IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ANDERSON
SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

<u>OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT (OTA)</u>
2026 Program Guide and Information Packet

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Visit us!

https://www.ivytech.edu/programs/all-academic-programs/school-of-health-sciences/occupational-therapy-assistant/

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Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Policy:

Ivy Tech Community College provides open admission, degree credit programs, courses and community service offerings, and student support services for all protected classes – race, religion, color, sex, ethnicity, national origin, physical and mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran or military status. The College also provides opportunities for students on a non-discriminatory opportunity basis. Persons who believe they may have been discriminated against should contact the campus affirmative action officer, Human Resources Administrator, or Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana is an accredited, equal opportunity/ affirmative action institution.

For more information review the Student Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Non-discrimination Policy and Procedures at:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_tEgc3NcKFTkromsQBpvOHFzzWZiJgRHhrU1nwsAR4g/preview

Booklet Disclaimer:

This 2026 Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program Guide and Admission Packet is intended to supply accurate information to the reader. The embedded links take the reader directly to Ivy Tech Community College policies for further clarification. The College reserves the right to change the Program and course requirements; however, every effort will be made to inform students of any program changes. This handbook and its provisions are not in any way a contract.

Academic Calendar:

Ivy Tech is on a semester schedule. Fall and spring semesters last 16 weeks, but summer terms are of varying lengths, and certain dates on the college calendar may vary by campus. Specific start and end dates for the fall, spring and summer semesters are listed on this following link: https://www.ivytech.edu/classes/academic-calendar/

Occupational Therapy Assistant Program: Letter from the Chair

Dear Prospective OTA Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program at Ivy Tech-Anderson! The OTA Program is a limited enrollment program, which means only a limited number of students are accepted into the program each year. We currently can accept 12 students a year into the program, which begins in the Fall semester (August) 2026. The OTA Program is approximately 2 years in length including a semester for completing five pre-requisites courses that must be completed prior to entering the program (by the end of Spring of 2026 if applying for the Fall 2026 start).

The OTA program is a full-time, primarily daytime program, with one summer semester between years one and two. Students must prepare to be in classes, labs, and/or fieldwork Monday through Friday, depending upon the semester. Graduates are awarded an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree and are eligible to take their licensing exam for certification upon successful program completion. *NOTE: This Ivy Tech associate-degree-level occupational therapy assistant program has applied for accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its web address is www.acoteonline.org. The program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a pre-accreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT®). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will become a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA).*

Please review the information contained in this 2026 Program Guide and Information Packet information carefully as it outlines the application process for the Fall 2026 OTA program, including required pre-req courses and deadline dates for applying to the program online. Dates and times for information sessions are provided on the program website: https://www.ivytech.edu/programs/all-academic-programs/school-of-health-sciences/occupational-therapy-assistant/.

Applying: The OTA program application will open on March 15th 2026 and close on May 15th, 2026. No late applications will be accepted. To apply, five pre-requisite courses (if taken through Ivy Tech) must be completed no later than Spring 2026 to apply for the fall 2026 cohort. *NOTE: If planning to use transfer credits from another college, pre-requisites must be completed by December 2025 to apply.* Applicants applying for admission must also attend a mandatory OTA Program Info Session (see program website for dates offered) and complete the TEAS exam by April 30, 2026 (only completed on campus at the testing centers, and students are responsible for paying fees associated with this exam). Applicants must score proficient or higher in order to be eligible to apply. See link that provides information regarding the TEAS test: https://atitesting.com/teas. Please review entire Application details inside and reach out with questions!

Sincerely, **Dr. Mary Hofmeister, OTD, OTR/L, PMP**
Dr. Mary Hofmeister, OTD, OTR/L, PMP. OTA Program Chair
E: mhofmeister2@ivytech.edu; P: 1-765-643-7133 ext. 2369

BLOODBORNE AND AIRBORNE
PATHOGENS EXPOSURE PROTOCOL
Effective August 15, 2017

What Are Bloodborne Pathogens?

Bloodborne pathogens are infectious microorganisms in human blood that can cause disease. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B (HBV), hepatitis C (HCV), and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Exposures may occur through needle sticks or cuts from other sharp instruments contaminated with an infected patient's blood or through contact of the eye, nose, mouth, or skin with a patient's blood.

What to Do When a Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Occurs: Protocol

If you experience a contaminated needle stick or sharps cut, or are exposed to the blood or other body fluid of a patient during your work, immediately follow these steps:

- Wash needle sticks and cuts with soap and water
- Flush splashes to the nose, mouth, or skin with water
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile irrigates
- Report the incident to your Ivy Tech instructor and clinical supervisor
- Immediately seek medical evaluation and treatment by a medical professional. Do not wait.
- Source testing of blood to determine infectious disease status is preferred whenever possible where consent has been obtained. When exposure occurs at a fieldwork/clinical facility, you should follow that facility's policy as they will handle notice and consent with the source. When an exposure occurs at an Ivy Tech facility, the instructor should advise the source following an incident and ask if the source will consent to testing at a medical provider of his or her choosing.
- Review these suggested resources:

  ➢ *Emergency Needle Stick Information (CDC):*
  http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/emergned1.html

  ➢ Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Resources:
  http://nccc.ucsf.edu/clinical-resources/pep-resources/pep-quick-guide/

- **For clean needle/sharp sticks**, wash the affected area with soap and water. You do not need to seek medical care unless there is a visible injury, which requires attention. Report the incident to your Ivy Tech instructor and clinical supervisor.

Where to Seek Treatment:

You may seek treatment at the clinical site (if equipped and willing), an urgent care facility, emergency room, or physician office for assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. It remains your responsibility to obtain the initial appointment, and any follow-ups ordered with a health care provider of your choice. <u>If an incident occurs in an Ivy Tech classroom, lab/facility, an instructor cannot provide evaluation, a diagnostic test, or treatment beyond first aid and emergency assistance.</u>

- Time of day and facility capability may impact where you seek treatment. The key is to know your options before an accident, and then, obtain an evaluation and treatment as soon as possible from a health care provider of your choosing.

