

Master of Occupational Therapy Program
Alternative Pathway Application to the Master of
Occupational Therapy Program

Thank you for your interest in Muskingum University's Alternative Pathway to the MOT program. Before you apply, please review the steps below.

Step 1: Develop Your Prerequisite Coursework Plan

- Work with Jennifer Baird to create your Alternative Pathway Prerequisite Coursework Plan.
- Contact Jennifer Baird at jbaird@muskingum.edu or (O):740-826-6151 (C):740-630-8134
- You must affirm your intent to complete all prerequisite coursework by the start of MOT classes in the fall. If you are uncertain about your timeline, please contact Jennifer Baird before proceeding.

Step 2: Complete the Application Criteria & Documentation Checklist

- Thoroughly review and complete all requirements listed in the Alternative Pathway Application Criteria and Documentation Checklist below. This checklist will guide you in preparing all necessary documents and evidence of prerequisite completion and professional engagement.

Step 3: Create Your Application Account

- After reviewing this document, create an [online application here](#).

Step 4: Submit Your Online Application

- Within the portal, you will create and submit your Alternative Pathway MOT Application.

Step 5: Interview (If Invited)

- As part of the application process, you may be invited to an oral interview (virtual or in-person) with the MOT Program Director or designee prior to final admission decisions.

Timeline Reminder

The Alternative Pathway MOT program at Muskingum welcomes applications at any time, however, to be fully considered for acceptance into the Alternative Pathway, please complete and submit your online application portfolio by the due date identified in the Apply area of the MOT webpage.

If you have any questions, please contact Program Director Dr. Kimberly Lawler at klawler@muskingum.edu or 740-826-8466.

The Muskingum University MOT Program has a status of accreditation by the:
Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education of the American Occupational Therapy Association.
7501 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 510E
Bethesda, MD 20814
ACOTE's phone: 301-652-6611
ACOTE's website: www.acoteonline.org

Master of Occupational Therapy Alternative Pathway Application Criteria and Documentation Checklist

Step 1: *Preliminary Qualifications*

You must first meet each of the following qualifications to be considered for admission to the MOT program. Therefore, no admission points are assigned to these criteria. **Listed in parentheses after each item are descriptors of supporting document(s) you must submit with your application. Failure to submit evidence will mean that your application is incomplete and will not be considered for admission to the MOT Program.**

- 1. I have or will have completed all prerequisite courses prior to the start of MOT classes. I understand that each prerequisite course must have been completed with a "C" or better grade. (Submit transcripts to Muskingum University from all institutions where you have completed prerequisite courses.)
- 2. I have completed a bachelor's degree in an OT-related field (Upload copy of transcript where you earned your bachelor's degree.)
- 3. I have completed the required 6-module virtual observation experiences to promote my understanding of occupational therapy and the diverse practice settings and populations addressed in the profession. (Upload completed Virtual Observation reflection Form. Maximum of 2 pages, double-spaced.)
- 4. Complete and sign the MOT Program Applicant Attestation in the online portal.

Step 1: Scored Qualifications:

Complete and upload in your Alternative Pathway MOT Application in the online portal.

- 1) A minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
We will use the transcripts you submit to calculate your GPA using your GPA from your Bachelor's degree and averaging it with the GPA for all prerequisite courses, regardless of where they were taken. If prerequisite courses were part of courses within the bachelor's degree program, those courses will count in both calculations. Scoring: The average GPA will be multiplied by 25 and the total reported as the score for this item up to 100 points maximum.
- 2) Written Interview.
Please develop and submit responses to the five (5) questions in the Written Interview section of the online application. Each question is worth a maximum of 20 points. TIP: We recommend you review the questions in the online application, save your application, and come back to it later. You can use Word to develop thoughtful and thorough responses that represent you well and meet the guidelines provided. Log in, then copy and paste your Written Interview responses and submit your application when ready.
- 3) Two recommendation assessments. Submit contact information for your two references in the online portal.
Each assessment will be worth a maximum of 100 points. *Your score will be the average of the two assessment scores.* The assessments must be completed by:
 - 1) Supervisor from the past 24 months (Employer or faculty member in health-related course if not working)
 - 2) A community professional (ex: professional colleague, volunteer leader, clergy member, or coach. Individual **must** be knowledgeable about your professionalism and overall character).
- 4) 3) If you are reapplying to the Alternative Pathway for the MOT program, you must obtain new recommendation assessments.

Professional Resume & Professional Summary:

Professional Resume (max. of 35 points) - Highlight your education and work experience in this one-page, single-spaced document. (Upload document in the online portal.)

Professional Summary (max. of 15 points) - Speak to how your specific job duties or other life experiences have allowed you to use your health-related degree, as well as relevant ways in which these experiences have prepared you for the MOT program. (Upload this one-page, double-spaced document in the online portal.)

