



Transforming lives through occupation, service, and whole-person care

PROGRAMS OFFERED

- ◆ Entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (EOTD)

Occupational therapy professionals work to enable engagement in daily meaningful activities or occupations to promote physical, psychological, and spiritual health and well-being. Occupational therapy assessments and interventions aim to empower individuals to live independent, productive, and satisfying lives despite disease, injury, mental illness, developmental disabilities, or other limitations.

Occupational Therapy Professional Work

Occupational therapists work with clients across the lifespan from newborn infants to the elderly. Intervention strategies include creatively using therapeutic activities to address clients' diverse needs in the following realms: motor, sensory, cognitive, visual, perceptual, emotional, and social. Occupational therapy also provides skilled training in the use of adaptive equipment and assistive technology as well as recommendations for environmental design and modification.

One of the benefits of a career in occupational therapy is the variety of settings available for employment including schools, hospitals, mental health centers, home health agencies, nursing homes, ergonomic and corporate settings, private practices, prevention programs, and community settings such as domestic violence and homeless shelters.

Employment Trends

Occupational therapy is a vital and growing profession. U.S. News and World Report states that occupational therapy remains a high-growth field, with 24% more jobs predicted in the new decade. Earnings vary by setting, experience, and position. Occupational therapists' national average annual income is \$83,000.

Department of Occupational Therapy

Within the Department of Occupational Therapy, faculty members play an active role in the education of students as evidenced by small class sizes with frequent one-on-one interaction. Faculty members mentor students throughout the program to prepare them for the National Board Certification examination and future employment.

The department also offers its students a rich learning environment for developing professional skills with an emphasis on occupation-based practice, whole-person care, health management, and wellness; Evidence-based practice, mission-focused community engagement, and professional citizenship. At LLU,

Capstone projects can be in a variety of areas though we emphasize Academia, Community Practice & Innovation, Hand Therapy, Lifestyle Medicine, Palliative Care, Spirituality, Technology, and Trauma.

We believe that professional education is a journey of the mind, body, and spirit that involves growth and development in self-discovery, and clinical reasoning. The foundational, practice and professional learning helps provide professional competency in a supportive environment and promote lifelong learning.

The EOTD program is primarily a "Face to Face" (F2F) program where students use the University's Learning Management System, Canvas, to supplement the F2F learning experience. There are a few distance education classes offered online through Canvas and incorporates best practices in DE, such as having substantial interaction between faculty and students, and incorporating active learning opportunities. The University has a Canvas tutorial in the student's application registration portal with instructions on how to use the Learning Management System.

Accreditation Status

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation and as of December 2020, has been granted Candidacy Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE's telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is www.acoteonline.org.

Students must complete 24 weeks of Level II fieldwork as well as an individual 14-week capstone experience within 6 months following the completion of the didactic portion of the program. The doctoral capstone experience must be started after completion of all coursework and Level II fieldwork as well as completion of preparatory activities defined in 2018 ACOTE OTD Standard D.1.3

After successful completion of the NBCOT exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Doctoral Degree

The Entry-Level Doctor of Occupational Therapy is for individuals who have obtained a Bachelor's degree. The length of the program is 3 years and includes six months of fieldwork and a 14-week Capstone Project and Experience. There are specific courses required for admission.

Admission requirements:

- Proof of completion of a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Human Anatomy with a lab*
- Human Physiology with a lab*
- Human Lifespan Development
- Intro to Statistics*
- Medical Terminology
- GPA 3.2 minimum (pre-requisites and cumulative)
- Minimum 40 hours volunteer/work experience in an occupational therapy department.
- All pre-requisite coursework must be completed by December of the year submitting application.

* These courses must have been taken within 5 years prior of application to our program.

*Grades of prerequisites below B- are not accepted.

NOTE: GRE is not required.

How to apply:

1. Applications are accepted beginning mid-July to the end of September. Applicants must first apply to OTCAS at: www.otcas.org
2. Three references must be provided to OTCAS.
3. Request transcripts from all post-secondary schools attended. Transcripts must be sent directly from the prior institutions to OTCAS.
4. We require a minimum of 40 hours of community service or observation. The forms may be downloaded from our OT website. Upload the completed forms to your OTCAS application.
5. Eligible candidates will be contacted for further instructions in moving to the next level of review.

Financial Aid

You may begin your financial aid process in October, the year prior to when you plan to attend, even before a formal acceptance to the program. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be found online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

LLU's Student Financial Aid office will help you obtain the necessary applications and guide you through the process of applying for aid. Contact them at:

Office of Financial Aid
Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA 92350
(909) 558-4509

Housing

On-campus housing is available for men and women. For information on the men's dormitory (Daniell's Residence), call (909) 558-4562. For information on the women's dormitory (Lindsay Hall), call (909) 558-4561.

International students

Transcripts from foreign countries must be officially evaluated by a transcript evaluation service. Applications cannot be processed by the admissions office until the official evaluation is received.

TOEFL or IELTS (or equivalent English language proficiency examination) scores for applicants whose native language is not English or whose secondary education was received outside the United States (refer to: <http://www.llu.edu/allied-health/sahp/internationalstudent.page>)

Contact Information

EOTD Academic Advisor

Leticia Guerrero (909) 558-4628, ext. 47599
E-mail: letguerrero@llu.edu

<http://www.llu.edu/allied-health/sahp/ot/admissions.page>

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LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY

LLU at a Glance

>> Founded in 1905 >> A Seventh-day Adventist institution integrating health, science, and Christian faith >> Offers over 200 programs in the health sciences >> Houses eight schools: Allied Health Professions, Behavioral Health, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Religion >> About 4,000 students >> Over 1,300 faculty >> 2,000 professional researchers >> \$46 million dollars in private and public grants generated each year >> Many service-learning opportunities

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