

Touro University Nevada

School of Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy Doctorate (Entry-Level) Application Instructions

Start your career in occupational therapy with an entry-level doctoral degree. Review the admission requirements and application process thoroughly to help ensure your application is complete and processed quickly.

CONTACT US

We are working remotely but you can now communicate with us through Zoom Video conferencing. Email Shannon, the OT Program Manager, at smcshane2@touro.edu to schedule a Zoom appointment.



Touro Nevada is here for you, wherever you are

Touro Nevada is focused on educating the best and brightest to join the courageous healthcare providers that are seeing us through these unique and challenging times. We are ready to start your new class this summer -- online or in-person -- as dictated by the healthcare needs of our communities and world.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

View the specific educational standards and personal qualifications you'll need for consideration of your application.

OTCAS REQUISITES

Submitted a completed and verified application through Occupational Therapist Centralized Application Service (OTCAS).

GPA & COURSE REQUISITES

Earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater.

Completed the following coursework with a grade of C or better prior to applying:

- ▶ 6 semester credits of Writing/Composition
 - Composition, Technical Writing, Academic Writing, Scientific Writing, Professional Writing, Critical Thinking and Writing courses are strongly encouraged.
 - Creative Writing or Literature will not satisfy this requirement.
 - Verbal GRE score >70 percentile or higher or a score of '3' on analytical GRE would satisfy writing prerequisite
- ▶ 6 semester credits of Humanities
 - Anthropology, philosophy, religion, fine arts, logic, ethics, foreign language, cultural studies and/or group dynamics.
- ▶ 3 semester credits of Statistics or Research Methods
 - Intro courses will satisfy this requirement.
- ▶ 8 semester credits of Human Anatomy & Physiology w/lab*
 - Only 4 credits can be taken online.
 - Online/hybrid courses are not recommended and courses must be within five (5) calendar years from matriculation.
- ▶ 3 semester credits of Natural Science*
 - Physics, kinesiology, biology, chemistry
 - Must be within five (5) calendar years from matriculation.
- ▶ 3 semester credits of Human Development or Lifespan
 - Must cover human development from birth to death with cognitive, physical, and social/ psychosocial components
 - Completing BOTH a child development and a gerontology/aging course would suffice as the (1) 3-credit prerequisite (in addition to additional Psychology requirements).
 - Also, Developmental Psychology and Motor Development Across the Lifespan will no longer satisfy this requirement. Additional documentation will be required.
- ▶ 3 semester credits of Abnormal Psychology
- ▶ 6 semester credits of Psychology
 - Preferred courses are developmental or cognitive psych, behavioral psych and/or theories of personality.

*Natural Science courses (3 credits) must have been completed within 5 calendar years of matriculation into the program.

*Anatomy/Physiology courses (8 credits) must have been completed within 5 calendar years of matriculation into the program.

Any prerequisite coursework that does not meet the above standard is brought before the Program Director and faculty for approval.

- ▶ Additional documentation may be required to verify prerequisite coursework including the course syllabus.

DEGREE REQUISITES

Obtained a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education prior to matriculation.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Submit two letters of recommendation:

- One letter must be from a professor or supervisor.
- One letter must be from a practicing occupational therapist.

Letters of recommendation should be sent directly by the recommenders on letterhead and must include contact information.

The letters of recommendation must be submitted via OTCAS.

YOUR PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS

Have basic computer literacy and be able to use Microsoft Word and PowerPoint software.

- ▶ Must have 40 hours of volunteer or work shadowing.
 - Have performed a minimum of 20 hours of work shadowing or volunteering alongside an occupational therapist.
 - Additional 20 hours in a client-based setting as a volunteer or employee with or without an occupational therapist (e.g., special education classroom, adult day care center, a camp counselor with special populations).
 - Hours must be logged and signed off by a current licensed OT for observation hours and/or supervisor for client-based hours. Students may use facility letterhead or the OTD Student Experience Documentation Form.
 - o These hours must be submitted with OTCAS application.

YOUR STATUS & STANDARDS

- ▶ Hold a U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status at the time of application.
- ▶ Must have 40 hours of volunteer or work shadowing.
 - Have performed a minimum of 20 hours of work shadowing or volunteering alongside an occupational therapist.
 - Additional 20 hours in a client-based setting as a volunteer or employee with or without

an occupational therapist (e.g., special education classroom, adult day care center, a camp counselor with special populations).

- OT hours must be logged and signed by supervising OTR/L and documentation must be uploaded in your OTCAS application.

- Signed documentation may be logged on the TUN OTD Student Experience Documentation Form or on a form provided by your facility.

- ▶ Must meet the OTD Technical Standards, which includes the physical abilities necessary to perform as an occupational therapist.

- ▶ The OTD program does not accept transfer students or transfer credits.

How to Apply

If you meet the minimum program requirements, you are welcome to apply by following these steps.

