENT A REPLY REGARDING YOUR APPLICATION STATUS.

EXPLANATION OF FEES

Students will be required to pay total tuition and fees at time of registration/validation unless financial aid has been granted and registered with the Financial Aid Office. Those who do not qualify for Financial Aid can set up a payment plan through NelNet Business Solutions at: [www.MyCollegePaymentPlan.com/pearlriver](http://www.MyCollegePaymentPlan.com/pearlriver)

Total tuition and fees must be paid in full prior to final examinations. Failure to complete payment by the final examination date will result in your inability to access your grade report. Students must pay any balance before being considered eligible for registration of the next semester.

OTA CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION

OTA Curriculum & Program requirements may be revised as necessary

1113 Foundations of Occupational Therapy (3) Pre-requisite: Admission to OTA Program
This intake course in an introduction to the field of occupational therapy including history, role orientation, professional organizational structure, legal and ethical implications, legislation, specific practice arenas, and the process of service delivery. (3 lecture hours per week)

1121 Medical Terminology (1)
This intake course is a study of medical language relating to body system including diseases, physical conditions, abbreviations, and symbols as applied to occupational therapy. Professional language for occupational therapy will be included.

1132 Therapeutic Anatomy (2)
This intake course will focus upon the structured of the human body and their respective functions. Emphasis will be placed upon the muscular, skeletal, and nervous systems.

1528 Pathology of Psychiatric Conditions (3)
This intake course provides a basic knowledge of psychiatric disorders encountered in occupation therapy practice. Emphasis is on etiology, prognosis, and management of various psychiatric conditions. The role and function of the OTA in the treatment process is also emphasized. (3 lecture hours per week)
1223 Pathology of Physical Disability Conditions (3)
This intake course provides a basic knowledge of selected diseases and conditions encountered in occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is on etiology, prognosis and management of various pathological physical conditions. The role and function of the OTA in the treatment process is also emphasized. (3 lecture hours per week)

1234 Pathology of Developmental Conditions (4)
This intake course provides a basic knowledge of selected diseases and conditions encountered in occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is on etiology, prognosis encountered in occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is on etiology, prognosis and management of various pathological developmental conditions. The student will compare and contrast normal and abnormal developmental patterns. The role and function of the OTA in the treatment process is also emphasized. (4 lecture hours per week)

1242 Pathology of Orthopedic Conditions (2)
This intake course provides a basic knowledge of selected orthopedic conditions encountered in occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is placed upon mechanisms of pathology and basic knowledge of selected orthopedic conditions encountered in occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is placed upon mechanisms of pathology and basic treatment approaches. The role and function of the occupational therapy assistant (OTA) in the treatment process is also emphasized. (2 lecture hours per week)

1315 Kinesiology. (5)
This intake course studies individual muscles and muscle function, biomechanical principles of joint motion, gait patterns, normal movement patterns and goniometry. (4 lecture hours and 2 lab hours per week)

1413 Therapeutic Media (3)
This manipulation course provides knowledge and use of tools, equipment and basic techniques of therapeutic media. Emphasis is given to analyzation and instruction of activities frequently used as occupational therapy media in multiple community and clinical settings. (2 lecture and 2 lab hours per week)

1423 Occupational Therapy Skills (3)
This manipulative course provides fundamental knowledge of practice skills used with patients; clients across the life span and with various diagnoses. Observation and documentation techniques will be introduced. (2 lecture and 2 lab hours per week)

1433 Occupational Therapy Skills II (3)
This manipulation course provides intermediate practice skills used with patients; clients access the life span and with various diagnosis. (2 lecture and 2 lab hours)

1513 Group Process (3)
This manipulative course introduces theory and research findings explaining group dynamics. The course teaches the student how to facilitate group effectiveness and the skills to apply that knowledge in practical situations. Methods and skills necessary to plan, write and lead an occupational therapy group will be taught. The course focuses on the importance of group activity intervention primarily with the psychiatric population. (2 lecture and 2 lab hours per week)

1913 Fieldwork I-A (3)
This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to observe and participate in clinical fieldwork. The student will also begin to develop professional work habits. Students are expected to function as participant observers in the assigned clinical setting. (1 lecture and 6 fieldwork hours per week)

2813 Healthcare Systems (3)
This intake course is designed to examine the context of service delivery for occupational therapy. Various models of health care, education, community, and social systems will be examined. (3 lecture hours per week.)