Step 2: Professional Engagement Qualifications: Select items for which you are providing proof.

The following experiences demonstrate a higher level of engagement within the profession and community and may enhance the ability to be successful in the MOT program. You can earn a small number of points by documenting all your relevant experiences. While these items are NOT REQUIRED for admission to the MOT program, the additional points you may earn through this process will be included in the admission scoring.

I have completed in-person occupational therapy observation hours to advance my understanding of the profession and application in multiple practice settings. (Upload ALL MOT Program Observation Hours Log[s])

- 2 point for 5-10 observation hours
- 3 point for 11-20 observation hours
- 4 points for 21-30 observation hours
- .5 point for completing observation in 2 practice settings
- 1 point for completing observation in 3 or more practice settings

I have worked using my health-related degree within the most recent 36 months (Upload the **Work Hours Verification Form** completed and signed by a company official.)

- .5 point for working in position requiring interaction with the public (not using health-related degree)
- 1 point for up to 2 years working part or full-time using health-related degree
- 1.5 point for 2-4 years working part or full-time using health-related degree
- 2 points for more than 4 years working part or full-time using health-related degree

I serve/have served in an **organizational leadership role** during the past 36 months (Upload signed official documentation of appointment or election and evidence of work completed while in the role, or a letter on agency letterhead and signed by an agency representative that outlines your leadership role along with above information.)

- 1 point for a leadership role within the company for which you work
- 1 point for a leadership role within your educational experience
- 1.5 point for a leadership role in an agency or organization outside of the company for which you work

I have volunteered service to a community organization in a non-leader role during the past 36 months. (Upload **MOT Program Volunteer Hours Log** signed by a representative from the community organization indicating the time frame of your service including date, hours completed, and purpose/event for each volunteer opportunity, and total hours you volunteered for the organization/agency).

- 1 point for 10-30 hours
- 2 points for 31-60 hours
- 3 points for over 61-90 hours
- 4 points for over 90 hours

I have been a member of a professional association a minimum of 6 months prior to application (Upload official documentation that includes the association's name, your name, and years of membership in each association)

- .5 point for state association membership 6 months to 2 years
- .5 point for American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) membership 6 months to 2 years
- .5 point for a health-related professional membership 6 months to 2 years
- 1 points for a health-related professional membership for more than 2 years

Step 3: *Oral Interview* (either in-person or virtual)

Candidates may be asked to participate in an oral interview. Oral interviews will be conducted at the discretion of the MOT program director by invitation only. Should such an interview be required, you will be notified by the MOT program director.

Interviews will be conducted by ad hoc committees assembled at the invitation of the MOT program director.

Additional details about the oral interview process will be provided if you are invited to participate in such an interview.

Alternative Pathway to the Master of Occupational Therapy Program

Occupational Therapy Experiences & Virtual Observations

To meet the Muskingum University MOT Alternative Pathway Application requirement and promote your understanding of occupational therapy, the diverse practice settings and populations addressed in the profession, you must complete the following:

1. In each module you are required to read all materials and/or watch all videos.
2. Write an **OT Experiences & Virtual Observations Reflection** (Maximum 2-pages, double-spaced). Address the following:
 - a. In your own words, answer the question, “What is occupational therapy?”
 - b. Write a reflection clearly identifying what you learned from each of the 6 modules.

Module 1: Learn About Occupational Therapy (OT)

Build your knowledge about the profession of OT, occupational therapy practitioners (OTP), how to become an OTP, and the diverse diagnoses, practice settings and populations served by OT. Plus, take a quiz to see if a career in OT is a good fit for you.

To complete this module, go to [Why Choose OT](#):

Review all the materials under each heading:

- 1. What is OT?**
 - a. What is occupational therapy?
 - b. What is an Occupational Therapist?
 - c. What is an Occupational Therapy Assistant?
 - d. What are Occupations?
 - e. How is OT Different from PT?
- 2. Become an OTP**
 - a. Would I make a good OTP?
 - b. How do I become an OTP?
 - c. Occupational Therapy Specialties
- 3. OT IRL (In Real Life)**
 - a. The Scoop on Why It’s Called “Occupational Therapy”
 - b. Cool Trends in Occupational Therapy
 - c. How OT Pros Work with Doctors, Nurses, Physical Therapists and More!