- Report the incident to your Ivy Tech instructor and submit a *Student Accident Report* promptly, but no later than 24 hours. The accident report is a web-form completed via MyIvy > Student > Student Resources > Policies & Procedures or at www.ivytech.edu/accident.

What Happens Next?

A health care provider will provide an evaluation, diagnostic testing (if necessary), and treatment (if necessary). Diagnostic testing may include testing the source of the exposure, with his or her consent, and baseline testing of the exposed person. Testing for HIV, HBV, and HCV is typically included, along with other blood tests or diagnostic examinations the health care provider recommends. If post-exposure to prophylaxis (PEP) is indicated, efficacy is time sensitive. The first dose should be given as soon as possible. Optimal time to start PEP is within hours of exposure, rather than days[1].

Will I need follow up testing? This direction will come from the health care provider. Follow-up will depend upon the testing outcome of the source person. It is important for your health that you understand and comply with the provider's follow-up testing and recommendations.

Clinician Consultation Center – http://nccc.ucsf.edu/clinical-resources/pep-resources/pep-quick-guide/

Additional Resources:

1. *How to Protect Yourself from Needle Stick Injuries* (CDC):http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2000-135/pdfs/2000 135.pdf

2. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health: http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2007-157/default.html

3. General Guidance on OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens Standard (OSHA): https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/bloodbornepathogens/gen_guidance.html

What are Airborne Pathogens?
Airborne Pathogens are infectious microorganisms which can be transmitted through the air and could cause disease. The discharged microbes may remain suspended in the air on dust particles, respiratory and water droplets. Tuberculosis (TB) is an airborne pathogen of concern. TB is spread through the air from one person to another. The bacteria are put into the air when a person with TB disease of the lungs or through coughs, sneezes, speaks, or sings. People nearby may breathe in these bacteria and become infected.

What to do When an Airborne Pathogen Exposure Occurs: Protocol

If you think you have been exposed to an airborne pathogen without appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), you should immediately contact your Ivy Tech instructor and clinical supervisor and seek testing at an urgent care clinic, emergency room, or physician office. Be prepared to tell the doctor or nurse when you were exposed to the airborne pathogen, what type of exposure you think occurred (contaminated air with or without respiratory tract droplets, mucus, or blood), and if the source patient of the contamination is being tested for airborne pathogens.

> **The following information will introduce you to the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program guide and application process.**

Accrediting Organizations:

The College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission:
The Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle St., Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604
800-621-7440 or 312-263-0456
https://www.hlcommission.org/

This Ivy Tech associate-degree-level occupational therapy assistant program has applied for accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and is seeking accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®). An Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) is awarded upon successful completion of the required 63 credits including the successful completion (i.e., "PASS" grade) of all required fieldwork. For graduates to sit for any state certification/licensure examinations, the program must be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®):

Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA).
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814.
(301) 652-AOTA
www.acoteonline.org

NOTE: This program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a pre-accreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT®). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will become a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA).

The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT®) programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) under their Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs. The National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT®) Inc. is the national certification body for occupational therapy professionals in the United States.

*Currently, all 50 states plus Guam, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia require NBCOT initial certification for occupational therapy state regulation (e.g., licensing).

National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT®)
1 Bank Street, Suite 300, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
(301) 990-7979
info@nbcot.org

OTA Program Overview: Our Vision, Mission, Purpose, and Goal:

Our VISION: The Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program at Ivy Tech will be a leader in quality occupational therapy assistant education by providing competent occupational therapy assistant graduates who will provide valuable healthcare rehabilitative services to citizens in Indiana.

Our MISSION: The goal of the OTA Program at Ivy Tech Community College is to advance the mission of the College by providing a quality education program which will graduate competent occupational therapy practitioners who through clinical and leadership excellence will meet the occupational health needs of the diverse communities we serve.

Our PURPOSE: The purpose of the OTA program at Ivy Tech Community College is to act as an extension of the College mission by providing students with a quality education, which enables them to become competent, professional, lifelong learners able to serve the ever-changing needs of their profession as occupational therapy assistants throughout their careers.

Our GOAL: The purpose of the OTA program is to provide education resulting in an Associate of Applied Science degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT®) exam, which is required to obtain state licensure as a licensed/certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA) if all other requirements are met.

What is an Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)?

Occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) work as part of a team to provide occupational therapy services under the direction and supervision of the occupational therapist (OT). Occupational therapists (OTs) are health care professionals who evaluate clients/patients to develop an individualized, holistic treatment plan that utilizes everyday meaningful functional activities ("*occupations*") and evidence-based, research-supported interventions that promote, restore, and rehabilitate function to help clients reach goals. OTAs implement selected components of patient/client interventions ("treatment"), obtain data related to the interventions provided, and make modifications in selected interventions either to progress the patient/client as directed by the occupational therapist or to ensure patient/client safety and comfort. OTAs assist the occupational therapist in the treatment of individuals of all ages, ranging from prenatal to the frail elderly. OTAs help those with a wide range of medical conditions and/or impairments (i.e., disabilities, injuries, developmental disorders, mental and behavioral health conditions, cognitive impairment, other health-related conditions, etc.) that limit their abilities to perform *"occupations"* in their daily lives. The supervising occupational therapist (OT) is responsible for the services provided by the OTA. OT/OTAs provide care for people in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practice, outpatient clinics, home health agencies, schools, sports and fitness facilities, work settings, nursing homes, and beyond. OTAs must graduate from a school accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®), and licensure/certification is required where an OTA works (i.e., currently required in all 50 states and other locations). The job outlook looks promising, as the demand for OTAs is projected to increase by 21 percent from now until 2033, which is much faster than the national average for all occupations. Source:Occupational Therapy Assistants and Aides : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

OTA Program Admission Process: Deadline and Requirements:

Twelve (12) students will be accepted annually into the OTA program. The program will begin in the fall semester of each year, starting in August of 2026. Applicants will be selected for the program based upon a points system described in this handbook.