Applicants are required to:

- ▶ Submit the primary application through the Occupational Therapist Centralized Application System (OTCAS).

- a. Direct applications are not accepted.

- When prompted, designate Touro University Nevada on your application to ensure your application is received.

- b. Application due February 18th.

- ▶ Submit the secondary application through the link provided in your email invitation. Pay a non-refundable application fee of \$75. NOTE - do not submit the secondary application unless invited.

- a. Application due March 1st.

- ▶ Sign and submit the pdfOTD Technical Standards for the Occupational Therapy Program as part of the secondary application.

Mail all supporting documents to:

Touro University Nevada
Office of Admissions
Attn: Occupational Therapy Program
874 American Pacific Drive
Henderson, NV 89014

Applicants can contact the Office of Admissions at (702) 777-1750 to verify supporting documents have been received.

COVID-19 FAQs

Touro Nevada recognizes this may be a stressful time for prospective students. You may be facing challenges such as not being able to take courses in-person or taking standardized tests as scheduled, which makes it hard to meet admission requirements. We are closely monitoring these issues and have addressed your concerns by making temporary revisions to admission requirements for the 2020-2021 admissions cycle. Please review the COVID-19 FAQs below and contact your program manager, Shannon McShane, smcshane2@touro.edu if you have any additional questions. Thank you for your continued interest. Stay safe!

Will Pass/Fail grades meet admission requirements?

All Pass/Fail inquiries will be determined on a case-by-case basis

Will online courses meet admission requirements due to the pandemic?

All on-ground-to-online courses will be approved/denied on a case-by-case basis

Are observation hours being waived?

No, 40 hours of observation/volunteer work with 20 hours signed and under the supervision of a current licensed OT are still required. If the applicant does not have these hours completed at the time of application, their application will be placed on hold until the signed documentation is submitted. Observation hours may be completed via Telehealth during the pandemic.

To assist with the completion of these required hours, Touro Nevada will now accept The Quinnipiac University Occupational Therapy Online Shadowing Experience modules. Please contact the OTD Admissions Program Manager for the login credentials to complete these modules and to receive the required prompts for essay completion.

My school is closed, what if my conferral of degree and/or final transcript is delayed?

All final transcripts and conferred degree must be received to meet admission requirements. All incoming students who do not have final transcripts and conferred degree submitted prior to acceptance, will be closely monitored and will maintain their conditional acceptance status until the document(s) is received.

Additional Information

Upon receipt of required documents, the Admissions Committee will review and determine whether you will be invited for an interview. Due to COVID-19, only virtual interviews will be conducted throughout the 2020-2021 application cycle.

If you're selected for an interview, you will be contacted by telephone and/or email to schedule the interview. Interviews will begin in November and will continue on a rolling basis until the class is filled.

- ▶ You will be given pertinent information about the schedule of events for the interview day.
- ▶ There are 36 students admitted each year into the OTD program.

Next Steps

If you are successfully admitted, you are required to:

1. Submit the \$500 deposit by the required date.
2. Submit official transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended (includes undergraduate and graduate level coursework). All foreign transcripts must be professionally evaluated by an agency

such as World Education Services (www.wes.org) or National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (www.naces.org).

3. Submit immunization records prior to matriculation including health and physical examinations.
4. Pass a Level I criminal background check.

- Applicants to the School of Occupational Therapy should be aware that any felony convictions may impact the graduate's eligibility for certification and credentialing.

5. Provide proof of health insurance coverage.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by the date stated in your admissions invitation letter will result in revocation of the admission invitation.

OTD COMMON QUESTIONS

You will find answers to some of the most common questions about the program at tun.touro.edu. For answers to common questions on the general application process, please visit Admissions & Aid.

What is the accreditation status of the program?

Touro University Nevada is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) as a branch campus of Touro University California and licensed in Nevada by the Commission on Post-Secondary Education. The Occupational Therapy Doctorate program at Touro University Nevada has received accreditation 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 phone: 301-652-AOTA and email: accred@aota.org. www.acoteonline.org

What is the length of the OTD program?

The Occupational Therapy (OTD) program is 36 months.

When are interviews conducted?

Campus interviews are conducted from November through February. However, be advised that, due to the high number of applicants, we utilize rolling admissions. It is possible that all interview slots will be filled prior to the OTCAS deadline. Interviews are based on rolling admissions and may be canceled as needed.

Does the OTD program operate on rolling admissions?

Yes, the application process is on a rolling basis.

- Rolling admissions signifies that applications are reviewed as they arrive through the Centralized Application System and/or Touro University Nevada admissions application.
- The committee review selection begins after applications are verified and will continue until all the accepted seats are filled.
- Once the available positions are filled and the waitlist is maximized, the application review will end for the cycle. This may take place well before the stated deadline(s) due to the volume of applications.

Does your program require the GRE?

At this time Touro University Nevada's OTD program does not require a GRE to be taken for admission.