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Module 2: What is OT Video

1. American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). (2017, August 29). *What can occupational therapy do for you?* [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/jwwOXILYQ4Q?si=OLXf--J4bQCoPChs> (13:15)

Module 3: Children and Adolescent Videos

1. Kim, E. K. (2015, December 17). *'A godsend': Meet Lori Rothman, the therapist who changed Al Roker's son's life* [Video]. Today Show. <https://www.today.com/kindness/godsend-meet-lori-rothman-therapist-who-changed-al-roker-s-t62321> (5:36)
2. AOTA. (2018, May 8). *Make play an important part of your family's day: Occupational therapy can help* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-Fwybpol0w> (3:34)
3. Childrenshospgh. (2014, August 29). *Physical therapy and occupational therapy | UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh* [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/iXu0ntBTEXg?si=EMA75dtQM9FlaDjG> (4:42)
4. Cincinnati Children's. (2019, January 23). *Discover occupational therapy | Cincinnati Children's* [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/Rkpf5AamuGU?si=rvAgH88quZnzgubQ> (3:19)

Module 4: Adults

1. Kate Barlow. (2022, August 17). *Adult acute care by OT mentorship* [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/UTyhuMfiS74?si=erY3OHKKzSyEvUPH> (1:02:15)
 - a. Explore links/barcodes provided for OT abbreviations & additional resources
2. Mark Coleman. (2021, September 29). *Work hardening and conditioning* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6VWdVBTHqKs> (1:41)
3. Washington Health System. (2022, May 2). *WHS MedTalk – Occupational therapy* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bBZeVUxIC_g (4:22)
4. AOTA. (2017, October 11). *What OT can do for you: Recovering after a stroke* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mfpVMZDRg9A> (1:30)

Module 5: Older Adults

1. AOTA. (2017, September 14). *AOTA offers tips for avoiding falls* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jhocLIXv3IE> (2:59)

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2. Mizzou College of Health Science. (2014, September 2). *Arthritis and occupational therapy* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaeDlx_qbgk (3:44)
3. AOTA. (2017, October 11). *What OT can do for you: Aging safely at home* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w45fhETw9BI> (1:37)

Module 6: Mental Health

1. USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. (2008, March 25). *Occupational therapy practice: Mental health* [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/lk7w5fdtRjY?si=lgCEz6PvluGZ-oWn> (1:45)
2. Tedx Talks (2022, March 31). *The hidden magic of occupational therapy* [Video]. YouTube. https://youtu.be/_Cm3so1a7H8?si=Nt8QM5zRmre45TLq (13:32)
3. Tedx Talks. (2022, December 1). *Occupational therapy for the occupational therapy for the homeless | Quinn Tyminski | TEDxStLouisWomen* [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/GeeSM1zINu8?si=Js0H484ni4taX3lf> (15:49)

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GRADUATE & CONTINUING STUDIES

Master of Occupational Therapy Program

Work Hours Verification Form

***Please use one form for each employer. This form must be completed by a company official, not the applicant.**

Applicant's Name	
Name of Employer	
Employer Address	
Applicant's Position Title (e.g. Occupational therapy assistant, Certified nursing assistant, etc.):	
Start Date of Work Hours Reported (First date of work hours included in total hours worked. Must be within last 60 months):	
End Date of Work Hours Reported (Last date of work hours included in total hours worked):	
TOTAL WORKED HOURS BY APPLICANT AT THIS EMPLOYER (No vacation/paid time off hours should be included):	

Printed Name of Company Official _____

Signature of Company Official (Typed names not accepted)

_____ Date _____

Title/Credentials: _____

Contact Email: _____ Phone: _____

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GRADUATE & CONTINUING STUDIES

Alternative Pathway Master of Occupational Therapy Program Observation Hours Log (In-Person)

***Please use one form for each facility.**

Applicant Name	
Name of Facility	
Facility Address	
OT Practitioner (OT/OTA) Name & Credentials	
Email Address & Phone Number	

Type of Clinical Setting: (Please check all that apply) **Applicants are encouraged to complete in-person observation hours to promote their understanding of occupational therapy and the diverse practice settings and populations addressed in the profession.**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skilled Nursing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental/Behavioral Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home/Community Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School System | <input type="checkbox"/> Inpatient Rehabilitation |

Date	Time In	Time Out	Hours	Population or Ages Seen	Primary Diagnosis(es)

TOTAL HOURS AT THIS SETTING _____

Signature of OT Practitioner _____ Date _____

License Number _____ State of License _____

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GRADUATE & CONTINUING STUDIES

Master of Occupational Therapy Program Volunteer Hours Log

***Please use one form for each community organization/agency.**

Applicant Name	
Name of Community Organization/Agency	
Organization/Agency Address	
Volunteer Supervisor's Name & Title/Credentials	
Volunteer Supervisor's Email Address & Phone Number	

Date	Time In	Time Out	Total Hours/Event	Purpose of Service/Event Name	Signature of Event Supervisor
TOTAL HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE AT THIS ORGANIZATION/AGENCY					

Signature of Organization/Agency's Volunteer Supervisor _____

Date _____

Apply to the MOT Program [here](#).