Online Application Process:

To be considered for admission into one of these limited enrollment programs, an application must be submitted through the application window. No paper or emailed applications will be accepted. **The application process is completed online. The application cycle will open March 15, 2026, and close May 15, 2026. The deadline for completing the TEAS is April 30, 2026.** For further information please go to this link: https://www.ivytech.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/

Applicants must complete _ALL of the following requirements_ to APPLY and be considered for admission into the OTA program. Incomplete applications will not be considered for selection. It is important that you check the occupational therapy assistant webpage on a regular basis for updated information: https://www.ivytech.edu/programs/all-academic-programs/school-of-health-sciences/occupational-therapy-assistant/.

STEP 1: Apply at Ivy Tech.

- General College Admission Requirements: Achieve admission into the College by meeting Ivy Tech Community College admission requirements. Contact the Office of Student Affairs for an enrollment packet or apply online at http://www.ivytech.edu/apply-now/. All official college transcripts can be sent electronically: transcripts@ivytech.edu or mailed:

  Ivy Tech Community College
  Attn: Transcript Processing Center
  9301 E. 59th Street. Indianapolis, IN. 46216

NOTE: Admission to Ivy Tech does not guarantee admission to the OTA program. Applicants must complete requirements for general admission to the college including the completion of all required academic skills classes. Submit official transcript(s) from **all** colleges / universities (other than Ivy Tech) you have attended to the college registrar for evaluation. This will allow the registrar to award transfer credit for courses completed. Applicants who received college credit for any of the required pre-req courses by completing high school AP courses exams must also submit official high school transcripts to the registrar.

STEP 2: Apply to the OTA Program through the School of Health Sciences.

I. School of Health Sciences Admission Requirements: Once 1.) Pre-requisites are completed and 2.) All other requirements have been met (i.e., scoring at the PROFICIENT level or higher on the ATI TEAS Test, etc.) you may apply for admission to the OTA program through the School of Health Sciences programs.

II. **Application Process to Apply to the OTA Program**:
   A. **Complete the online application process-open March 15, 2026, and closes May 15, 2026.** Once the application closes, no further applications will be accepted.

   B. **Complete the TEAS test.** The TEAS test must be completed by April 30, 2026. See the testing center on your campus for information on registering for the TEAS. TEAS test scores are valid for <u>2</u> years. Applicants must score *proficient or higher* to be eligible to apply to the program. Basic and developmental levels are not accepted. The TEAS test can be completed 3 times in a 12-month period. Applicants must wait 14 days between test attempts.

   C. **Attend a mandatory Ivy Tech Community College OTA Program Information Session.** The required OTA program information session must be for the cohort/class to which the applicant is applying. For example: An applicant applying to the fall 2026 OTA program class must attend an info session during the fall 2025 or spring 2026. Attendance at an information session for a previous year's class is *not sufficient* to meet this admission requirement. The link to the online information session & days/times of upcoming information sessions can be found on the program's website.

   D. **Complete all <u>5</u> pre-requisite courses (<u>completed by the end of spring semester 2026</u>)** *to be considered Fall 2026 OTA program admission.* For fall admission, courses must be completed by the end of the previous spring semester of the same year to count in the point system (must be in the system by Midnight on Tuesday following the end of the previous spring semester). Only courses that have been approved for transfer by the Registrar (*and* show up on the Ivy Tech transcript) will be considered. NOTE: Per Ivy Tech Community College Academic Support Operations Manual (ASOM): 1.6-General education courses/prerequisites cannot expire.

Anatomy and Physiology I	**APHY-101**	**3 cr.-Pre-requisite**
English Composition	**ENG 111**	**3 cr.-Pre-Requisite**
Quantitative Reasoning*	**MATH 123**	**3 cr.-Pre-Requisite**
Public Speaking Interpersonal Communications	**COMM 101 or 102**	**3 cr.-Pre-Requisite**
Introduction to Psychology	**PSYC 101**	**3 cr.-Pre-Requisite**
Student Success (not a pre-requisite)	IVYT 1XX	1 cr.-College Requirement

*Effective fall 2013, MATH 111 cannot be substituted for MATH 123. Applicants must have completed MATH 118, MATH 123, or higher. MATH 118 and MATH 13X can be substituted for MATH 123. You must contact the OTA Program Chair if you completed MATH 118.

   E. Applicants must be of good academic standing in the college to be considered for admission (i.e. minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA).

   F. Multiple Attempt Policy (ASOM 3.2) – Multiple Attempt Policy (ASOM 3.2) – Repeating Courses – Students may repeat a course just <u>one</u> time. In cases of extenuating circumstances, students may attempt a course for *a third time only with the approval of the Campus Academic Officer (CAO) or designee.* A withdrawal counts as an attempt.

G. The online application system for the Fall 2026 OTA program admission will count the highest of the first two or three grade attempts *from the initial attempt* regardless of the date the course was taken. "Ws" (withdrawals) will not count.

III. **Candidate Selection Process:**

A. Grades from the following pre-req courses will be used in the admission process:

Anatomy and Physiology I	APHY-101	3 cr.-SCIENCE
English Composition	ENG 111	3 cr.-NON-SCIENCE
Quantitative Reasoning	MATH 123	3 cr.-SCIENCE
Public Speaking Interpersonal Communications	COMM 101/102	3 cr.-NON-SCIENCE
Introduction to Psychology	PSYC 101	3 cr.-NON-SCIENCE

B. Points will be assigned for grades earned in the above five (5) classes.

NOTE: S/T/Pass = Letter grade C per category; CLEP/DANTES/VERIFIED CREDIT = B (non-science).

Course Grade and Points Assigned	SCIENCE*	NON-SCIENCE**
A	30	15
B	20	10
C	10	5
D	0	0
F	0	0

An explanation for the scoring values/rationale of each of the criteria follows:

Grade for APHY 101–Anatomy and Physiology I-Reflects weight of the base of knowledge for the OTA curriculum.
Grade for MATH 123-Quantitative Reasoning-Quantitative reasoning and an understanding of stats, research data, and basic computing and measuring are parts of OT (i.e., goniometry, ROM, etc.).
Grade for ENGL 111-English Composition-Accurate, legible documentation of tests and therapy performed is an important duty of an OTA. *Points for credit received by CLEP or DANTES test out = 10 points
Grade for COMM 101 or 102 –Public Speaking/Interpersonal Communication-Public speaking, and more so, good communication skills in general are an essential part of the occupational therapy profession as educators.
Grade for PSYC 101-Introduction to Psychology-Since OTAs help people to participate in meaningful activities ("*occupations*"), OTAs must understand, acknowledge, and embrace the natural role of psychology in occupational therapy treatment.