2443 Occupational Therapy Skills III (3) Prerequisites: OTA 1423
This manipulative course provides intermediate practice skills used with patients; clients across the life span and with various diagnoses. (2 lecture and 2 lab hours per week)
2714 **Concepts in Occupational Therapy** (4) Pre-requisite: OTA 1223, OTA 1423, OTA 1242
This manipulative course studies occupational therapy treatment techniques for a variety of diagnoses while incorporating theoretical concepts. (3 lecture and 2 lab hours per week)

2961 **Occupational Therapy Transitions I** (1)
This course provides information and guidance to the student for their transitional process of becoming an Occupational Therapy Practitioner. This course will encompass a variety of professional skills and concepts. In addition, vital life skills will be discussed. (1 lecture hour per week)

2935 **Fieldwork I-B (5) Pre-requisite: OTA 1423**
This application course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to apply their knowledge in clinical fieldwork. The student will also begin to develop professional work habits. Students are expected to function as participant observers in the clinical setting. (1 lecture and 12 clinical hours per week)

2946 **Fieldwork II – A (6) Pre-requisite: All OTA coursework**
This application course synthesizes previous didactic instruction and clinical experiences obtained in Fieldwork I. In Level 11A, the student may encounter a variety of populations in a traditional or non-traditional based setting. Student will assume increasing responsibilities under supervision as appropriate for the setting. (18 clinical hours per week for eight weeks)

2956 **Fieldwork II – B (5) Pre-requisite: All OTA coursework**
This application course synthesizes previous didactic instruction and clinical experiences obtained in Fieldwork I. In Level IIA, the student may encounter a variety of populations in a traditional or non-traditional based setting. Student will assume increasing responsibilities under supervision as appropriate for the setting. (18 clinical hours per week for 8 weeks)

2971 **Occupational Therapy Transitions II** (1)
This course provides final preparation to the student for the transitional process of becoming an Occupational Therapy Practitioner. (1 lecture hour per week)

**CURRICULUM FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM, ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE**

Prerequisites: (students may be admitted to program with scheduled completion of prerequisites, even if not completed), BIO 1514/1524 or 2514/2524 – Anatomy and Physiology I & II or A&P for Allied Health I & II; this prerequisite will count for the required Math Science academic elective.

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester 1(^{st}) Semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1113  Foundations of Occupational Therapy 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1213  Pathology of Psychiatric Conditions 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1121  Medical Terminology 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1423  Occupational Therapy Skills I 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1132  Therapeutic Anatomy 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1513  Group Process 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;academic&gt;**Social/Behavioral Elective (if not taken already) 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Semester 2(^{nd}) Semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1315  Kinesiology 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1413  Therapeutic Media 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1223  Pathology of Physical Disability Conditions. 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1234  Pathology of Developmental Conditions 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Semester 3(^{rd}) Semester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1913  Level I Fieldwork: Psychosocial/Specialty 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1433  Occupational Therapy Skills II 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 1242  Pathology of Orthopedic Conditions 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA 2813  Healthcare systems 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;academic&gt;**Written Communications Elective(if not taken already) 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOPHOMORE YEAR

Fall Semester 4th Semester
OTA 2443  Occupational Therapy Skills III  3
OTA 2714  Concepts in Occupational Therapy  3
OTA 2935  Level I Fieldwork: Physical Disabilities/
          Pediatrics/Specialty  5
OTA 2961  Occupational Therapy Transitions I  1
          <academic>**Oral Communications Elective (if not taken already)  3
          <academic>**Fine Arts/Humanities Elective (if not taken already)  3

Spring Semester 5th Semester
OTA 2946  Level II Fieldwork A  6 (8 wks)
OTA 2956  Level II Fieldwork B  6 (8 wks)
OTA 2971  Occupational Therapy Transitions II  1

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: Prerequisites (8) + other academics (12) + OTA courses (66) = 86
** It is strongly recommended, but not required, that the student take some of the elective courses prior to
entering the program in order to lessen the course load while in the program.

