

## **Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (M.S.)**

### ***Entry-level Residential Program***

#### **A.T. Still University**

Home of the world's first osteopathic medical school, founded in 1892, A.T. Still University is a multidisciplinary healthcare education and training university founded on whole person care. ATSU comprises the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM), the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (SOMA), the Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS), the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH), the online School of Health Management (SHM).

#### **Arizona School of Health Sciences**

The Arizona School of Health Sciences, located in Mesa, Arizona, offers doctoral and Master of Science degrees in a wide range of healthcare disciplines and strives to advance healthcare by educating compassionate, competent healthcare professionals. The school's interdisciplinary and technology emphasis, with incorporation of a philosophy of wholeness and treatment of body, mind, and spirit, creates an excellent professional educational environment.

#### **Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (M.S.)**

Occupational therapy is the use of occupation or purposeful activity and interventions to achieve functional outcomes and promote health. Achieving functional outcomes means to develop, improve, or restore the highest possible level of independence of any individual who is limited by a physical injury or illness, a dysfunctional condition, a cognitive impairment, a psychological dysfunction, a mental illness, a developmental or learning disability, or adverse environmental condition(s). Occupational therapists work cooperatively with other members of the healthcare team.

#### **The Curriculum**

The Occupational Therapy Program supports the philosophy of holistic treatment, incorporating the body, mind, and spirit. The mission of the Occupational Therapy Program is to prepare high quality practitioners to meet patient needs in changing healthcare delivery settings. Students in the Occupational Therapy Program have opportunities, through core classes in the curriculum, to learn about other professions and work with students from the Arizona School of Health Sciences' Audiology, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapy and Athletic Training programs. Interdisciplinary education demonstrates cooperation and collaboration among health science professionals and leads to more effective healthcare delivery in divergent practice settings. The Occupational Therapy Program provides a strong foundation of critical inquiry applied to the practice, education, and administration of healthcare. The use of technology is integrated into instructional processes and occupational therapy treatment. The program is designed to be completed in 28 months.

#### **Requirements for Admission**

1. Candidates accepted for admission will have earned a baccalaureate degree prior to matriculation.
2. Applicants must have achieved a minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA, and a 2.50 science GPA (on a 4.00 scale).
3. Applicants are required to submit all official college or academic transcripts.
4. Applicants are required to submit official GRE scores. Any scores older than three years prior to the matriculation year will not be accepted. The GRE Code for ASHS is 3743. (There is no department code.) For applicants with an accumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher, the GRE is optional.
5. Applicants must submit a personal resume. Guidelines are offered in the application instructions.
6. Applicants are required to obtain a minimum of 20 contact/observation hours in the occupational therapy field.
7. Applicants must secure two (2) letters of reference. One of these letters must be written by: a present or former science faculty member, academic advisor, or employer. The other reference letter should come from a professional from the occupational therapy field. Letters from an educational consulting service will not qualify. New letters of reference must be submitted for each application year.
8. Applicants who are considered potential candidates will be invited to visit ASHS to participate in an applicant interview process. For applicants residing out-of-state, telephone interviews can be arranged in lieu of the on-site interview.
9. Prerequisite courses for applicants for entry in Fall 2010:

- Human Anatomy: One Course with lab, minimum of 4 semester/6 quarter hours.
  - Human Physiology: One course with lab, minimum of 4 semester/6 quarter hours.  
(Note: Human Anatomy/Physiology I And II may substitute for the above two courses)
  - Science: One additional course (in addition to Human Anatomy/Physiology) for a minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter hours.
  - Human Development: One course, minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter hours(Course Options: Developmental Psychology, Child Development, or another course with a lifespan development perspective)
  - Introduction or General Psychology: One course, minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter
  - Abnormal Psychology: One course, minimum of 3 semester/4 quarter hours
  - Introduction to Sociology or Cultural Anthropology; One course, minimum of semester/4quarter hours
  - Medical Terminology: One course, minimum of 1 semester hour/ 1 quarter hour
  - English: Two courses of composition, grammar/literature, minimum of 6 semester/8quarter hours
  - Humanities: Two courses (e.g., philosophy, religion, literature, fine arts, logic, ethics, foreign language), minimum of 6 semester/8 quarter hours
  - College algebra or higher: One course, minimum of 3 semester/ 4 quarter hours (A Statistics course can be used for this prerequisite)
10. Applicants must complete all prerequisite courses by the end of the quarter prior to matriculation.
  11. Applicants are expected to be computer literate and experienced in word processing. All curricula require extensive computer usage. Accepted applicants are required to have a laptop computer prior to the first day of class.
  12. Students must obtain and maintain CPR certification. Verification must be submitted to ASHS prior to enrollment.
  13. Applicants are required to submit to a criminal background check at their own expense. Applicants need to be aware that having a felony conviction might impact a graduate's future ability to sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy Exam and/or ability to obtain state licensure to practice.
  14. Applicants who wish to be considered for more than one ASHS program must submit a separate application and fee, official GRE scores, transcripts, and references. Acceptance to ASHS is to a specific program and is not transferable to any other program. Application materials are not transferable from one application year to another.

### **Application Information**

Applications for the Occupational Therapy Entry-Level Degree Program are processed on a rolling admissions basis, but applicants are encouraged to apply early. Point of entry into the program is only once each academic year with classes beginning in late August. Although all applications are considered until class openings are filled, please be advised that applications are not considered complete nor reviewed until all admissions materials are received by ATSU Admissions. Please visit **WWW.OTCAS.ORG** to apply for admission.

### **Tuition and Expenses**

Tuition for the 2011-2012 year is at \$26,530 for the first year. Tuition is assessed annually with an additional educational supply fee of \$1,050. Tuition and fees are pro-rated for part-time enrollment. Tuition and fees are subject to change.

### **Financial Assistance**

Financial support, including private and federal loans, is available for students accepted into the Occupational Therapy Program at the Arizona School of Health Sciences. The Student Financial Assistance Office assists students in developing a comprehensive financial assistance package based on individual needs. Requests for information regarding loans and other financial assistance should be directed to [financialaid@atsu.edu](mailto:financialaid@atsu.edu).

### **Accreditation**

The Occupational Therapy Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council of The American Occupational Therapy Association (ACOTE), 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824, phone 301.652.6611, ext. 2914.

The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, phone 800.621.7440, accredits A.T. Still University.

**For additional information, contact: ATSU Admissions**  
**660.626.2237; Toll Free: 866.626.2878, ext. 2237**  
**admissions@atsu.edu**  
**www.atstu.edu**