C. TEAS Score: 20% of the TEAS score will be added to the points earned from the grades in the pre-req courses. TEAS test scores are valid for 2 years. Refer to information on pg. 8 of this handbook for further details regarding the TEAS test. Applicants must score at a proficient or higher level to be eligible to apply.

D. Rank order of Applicants: Applicants will be rank ordered (highest to lowest score) by summing the following scores:

1. Points allotted to the grades of the completed required general education prerequisite courses.

2. Points acquired on the TEAS test (20%).

3. The twelve applicants having the highest scores are selected for admission to the program.

4. Candidates who have graduated from a healthcare program and have earned a degree or certification will be awarded 5 bonus points. Candidates will be required to submit evidence of graduation from an accredited program and certification.

5. In the event of a tie, the following criteria will be applied **ONLY** to candidates who are tied for a given position: student cumulative GPA.

E. Applicant Responsibility: It is the applicants' responsibility to make sure everything is submitted through the online portal by the deadline.

F. Selection Notification: Applicants will be notified of acceptance status based on selection rounds of dates available on the website. All acceptance information will be sent via the applicant's Ivy Tech email address. It is important that applicants check their Ivy Tech email on a regular basis for notifications.

Reapplication Process:

A. Applicants who are not selected for the program may reapply for the next class.

B. The entire application process must be completed during the time the online application cycle is open. Requirements, including required pre-req classes, may change from year to year.

C. Applicants who are not selected for the class are encouraged to meet with the program/department chair prior to re-applying for OTA program admission.

Background Checks and Drug Screening Policy:

Ivy Tech requires the implementation of background checks and drug screening for OTA Program Admission and Continued Enrollment for students treating patients offsite at fieldwork/clinical facilities:

1. **Enrollment in clinical courses and fieldwork is contingent upon completion of a criminal background check and drug screening that meets the standards set forth by the College.** The process for completing the criminal background check and drug screening will be provided to candidates selected for admission. Completion of this process **IS NOT** required to simply apply to the OTA program and **is only** required for those individuals admitted into the program.

a. The Ivy Tech Community College School of Health Sciences requires Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screenings for all School of Health students who will participate in clinical (i.e., fieldwork) education.

b. All students accepted into the OTA Program will be required to complete a Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening, provided by an outside vendor selected by the college and at the student's expense by the date specified in the letter of acceptance. Completion of the background check and drug screening is required for a student to enroll in any clinical course or co-requisite course.

c. The results of the Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening will be made available to each student and the school. Upon completion, the OTA Program Chair will review the results. Results are maintained on the vendor's secure online site. If positive findings are reported, the OTA Program Chair will review the results with the Dean of the School of Health Sciences and, if necessary, the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs.

d. If the OTA Program Chair, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs determine that the results do not meet the standards set forth by the College, the student will not be allowed to enroll in any clinical courses or co-requisite courses and beyond. In most cases, this will mean that the student will not be able to progress in the program and will therefore not be able to complete the courses required for graduation.

e. The background check and drug screening will be conducted at least once per calendar year while the student is enrolled in the program. The same procedure outlined previously will be followed. If the findings do not meet the standard set forth by the College, the student will be unable to complete the clinical education component of the program and therefore will not graduate.

f. A clinical (fieldwork) facility/site may request a copy of the background check records. The facility may also require a student to complete an additional background check per any addendum to the clinical contract agreed upon by the school and the clinical facility. Failure of the student to participate or allow disclosure in such a case will be counted as an unsuccessful attempt at placement.

g. The criminal background check and drug screening will be conducted once per calendar year, at a minimum. The college, OTA program faculty, and fieldwork/clinical affiliates reserve the right to request more frequent testing, in accordance with college policy.

2. Past criminal convictions can negatively impact your eligibility to obtain a state license. For specific information regarding your situation, please contact the licensing board in the state where you plan to apply for a license.

3. Additional information regarding the college's background check and drug testing policy can be found in the Ivy Tech Community College Academic Support and Operations Manual (ASOM) Policy 4.14

Licensing Information:

U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act

The Indiana Professional Licensing Agency monitors and issues all professional licenses in the State of Indiana, including occupational therapy assistant (OTA). Applicants applying for an OTA license must meet residency requirements in order to obtain that license. The information below states the residency requirements that must be met in order to apply for an OTA license in the State of Indiana.

The Indiana Public Licensing Agency (IPLA) has recently taken a position that <u>may</u> preclude visa holding or otherwise undocumented students from sitting for certification/licensure within Indiana or applying for a professional license. Students should seek their own legal counsel in these matters.

The expectations U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act are found in the Federal Regulation 8 of the U.S.C.; Section 1641: Federal Regulation: 8 U.S.C. Section 1641: The U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act 2018 Amendment.

(A) IN GENERAL:

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the terms used in this chapter have the same meaning given such terms in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 U.S.C. 1101(a)].

(b) Qualified Alien:

For purposes of this chapter, the term "qualified alien" means an alien who, at the time the alien applies for, receives, or attempts to receive a Federal public benefit, is—

1. an alien who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.],
2. an alien who is granted asylum under section 208 of such Act [8 U.S.C. 1158],
3. a refugee who is admitted to the United States under section 207 of such Act [8 U.S.C.1157],
4. an alien who is paroled into the United States under section 212(d)(5) of such Act [8 U.S.C.1182(d)(5)] for a period of at least 1 year,
5. an alien whose deportation is being withheld under section 243(h) of such Act [8 U.S.C. 1253] (as in effect immediately before the effective date of section 307 of division C of Public Law 104–208) or section 241(b)(3) of such Act [8 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3)] (as amended by section 305(a) of division C of Public Law 104– 208),
6. an alien who is granted conditional entry pursuant to section 203(a)(7) of such Act [8 U.S.C. 1153(a)(7)] as in effect prior to April 1, 1980; [1] or
7. an alien who is a Cuban and Haitian entrant (as defined in section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980.