** All science classes must be passed with a grade of ‘C’ or higher and taken within the past 5 years

OTA ESTIMATED PROGRAM Fee SHEET
YEAR I – FRESHMAN

First Semester - Fall
Tuition $1,425.00*
OTA Program Fee 400.00
Technology Fee 25.00
Registration Fee 25.00
Books 650.00/estimated
Uniforms, Scrubs 2 sets 60.00/estimated
Health Examination includes:
          TB skin test 100.00/estimated
          RPR
          Drug Screening
          Hepatitis Vaccination (series of 3) 175.00/estimated
Liability Insurance 15.00
Name tags 10.00 each
Parking decal 20.00

Second Semester - Spring
Tuition $1,425.00
OTA Program Fee 400.00
Technology Fee 25.00
Registration Fee 25.00
Books 380.00/estimated

Third Semester - Summer
Tuition $ 115.00/ per semester hr.
OTA Program Fee 400.00
Technology Fee 25.00
Registration Fee 25.00
Books 275.00/estimated
YEAR II – SOPHOMORE

**Fourth Semester - Fall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$1,425.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA Program Fee</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Fee</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>400.00/estimated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking decal</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fifth Semester – Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$1,425.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTA Program Fee</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Fee</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTA Pins (optional)</td>
<td>16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcript fee</td>
<td>10.00 (per transcript)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Professional Organization Dues** (not required)

- Mississippi Occupational Therapy Association: 30.00 student 2-year membership
- American Occupational Therapy Association: 75.00/yearly

**Post Graduation**

- National Certification Examination: $540.00
- Mississippi Practice permit (Limited Permit): 200.00

**These fees and prices are subject to change without further notice**

*Out-of-State calculated from the PRCC 2015 Fiscal Year Fee Sheet*

- Spring Semester: Additional tuition fees $1,199.00
- Summer Semester: Additional tuition fees $800.00
- Fall Semester: Additional tuition fees $1199.00

**Approximated fees will vary according to facility, etc.**

**Level I and Level II Fieldwork associated fees are not included in these prices. The student will be responsible for their own finances during their fieldwork rotation(s).**
GENERAL ADMISSIONS FORM:

Criteria:
- Applicant must be **18 years of age**.
- Applicant must have ACT score of: **18 or above**
  *Applicants with an ACT score below 18 do NOT meet the required criteria and will not be considered for OTA interviews or admission*

- Transcripts may be sent using e-Script, if the institution uses this method. High Schools may not.

**Step 1:** ______ (yes*) ______ (no) Are you currently enrolled at Pearl River Community College?
  
  **If yes***: ________________________ (PRCC ID #) and **SKIP** to Step 6.  **If no:** Proceed to Step 2

**Step 2:** Have you attended PRCC in the last 5 years?
  
  _________ (yes*) ________________ (no)  **If no,** proceed to Step 3.

  **If yes***: ________________________ (Dates attended) and **SKIP** to Step 5.  **If no:** Proceed to Step 3

**Step 3:** If you have **never** attended Pearl River Community College, or you **have not attended within the last 5 years**, you will need to send or bring the following documents to the Admissions Office:
- High school transcripts with GPA calculated on a 4.0 scale or GED scores
- ACT score(s) (make sure to provide us with the highest score)
- Official transcripts from all colleges or universities you have ever attended

**Step 4:** ______ (yes*) ______ (no) Have you attended any other Colleges or Universities **other than or since your enrollment at PRCC**?
  
  **If yes***: You will need to send all transcripts of other Colleges or Universities attended to PRCC.  
  **Transcripts may be sent via e-Script.** Transcript Release included in this packet.
  
