

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD)

The Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program begins each fall semester. Applicants must complete at least 90 credit hours of undergraduate coursework before starting the program (applicants can apply to the program if at least 60 credit hours of undergraduate coursework has been completed and no more than 3 prerequisite courses are outstanding). All admissions requirements must be completed before starting the program. All required application materials must be received prior to admission consideration. Completed applicant files received by October 1 will be reviewed for priority selection. After the priority deadline, files are reviewed on a rolling basis. The selection process requires an interview before final decisions are made to offer admission.

### Priority Deadline: October 1

*Applications are accepted after the priority deadline and reviewed on a rolling basis*

OTCAS applications must be “verified” by the priority deadline to be considered for priority selection. Therefore, OTCAS applications should be submitted 2-3 weeks ahead of the deadline to allow time for OTCAS verification. OTCAS applications will be accepted into mid-June each year. After OTCAS closes in June, applications can be submitted directly to the Allen College Admissions Department until July 31.

### To be considered for admission the following criteria must be met:

- Completion of at least 90 credit hours of undergraduate coursework, including all prerequisites
- 3.0 minimum undergraduate grade point average (GPA)
- 3.0 cumulative prerequisite GPA
- A grade of C or higher must be earned in all prerequisite coursework
- Advanced Placement or CLEP credit will not be accepted
- Prerequisite courses are required to be completed within ten years of application
- Satisfactory completion of prerequisite coursework before starting the program
- Applicants whose first language is not English must prove [English proficiency](#)

*Applicants will only be considered for admission for the upcoming academic year.*

*Meeting admission criteria does not guarantee an interview. The OTD Admissions Committee uses selection criteria to choose candidates best qualified for the program and practice of the profession.*

*Information subject to change without prior notification.*

*Accreditation and Status: The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation and has been granted Candidacy Status 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](http://www.acoteonline.org). The program must have a preaccreditation 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 therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure. Students must complete 24 weeks of Level II fieldwork and an individual 14-week capstone experience within 24 months following the completion of the didactic portion of the program. The doctoral capstone experience must be started after completion of all coursework, Level II fieldwork and preparatory activities defined in 2023 ACOTE OTD Standard D.1.3.*