OTA Program Curriculum: Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program: 63 Total Credits

Pre-requisites and College Requirement = 16 credits

Course#	Course Title:	Credit Hours/Type:
ENGL 111	English Composition	3-Pre-requisite
APHY 101	Anatomy and Physiology I	3-Pre-requisite
MATH 123	Quantitative Reasoning	3-Pre-requisite
COMM 101 **or** COMM 102	Intro to Interpersonal Communications or Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3-Pre-requisite
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology	3-Pre-requisite
**IVYT 1XX	Life Skills-student chooses course	1-College requirement

**May be taken prior to entering the OTA program or while enrolled in the OTA program.

Year One; Fall Semester: Co-requisites (6 cr.) and Core Classes (9 cr.) = 15 credits

Course #	Course Title:	Credit Hours/Type:
**PSYC 201	Lifespan Development	3-Co-requisite
**APHY 102	Anatomy and Physiology II	3-Co-requisite
OTAS 101	Foundations and Theory in OT	2-CORE
OTAS 102	Applied Kinesiology in OT	4-CORE
OTAS 103	Conditions in Occupational Therapy	3-CORE

**May be taken prior to entering the OTA program or while enrolled in the OTA program.

Year One; Spring Semester: Fieldwork Level 1-A (1 cr.) and Core Classes (12 cr.) = 13 credits

Course #	Course Title:	Credit Hours/Type:
OTAS 201	Fieldwork 1-A	1-Fieldwork
OTAS 202	Occupational Performance in Pediatric Care	4-CORE
OTAS 203	Occupational Therapy in Mental and Behavioral Health	3-CORE
OTAS 204	Health & Wellness Promotion in Occupational Therapy	3-CORE
OTAS 205	The Role of OTA in Interdisciplinary Health	2-CORE

Summer Session: Fieldwork Level 1-B (1 cr.) and 1 Virtual Core Class (1 cr.) = 2 credits

Course #	Course Title:	Credit Hours/Type:
OTAS 206	Communication and Documentation Essentials in Occupational Therapy	1-CORE (Virtual)
OTAS 207	Fieldwork 1 – B	1-Fieldwork

<u>Year Two; Fall Semester</u>: Core Classes = 12 credits

Course #	Course Title:	Credit Hours/Type:
OTAS 208	Occupational Performance in Adult and Elder Care	4-CORE
OTAS 209	Assistive Technology and Modalities in Occupational Therapy	4-CORE
OTAS 210	Transitional Roles and Practice in Occupational Therapy	2-CORE
OTAS 211	Current Issues and Emerging Trends in Occupational Therapy	2-CORE

<u>Year Two; Spring Semester</u>: Externship/Fieldwork Level 2-A and 2-B (2 cr. each) = 4 credits

Course #	Course Title:	Credit Hours/Type:
OTAS 212	Fieldwork 2-A	2-Fieldwork
OTAS 213	Fieldwork 2-B	2-Fieldwork

Essential Functions of OTA Program Students:

Qualified applicants are expected to meet all admission criteria, and matriculating students are expected to meet all progression criteria, as well as these essential functions. Becoming an occupational therapy assistant requires the completion of a technical education program that is both intellectually and physically challenging. The purpose of the following chart and lists serve to articulate the demands, essentials tasks, and skills required to complete this program in a way that will allow prospective students to compare their own capabilities against these demands.

Prospective students will be asked about their ability to complete these demands and tasks, with or without reasonable accommodation, and will be required to pay for a physical exam form completed at the student's expense by a physician of the student's choice, updated yearly, if selected for OTA Program admission.

Reasonable accommodation refers to ways in which the college can assist students with disabilities to accomplish these tasks (for example, providing extra time to complete an examination or enhancing the sound system in the classroom). Reasonable accommodation does not mean that students with disabilities will be exempt from certain tasks; it does mean that we will work with students with disabilities to determine whether there are ways that we can assist the student toward completion of the tasks.

Prospective students who indicate that they can complete these tasks, with or without reasonable accommodation, are not required to disclose the specifics of their disabilities prior to an admission decision. Prospective students who _cannot_ complete these tasks with or without accommodation are ineligible for admission.

If admitted, a student with a disability who desires and needs reasonable accommodation must request it through the OTA Program Chair. An offer of admission may be withdrawn if it becomes apparent that the student cannot complete essential tasks even with accommodations, that the accommodations needed are not reasonable and would cause undue hardship to the

institution, or that fulfilling the functions would create a significant risk of harm to the health or safety of others.

Prospective students who have questions about this document or who would like to discuss specific accommodations should make an initial inquiry with the Program Chair of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program. Students with documented need for accommodations are to meet with the campus Disabilities Support Services Representative. The following link can connect students with multiple resources and information, as well as to the correct professional at the Anderson campus location: https://www.ivytech.edu/student-services/disability-support/.

Essential Functions/Abilities/Demands of an OTA Student

FUNCTIONS/ABILITY CATEGORY:	REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITY ATTRIBUTE:
GROSS MOTOR SKILLS:	- Move within confined spaces - Sit and maintain balance - Stand and maintain balance *Perform full range of body motion (see below): - Flexibility: stretch/injury prevention - Coordination: coordinate small and large muscle groups to provide safe and effective care (transfers, functional mobility, and positioning with appropriate levels of assist to patients). - Balance: exceeding ordinary body equilibrium (balance at a level to stabilize self and patient during level and grade surfaces with accommodation to patient loss of balance in various positions, e.g. standing, sitting). - Crouching: (bending down in a squatting position) – maintained greater than five (5) minutes at any one time and repetition greater than two (2) times per minute: ability to access patient, equipment and for completion of patient care techniques - Bending at waist: maintain bending for greater than five (5) minutes at any one time, repetition of bending motion greater than two (2) times per minute; ability to access patient, equipment and for completion of patient care techniques
FINE MOTOR SKILLS:	- Pinch/Pick or otherwise work with fingers - Grasp/pick up objects with hands (e.g., instruments/tools) - Write with pen or pencil - Key/type (e.g., computer) - Twist (e.g., turn objects/knobs using hands) - Dexterity: ability to seize, hold, and turn an object in one's hand; ability to perform pinch type activity of one's fingers - Reaching: ability to extend arms out of base of support to obtain objects and to assist patient in treatment activities - Repetitive motion behaviors: to assign patient care techniques used frequently during an individual patient care treatment session and cumulatively for a specific patient population/facility