  **Proceed to Step 5.**

  **If no:** Proceed to Step 5.

**Step 5:** All applicants must complete a Pearl River Community College Application online @ prcc.edu.

**Step 6:** All applicants must provide Proof of Residency as required (Info included in this packet).

**Step 7:** Program Specific
Thank you for your interest in our Allied Health Program and Pearl River Community College. We look forward to assisting you with reaching your goal and achieving success.

**PRCC Admissions Office:**
Pearl River Community College  
Attn: Admissions  
5448 US Hwy 49 South  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

**OTA Department:**
Pearl River Community College  
Attn: OTA Department  
5448 US Highway 49 South  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

**Or you may hand deliver the documents to:**
Pearl River Community College  
Admissions Office  
Allied Health Building, # 6

Pearl River Community College  
Allied Health Building, # 6  
**Room 243, OTA Department**  
Cheryl Breland, Secretary
SELECTION PROCESS

NOTE: Priority in student admission will be given to (1) in-district candidates, (2) out-of-district candidates and (3) out-of-state candidates.

- Only completed applicant files will be considered for a possible Interview.
  - ACT Score has to be a minimum of 18
  - Completed file (PRCC Application, OTA Application, high school & college transcripts, ACT score)
  - All applicants will be sent a confirmation e-mail once their application file is complete.

- Applicants are ranked according to most recent GPA and ACT score. Highest ranking applicants will be considered for an interview. **A maximum of up to 60 applicants** will be invited for an Interview (not all applicants will receive an interview.)

- Interview candidates will be ranked according to ACT (25%), GPA (25%) and Interview score (50%). Interviews will be conducted by a selection committee and candidates need to be prepared for a professional interview setting.

- Class candidates will be ranked according to most recent GPA and ACT score. Highest ranking applicants will be considered for an interview.

- **OTA class size is limited to 20 individuals.**

Candidate requirements that will be discussed during the Mandatory OTA Orientation Session:

1. For those candidates offered a position in the upcoming class, specific requirements and deadlines will have to be met or you may lose your position in the class and the open position may then be filled with an Alternate. Students are financially responsible for the following requirements and most of the requirements must be met prior to classes starting in January.

2. **Due dates, requirements and deadlines will be given and discussed during the OTA Orientation Session.**
   **Do not begin to obtain any of the following until after the Orientation Session.**
   - A. TB Skin Test (Tuberculin Mantoux/ Cleared chest x-ray if skin test is positive)
   - B. Hepatitis B immunization series or declination waiver
   - C. Completed Primary DPT Series (Form #121- Certificate of Immunization Compliance)
   - D. Tetanus shot within the past 10 years
   - E. E. CPR Certification- C (Healthcare Provider)
   - F. Physical Exam
   - G. 10 panel Drug Screen with negative results from **N.R. Burger School and Community Clinic, 180 WSF Tatum Dr. Ext., Hattiesburg, MS 39401, PH: 601-450-0805, M-F 7:30 am – 4 pm**. This clinic is a relatively low cost clinic and ensures uniformity in drug testing procedures. To ensure the lower cost, please tell them you are a PRCC student for the OTA program.
   - H. Cleared Criminal Background Check
   - I. Proof of Health Insurance
   - J. Current Auto Insurance
   - K. Current Driver’s License
   - L. MSOTA membership
   - M. Flu shot each flu season
   - N. Additional requirements may need to be met at the request of the various clinical sites.

3. Depending on the number of qualified applicants, some students may be placed on an Alternate list to possibly fill any vacancies. This Alternate list will void on or near the late registration date.

4. **AH Program notes.**
   - Occupational Therapy Assistant students may be randomly selected for a drug screening at any time during the course of the program, and student will be responsible for all associated costs.
   - Occupational Therapy Assistant students may be exposed to various blood borne pathogens, infectious diseases, blood and bodily fluids. Universal and Standard Precautions as well as PPE (personal protective equipment) will be covered during the didactic and Clinical portions of the OTA Program.
   - Health Care Criminal History Background Check: Candidates for Allied Health/Nursing Programs may be required to submit fingerprints for a Criminal Background Check in accordance with Mississippi State Law. This process may be required by Clinical Sites. If any candidate is found to have a disqualifying
event on their background check, they may be prohibited from attending clinical rotations and therefore will not meet clinical criteria and will not be allowed to continue in the Program.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. It is strongly recommended but not strictly required that **BIO 1514/1524 or 2514/2524 (Anatomy and Physiology I & II or A & P for Allied Health I & II)** be complete prior to starting the OTA program curriculum. It will benefit the student greatly to complete all academic course requirements prior to starting OTA coursework. It is required that all students complete one of the above courses prior their first OTA semester and complete the second A & P course before their second OTA semester.