PHYSICAL ENDURANCE:	*Stand, sit, or combination of both for long periods of time (e.g., modalities, manual procedures, documentation) *Sitting: 2 to 8 hours per day: required for periods of documentation, scheduling, and patient care techniques; *Standing: 2-8 hours per day: required for periods of documentation and patient care techniques *Kneeling (resting body on knees): greater than five (5) minutes at any one time and repetitive kneeling greater than two (2) minutes at any one time *Sustain repetitive movements (e.g., CPR) *Maintain physical activity tolerance and endurance (e.g., work entire day)
MOBILITY:	*Twist *Bend *Reach *Stoop/squat *Pull/push *Move quickly (e.g., response to an emergency) *Walking: on level and graded surfaces of any distance (greater than 1 mile per day); ability necessary for mobility training patients, daily routine of movement within facilities, facility and patient type specific assistance with mobility tasks. Walk (very quickly) when needed. *Climb (e.g., ladders/stools/stairs) - Climbing stairs: Carrying a load >10 lb, climbing frequency >25 times per day - required for stair and curb gait training with assistance of patient supporting at times greater than 10 pounds of patient load, frequency dependent upon patient population and facility setting. *Crawling: (access to patient, equipment, completion of patient care)
PHYSICAL STRENGTH:	*Heavy: Exerting 50 to 100 lbs. of force occasionally and/or up to 30 lbs. of force frequently (50 to 74% of time); Medium: Exert 20 to 50 lbs. of force occasionally and/or up to 15 lbs. of force frequently. *Lifting: Must independently be able to lift 50 lbs. (ability to lift frequent loads such as resistance training weights for exercise, lifting of patient during transfer and training activities, floor/fall recovery, maneuvering of necessary equipment for patient care, etc.)
HEARING/AUDITORY:	*Hear normal speaking level sounds (e.g., person-to-person) *Hear faint voices/noises/faint body sounds (e.g., blood pressure, respiratory, and heartbeat sounds) - Hear in situations when not able to see lips (e.g., when masks are used)
TACTILE:	*Feel vibrations (e.g., palpate pulses) *Detect temperature (e.g., skin solutions, environment) *Feel differences in surface characteristics, sizes and shapes (e.g., skin, identify body landmarks, stereognosis). - Proprioception
VISUAL:	*See object up to 20 inches away (e.g., information on a computer screen) *See objects up to 20 feet away (e.g., patient in a room)

	• *Use depth perception • *Peripheral vision • *Identify color • Distinguish color intensity (e.g., flushed skin, paleness)
SMELL/OLFACTORY:	• Detect odors from patients (e.g., foul smelling body orifice/cavity, etc.) • Detect smoke • Deter gasses or noxious smells
ARITHMETIC COMPETENCE:	• *Tell Time • Measure ROM (visually and spatially) • Use a calculator for basic counting, addition, subtraction and higher-level use of algebra, geometry and statistics • Perform measurements with tools (i.e., goniometer, tape measure)
CRITICAL THINKING:	• Identify cause-effect • Plan/control activities • Synthesize knowledge/skills • Sequence information
BASIC COGNITIVE PROCESSES:	• *Plan necessary sequences of operation or actions • Collect necessary data (i.e., patient care) • Define problems, collect information, and identify need for supervisor intervention • Compute basic math • Teaching of others, formally or informally
EMOTIONAL STABILITY:	• Adapt effectively to stressful environments to ensure patient safety. • Respond quickly in an emotionally controlled manner. • Provide emotional support to the patient and attend to their needs. • Maintains composure when subjected to high stress levels. • Focused attention on task • Multi-task; perform multiple responsibilities concurrently. • Work within frustrating situations • Manage and function emotionally (i.e., manage emotional and cognitive responses to various health and cultural situations). • Counsel, recommend, guide, or caution others in the role of OTA in a professional, calm manner. • Work under time pressures • Establish therapeutic boundaries • Handle strong emotions (e.g., grief).
ANALYTICAL THINKING:	• *Process information • * Use long term memory • *Use short term memory • *Problem-solve • *Multi-task • Transfer knowledge from one situation to another. • Synthesize information • Evaluate information • Prioritize tasks • Evaluate and forecast outcomes
	• *Required communication abilities, including speech, hearing, reading, writing, language skills and computer literacy. • *Discern and interpret nonverbal communication.

COMMUNICATON SKILLS:	• *Comprehension of written language of basic, technical, professional material. • *Proficient to speak and understand English to engage in verbal, two-way communication with others of a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. • *Ability to communicate in English with accuracy, clarity and efficiency with patients, their families and others (including spoken and nonverbal communication, such as interpretation of facial expressions, affect and body language). • Regular communication with patients, caregivers, family members, peers, and other medical professionals in simple, complex, and technical language. • Communicate professionally and civilly to the healthcare team including peers, instructors, and preceptors and other professionals (intra- and interprofessionalism; during collaboration) **Representative Activity/Attributes:** • *Gives verbal directions to or follows verbal directions from others (i.e., members of the healthcare team and participates in health care team discussions of patient care). • Elicits and records information about health history, current health state and responses to treatment from patients or family members. • Conveys information to patients and others as necessary to teach, direct, and counsel in an accurate, effective and timely manner. • Establishes and maintains effective working relations with patients and co-workers. • Recognizes and reports critical patient information to other caregivers. • Teaches (e.g., patient/family about health care), explains procedures, gives oral reports (e.g., reports on patient's condition to others), interacts with others (e.g., health care workers), phone use • Conveys information ethically, legally, and professionally through writing (e.g., documentation).
	• Exposure to vibration: ability to tolerate participation in modalities: ultrasound, electrical stimulation, and whirlpool equipment • Exposure to moving parts, electrical current, chemical: ability to safely participate in isokinetic testing and training, modality, equipment • Exposure to risks to respiratory system, skin, or allergies: ability to participate in treatment and patient care during modalities, massage, certain patient populations (diagnoses) and wound care products • Personal protective equipment (PPE): Ability to follow standard precautions with proper use of rubber gloves, gowns, goggles, masks, etc.
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:	• Traveling: ability to access appropriate facilities and/or patients for provision of therapy services. • Reaction to Emergencies: ability to respond to medical emergency situations including auditory notification of emergency signal, cardiopulmonary resuscitation procedures. • Supervision: ability to perform duties under the required level of supervision for the status of an occupational therapist assistant (student, graduate with temporary license, and licensed/certified OTA (COTA)

| | | and ability to provide aide and supportive staff supervision under the requirements of a licensed/certified COTA |
| | | • Maintain adequate health without presence of infectious disease |

Essential Tasks of an OTA Student:

- Students must meet class standards for course completion throughout the curriculum
- Students must be able to read, write, speak, and understand English at a level consistent with successful course completion and development of positive patient-physical therapist assistant relationships.
- Students must complete readings, assignments, and other activities outside of class.
- Students must gather decision-making pieces of information during patient assessment activities in class or in the clinical setting without the use of an intermediary such as a classmate or an aide.
- Students may perform treatment activities in class or in the clinical setting by direct performance or by the appropriate instruction and supervision of occupational therapy aides (in accordance with the law).
- Students must apply critical thinking processes to their work in the classroom and the clinic and must exercise sound judgment in class and in the clinic.
- Students must follow safety procedures established for each class and clinic.
- Students must have interpersonal skills as needed for productive classroom discussion, professional and respectful interaction with classmates and faculty, and development of appropriate therapist-patient relationships.
- Students must maintain personal appearance and hygiene conducive to health.
- Students must pass a cardiopulmonary resuscitation course at the health professional level (American Heart Association, Healthcare Provider).
- Students must demonstrate appropriate health status prior to fieldwork/clinicals, with annual updates on some items; no active tuberculosis, rubella (German measles) and rubeola (measles) immunity, tetanus-diphtheria booster within 10 years of anticipated graduation; hepatitis B vaccine series or written declination.
- Students must complete OSHA-related Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Training.
- Students must follow standards and policies specified in the OTA Program Guide to Admissions and Student Handbook, as well as adhere to all College and Program Academic Policies, OTA Program Policies and Procedures, and policies outlined within the Clinical Education Manual.

Typical Skills Required to Complete Essential Tasks:

- Students typically attend class 12 or more hours per week during each academic semester. Classes consist of a combination of lectures, discussions, and laboratory activities.
- While on Level 2 fieldwork students are typically present at an outside facility/site/clinic for an average of 32-40 hours per week on a schedule that corresponds to the working hours of their clinical instructor.

- Students typically sit for 2 to 10 hours daily, stand for 1 to 2 hours daily, and walk or travel for 2 hours daily.
- Students will be required to travel to fieldwork sites within a 1-2-hour radius of the Anderson Campus.
- Students frequently lift less than 10 pounds and occasionally lift weights up to 50-100 pounds.
- Students frequently exert 25 pounds of push/pull forces to objects up to 50 feet and occasionally exert 50-100 pounds of push/pull forces for this distance.
- Students frequently twist, bend, and stoop.
- Students occasionally squat, crawl, climb stools, reach above shoulder level, and kneel.
- Students frequently move from place to place and position to position and must do so at a speed that permits safe handling of classmates and patients.
- Students frequently stand and walk while providing support to a classmate simulating a disability or while supporting a patient with a disability.
- Students occasionally climb stairs or negotiate uneven terrain.
- Students continuously use their hands repetitively with a simple grasp and frequently use firm grasp and manual dexterity skills.
- Students frequently coordinate verbal/manual activities with gross motor activities.
- Students use auditory, tactile, and visual senses to receive classroom instruction and to assess and treat patients.

College and OTA Program Costs:

Tuition and fees are set by the State Board of Trustees and are subject to change. Ivy Tech programs have been established to assist students with tuition and textbook costs

- **Ivy+ textbooks** mean all required textbooks are one price.
- **Ivy+ tuition** means the student gets the same tuition rate if you enroll in 12 or more credits per semester. https://www.ivytech.edu/tuition/
- Summer-Flex Tuition Scholarship Option means summer classes are included (up to 30 credits for an academic year) if you are a full-time student but do not take the full 15 credits in both the fall and spring terms of an academic year.

Rates: Fall 2025 through Summer 2027	INDIANA RESIDENTS	OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS	INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Full-Time Flat Rate Per Semester	$2,577.11	$4,967.51	$4,967.51
Part-Time Cost Per Credit Hour	$178.38	$348.97	$348.97
Textbooks Fee	$18 /credit hour	$18 /credit hour	$18 /credit hour

Full-time = 12 or more credit hours per semester; Part-time = Less than 12 credit hours per semester

Expenses for the Heath Science OTA student may include fees, educational materials, uniforms, and other materials/equipment for use in the clinical and classroom area. At the time of

participation in any certification pathway, the OTA student will incur expense associated with obtaining the required components (i.e., physical examination, immunizations, tuberculosis testing, Healthcare Provider CPR certification from the American Heart Association or American Red Cross, criminal background checks and a drug screen. Students should also anticipate costs for licensure/certification.

Financial Information:

Find at: https://www.ivytech.edu/tuition-aid/financial-aid/#3103ca4cc32b4d4f81caf31e4fcb1c7b

Financial Aid:

Ivy Tech Community College offers various types of financial aid to students who need assistance to continue their education. Students are encouraged to carefully survey the available financial aid options. Students must be accepted for admission to the College in an eligible program to receive financial aid. For additional information on financial programs administered through the College, please make an appointment to see a financial aid advisor.