2. All OTA courses (courses with the OTA prefix) must be passed with a "C" average or better in order to continue to the next OTA course in the curriculum sequence.

3. Failure to maintain a "C" average or better in each OTA course following admission to the program will result in dismissal. Students may reapply to the program but are not guaranteed re-admission.

4. Liability insurance must be obtained before initiating Level I Fieldwork and must be maintained until completion of program. Liability insurance can be obtained through school services at a group rate of approximately **$15.00** per year during student enrollment in the OTA program.

5. A health examination, including TB test, and drug screening must be obtained within three (3) months of beginning Level I Fieldwork. A student accepting the Hepatitis B vaccination series should also expect an additional expense. An acceptance or declination of the Hepatitis B vaccination form must also be completed before beginning Level I Fieldwork.

6. The student will be required to complete two eight-week level II fieldwork clinical rotations. These clinical rotations may be assigned with contracted facilities within or outside the state of Mississippi to allow the student the most appropriate educational experience.

**Attention All Applicants:**

All students will be expected to complete at least one Level II fieldwork rotation out of state or at significant distance from the program site. Exceptions **may** be made for child/children obligations. If you have not heard from us within 2 weeks of submitting your program application, please contact us via e-mail for application confirmation status. You may need to also contact us sometime in late **March** early **April** as the deadline to apply is **May 1**. Please contact: Cheryl Breland, OTA Secretary, at cbreland@prcc.edu

**Financial Aid Assistance:**

Forrest County: **601-554-5502** Poplarville: **601-403-1211**

---

**PRCC Offers equal education and employment opportunities. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, veteran status, or disability. For inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies or to request accommodations, special assistance, or alternate format publication please contact Tonia Moody, ADA/Civil Rights Coordinator, at P.O. Box 5118, Poplarville, MS 39470 or 601-403-1060.**

If you have a disability that qualifies under the **Americans with Disabilities Act** and you require special assistance or accommodations, you should contact the designated coordinator for your campus for information on appropriate guidelines and procedures: Forrest County Center, Beth Strahan at 601-554-5530 or bstrahan@prcc.edu
REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION

To be considered for admission to the OTA Program, the following information must be in the OTA office at the Forrest County Center of PRCC in completed form by May 1, at 4:00 p.m. Applications will be accepted year around.

1. Transcript of all college and high school course work. Originals will be housed in Admissions.

2. **ACT score(s) of 18.** (Applicants who have taken the ACT prior to October 1989 will have their results converted to the Enhanced ACT scores. Example: a score of 15 prior to October 1989 converts to an 18 on the Enhanced ACT scoring scale.)

ADMISSIONS

Admission to the OTA program is competitively based on ACT scores and GPA. Applicants are “ranked” according to an Admission Point Scale. The OTA faculty will compile a list of candidates according to “rank” on the point scale for a personal interview. Only highest ranking applicants are interviewed (up to a maximum of 60 individuals). Interview points, in addition to total ranking points, will determine the applicant’s admission into the OTA program. Points granted at the interview will be largely based on: (1) communication skills, including verbal, nonverbal and writing; (2) general awareness of the field of Occupational Therapy and the role of the OTA; (3) Other positive personal characteristics including a history of community service.

Applications will be taken until May 1st, with interviews being held in May. All applicants should be notified in writing, by June 1st of their admission status unless otherwise stated or noted.

PROOF OF MISSISSIPPI RESIDENCY

If the following applies to you, we will need you to provide Proof of Mississippi Residency. See Page 17.