Financial Obligation:

The Business Office is responsible for the collection of any outstanding obligations to the College. A person with an outstanding account will be denied certain College services

Ivy Tech Community College School of Health Sciences OTA Program Estimated Costs: 2026

Type: Initial: June – August prior to beginning OTA program
Background check, drug testing & compliance tracker: $116.35
CPR Certification: $70.00
Physical exam and immunizations/titers: + Variable
Total: $186.35

Type: Year One: Fall Semester: 15 credits
*Tuition: $2577.11
*Textbooks: $270
Printing: $25
Student AOTA Membership Due (annual): $78
Uniform (polos, khakis, shoes): $200 (estimate)
Total: $3150.11

Type: Year One: Spring Semester: 13 credits
Tuition: $2577.11
Textbooks: $234
Printing: $25
Total: $2836.11

Type: Year One: Summer: 2 credits (Fieldwork 1-A; 1 virtual course, tuition included)
Textbooks: $36
Total: $36   = **Year One Total: $6208.57**

Type: Year Two: Fall Semester: 13 credits
Tuition: $2577.11
Textbooks: $234
Printing: $25
Student AOTA Membership Due (annual): $78
Total: $2914.11

Type: Year Two: Spring Semester (Part-Time): 4 credits
Tuition: $713.52
Textbooks: $72
Printing: $25
Exam Prep Materials/Practice Test Fee: $85 for AOTA Members; OTKE prep; $40 = $125
NBCOT Exam (Licensure for Certification) Fee: **$540
Total: $1475.52   = **Year Two Total: $4389.63**
***Technical OTA Program Cost Total: $10,598.20** (47 credits). Technical OTA Program is 63 total-16
credits (15 Pre-Requisite credits & 1 college requirement credit).
*Includes tuition and textbook fees for co-requisites APHY-102 and PSYC 201.
**Licensing Fees based upon licensure requirements in the state of Indiana.
***This is only an estimate of the cost of the technical OTA Program by semester, and tuition is based upon in-state tuition rates.
Costs subject to change without notice. +Varies depending upon provider and individual needs.

OTA Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q: Who do I contact with questions about the OTA program at Ivy Tech?

A: For general information, please contact (email preferred) Dr. Mary Hofmeister, Program Chair; for fieldwork questions, please contact Dr. Jess Littrell, AFWC:

      Dr. Mary Hofmeister, OTD, OTR/L, PMP
      OTA Program Chair
      E: mhofmeister2@ivytech.edu; 1-765-643-7133 ext. 2369

      Dr. Jess Littrell, OTD, OTR/L, CAS
      OTA Program Academic Fieldwork Coordinator
      E: jlittrell3@ivytech.edu; 1-765-643-7133 ext. 2341

2. Q: Is the OTA program at Ivy Tech accredited, and what is the degree type?

A: This Ivy Tech associate-degree-level occupational therapy assistant program has applied for accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD 20814. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its web address is www.acoteonline.org. The program must be granted Candidacy Status, have a pre-accreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will become a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). The terminal degree is an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in OTA.

3. Q: Is the OTA Program at Ivy Tech offered anywhere else besides Anderson? Where is the program located?

A: The OTA program at Ivy Tech is currently only offered at the Anderson campus, in the Clinical Education Center building at 104 W. 53rd St. Anderson, IN 46013.

4. Q: Is the OTA Program at Ivy Tech offered online?

A: All of the required pre-req classes (and the 1-credit college course requirement class) may be completed online. The OTA program faculty strongly suggests that Anatomy and Physiology are completed in person due to the clinical applications to the program. The OTA program at Ivy Tech is offered in a face-to-face (traditional) format. Individuals selected for the program must attend all core OTA program classes and labs at the Anderson site, except for any courses being specifically taught in a virtual format.

5. Q: Once I begin the OTA program at Ivy Tech, will I be in class Monday – Friday?
A: The schedule varies from semester to semester. Typically, students should be prepared to be in class (and/or fieldwork) Monday-Friday, from 8am-5pm. Schedules have not yet been set.

6. Q: Do I need to complete a background check and drug screen to apply to the OTA program?
A: No, background check and drug screening are not required to apply but will be required for fieldwork placements and degree completion. Specific information on how to complete the background check and drug testing will be sent to those selected for the program.

7. Q: Do I need to have immunizations completed to apply to the OTA program?
A: No, proof of immunization is not required to apply but will be required for fieldwork placements and degree completion. A health statement with instructions on how to complete this process will be sent to those selected for the program.

8. Q: What is required to apply to the OTA program?
A: To be eligible to apply for the Fall 2026 (first cohort) OTA program, you will need to complete the complete application process through the online portal, which will be open between March 15, 2026, and May 15, 2026. The TEAS test must be completed by April 30, 2026. You must either attend a virtual or on-campus OTA program information session and submit verification of attendance through the online application portal by May 15, 2025. You have until the end of the spring semester of the same calendar year you are applying to complete the required pre-requisite courses.

9. Q: How many students will be accepted into the program each year?
A: 12 initially per year for the first three cohorts starting each year in the fall (beginning Fall 2026).

10. Q: Can IVYT 1XX be completed during the summer prior to the program?
A: Yes, IVYT 1XX (students pick the section) can be completed prior to entering the program or once enrolled in the program. It's a college requirement, 1 credit online.

11. Q: I completed MATH 13X. Can that be used in place of MATH 123? I completed MATH 118? Can this be used in place of MATH 123?
A: Yes, MATH 13X; MATH 118 can be substituted for MATH 123. The program also accepts MATH 2XX courses. For MATH 118/other substitutions, contact the Program Chair.

12. Q: Can I work while in the OTA program?
A: You will not be able to maintain a full-time job while enrolled in the program. On site expectations are M-F 8am-5pm with study time to occur outside of this window. Part-time or PRN jobs are possible dependent on the student.

13. Q: Am I eligible to receive financial aid?

    A: Every situation is different. You will need to consult with the financial aid office about all questions regarding financial aid.

14. Q: What does the OTA program cost?

    A: Tuition and textbooks (including program costs and fees, consumable fees, but NOT living expenses, etc.) = $11,118.20 for Indiana residents

**Ivy Tech Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program
Information Session Verification Statement**

I acknowledge I completed and attended a required Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) Program information session prior to submitting this application for the Ivy Tech Community College OTA program and that I was provided an opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification during the information session.

I attended the following information session:

- A virtual OTA Program information session on: _____.
- An on-campus OTA Program information session on: _____.

My signature below serves as acknowledgement that the information provided above is true and accurate.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

A verification form is required to be completed and submitted via the online portal. This completed form serves as proof of your completion of the required OTA Program Information Session.