- If you attended a high school outside of the state of Mississippi
- If you have an out of Mississippi state GED
- If you attended any college outside of Mississippi
- If you were homeschooled from a state that is out-of-state

If any of the above apply to you, then you must submit the following items with your application:

**Student 21 years or older or Married**

1. A valid Mississippi Driver License
2. Student’s valid MS Driver’s License or ID

**Students under 21 years old**

1. Parent’s valid Mississippi Driver License
2. Student’s valid MS Driver’s License or ID

Plus, every student must submit one of the following items:

1. Mississippi Automobile Registration
2. Mortgage paperwork or lease agreement
3. Utility bill (electric, telephone, water)
4. MS Income Tax Return
5. Homestead exemption (if home owner)
6. MS County voter registration card
7. Marriage License, if under age 21
Occidental Therapy Assistant Program Student Admission Application
5448 US Hwy 49 South
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
601-554-5507

TODAY’S DATE: _____________________________ SOC SEC #: ________________ PRCC ID: ________________

NAME ____________________________________________________________
(LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE) (OTHER NAME USED)

ADDRESS __________________________________________________________
(MAILING ADDRESS) (CITY) (STATE) (ZIP)

DATE OF BIRTH ____________________ (mm/dd/yyyy) CELL PH: ____________ OTHER PH: ___________

E-MAIL ADDRESS ____________________________________________________ (OTA WILL USE THIS TO CONTACT YOU)

PARENT’S FULL NAME ______________________________________________ OCCUPATION ______________________

STATE OF LEGAL RESIDENCY: ________________________________

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED__________________________________________ GRADUATION DATE ________________

HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS: __________________________________________

DO YOU HAVE PREVIOUS COLLEGE CREDIT? YES / NO NAME OF COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED AND DATES:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

HAVE YOU TAKEN AN A.C.T.? ♦ YES ♦NO IF YES, HAVE YOU SENT YOUR SCORES TO PRCC? ________________

AT PRCC, HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY ENROLLED IN ACADEMIC, TECHNICAL OR A CAREER PROGRAM? ♦ YES ♦NO

IF YES, WHICH CAMPUS/CENTER: CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO YOU. POPLARVILLE CAMPUS ♦ FORREST COUNTY CENTER ♦, WAVELAND CENTER ♦, OTHER/ONLINE ♦

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. FURTHER, I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO GIVE ACCURATE, TRUTHFUL AND COMPLETE INFORMATION MAY INVALIDATE MY APPLICATION AND RESULT IN DENIAL OF ADMISSION TO THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: ______________________________________ DATE: ________________

AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL PROCEDURES:
IN THE EVENT OF SERIOUS ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO CONTACT PARENTS OR GUARDIAN. IF THE STUDENT IS UNDER AGE 21, IN THE EVENT THAT DELAY IN MEDICAL AND SURGICAL TREATMENT MIGHT BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OF THE STUDENT, AUTHORIZATION FOR CONSULTATION AND TREATMENT IS REQUESTED. PERMISSION IS HEREBY GRANTED TO PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO REFER THIS STUDENT FOR NECESSARY MEDICAL TREATMENT.

DATE SIGNATURE OF STUDENT (IF OVER 21) __________________________________________________________

DATE OF SIG OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN (IF UNDER AGE 21) ____________________________________________

EMERGENCY CONTACT ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. ______________________________________________________

Pearl River Community College offers equal education and employment opportunities. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, veteran status, or disability. For inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies or to request accommodations, special assistance, or alternate format publication please contact Tonia Moody, ADA/Civil Rights Coordinator, at P.O. Box 5118 Poplarville, MS 39470 or (601) 403-1060
OTA Program Applicant, __________________________________________, is applying to the Occupational Therapist Assistant program at Pearl River Community College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Observation of the OT/OTA in current practice is strongly encouraged, as a learning tool for the applicant during his or her application process. This will ensure that the applicant has an understanding of the various roles within Occupational Therapy and has a general idea of the OT practice itself.

Facility Name: ________________________________________________

Facility Address: ______________________________________________

Facility Phone: ________________________________________________

Hours Observed: _______ Date Observed: _________________________

Applicant Signature: ___________________________________________

OT or OTA Signature ___________________________________________

Please note that the Clinical Therapist **MUST** sign this form in order for the credit to be given for the hours observed. This form will be **Invalid** unless signed by facility therapist. There is no set amount of hours set to observe, any hours that you observe will be accepted. Please note that this is not a requirement, but it is strongly suggested that you observe, if possible.

*Form may be duplicated*

*Revised: September 2015*
HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM

Please complete this form and send to the High school and or Colleges you have attended.

Notice to High School or College: Please send an official Transcript for the following
Pearl River Community College Occupational Therapy Assistant Program applicant.
Please send via e-Script, if this option is available.

Name: ______________________________________________________  ______________________________________
(Last) (Maiden) (First) (Middle)

Date of Attendance/Graduation: _________________________________

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _________________________________

I am requesting the records department of _________________________________
(Name of High School/College you attended)

To release my transcript to:

Pearl River Community College
Attn: Admissions/OTA Program
5448 US Hwy 49 South
Hattiesburg, MS  39401

Signature: ____________________________________________  Date: ________________

** For any High school transcript, it must include cumulative GPA based on a four-point
scale. Please be sure to request that your GPA is calculated and documented on your high
school transcript.

NOTICE TO APPLICANT:  Please be sure to send this form to the High School or College that you need the
school transcript request from. Do not send this form back to the PRCC. If you do, and we do not receive
your transcript(s), by the October 1st deadline, your file may be considered incomplete. It is your responsibility
to send this form to the necessary school(s).

This form may be duplicated if necessary.
Applicant’s Check List for Application to the
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program

This form is designed to assist you in insureing you have all documentation submitted for your program application. You may keep this form for your records if you wish.

**Pages you must print:** You may print the entire OTA App. packet, but if you need to spare printer ink, you must print: Page 14, the OTA Program Application.

Optional printing pages are: Page 15, the Observation form, please print if you intend to observe at a facility, Page 16, if you need to mail to your high school or your college(s) for a transcript request, if this is not done online or in person. You may print this current page, Page 17, so you can keep track of the documents that you sent and ensure that your application is complete by the May 1, deadline.

****THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE OTA DEPARTMENT NO LATER THAN 4 P.M., MAY 1. DOCUMENTS MAY BE HAND DELIVERED TO ROOM 244 OF THE ALLIED HEALTH BUILDING, LOCATED AT PRCC, HATTIESBURG ***

***ALL OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE FORREST COUNTY ADMISSIONS DEPARTMENT. ****

1. Completed PRCC online version general collage application
2. ACT scores (a copy of your original score will be acceptable. If taken after high school, please make sure we have the correct score on file for you.)
3. High School Transcript Date requested/sent: __________________________
4. College Transcript(s) Date requested/sent: __________________________

College Transcripts:  E-script Date: __________________________ US Mail Date: __________(check one that applies)

These items must be received, from the applicant, in order to complete your program application. If you are a current PRCC student, please let us know, as some of your info may be on file in admissions and we will be able to obtain a copy of it for your OTA program application. If the admissions department does not have this info, you will be required to submit it as part of your OTA program application. All original/official college & high sch. transcripts will be located in the Admissions department on the Forrest County or Poplarville campus.

If you have not attended Pearl River Community College in the last THREE years, you may be required to submit new documentation, including application, transcripts and ACT scores, as they may no longer be on file and could have been destroyed. Please inquire if this applies to you. Thank You, OTA Program Dept.

You may send the following documents to PRCC: Attention Occupational Therapy Assistant Department or hand-deliver them in a sealed envelope with your name, date and Attention: OTA Program Department on the envelope. Please follow up via e-mail with cbreland@prcc.edu to verify our receipt of required documents.

OTA Application (located in this packet, page 14)
e-mail verification of my correct e-mail address
e-mail verification of Application received by the OTA program
e-mail confirmation of complete file for OTA program
Observation Form (not required, but recommended, if possible)