OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

**Career Pathways Network**

**Division:** Allied Health  
**Program:** Occupational Therapy Assistant  
**Degree:** Associate In Applied Science

**INSTATE TUITUION:**  
$147.00 per credit hour.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
Meet with an Allied Health Master Advisor to complete an Academic Program Plan (APP).  
To schedule an appointment call:  
502-213-2277.

**Academic Program Coordinator:**  
Pam Smithy  
502-213-2342  
DT Campus, Health Sciences Hall, Room: 489  
pam.smithy@kctcs.edu

**Administrative Assistants:**  
Mary Warford  
502-213-4200  
DT Campus, Health Sciences Hall, Room: 452  
mary.warford@kctcs.edu

**Allied Health Division Chair:**  
Kara Schotter  
502-213-2275  
DT Campus, Health Sciences Hall, Room: 460  
kara.schotter@kctcs.edu

**CONTACTS:**  
Admissions: 502-213-4000  
Financial Aid: 502-213-2137

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**  
United States Department of Labor  
Occupational Outlook Handbook:  

**KCTCS OTA Webpage:**  

**You will learn to:**  
- Treat Patients with Injuries, Illnesses, or Disabilities through Therapeutic Use of Everyday Activities.  
- Observe, Record, & Report Patient Progress.

**Example classroom work:**  
- Anatomy & Physiology  
- Physical Dysfunction  
- Pediatric, Adult, & Elder Issues in Occupational Therapy  
- Professional Transitions & Management

**ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE**  
Occupational Therapy Assistant  
67 Credit Hours

**FUTURE OPTIONS:**  
Graduates may also seek employment in hospitals, nursing homes, doctors’ offices, and other healthcare environments. Transition into Occupational Therapy Research, OR become an occupational therapist. A small number of colleges offer occupational therapist "bridge" education programs that are designed for qualifying occupational therapy assistants to advance and become therapists.

**Average Wages for Kentucky (2016):**  
Entry Level Salaries: $44,060  
Median Salary: $60,350  
Top Earners Salary: $76,330

**National Average Wages (2014):**  
Entry Level Salaries: $36,420  
Median Salary: $56,950  
Top Earners Salary: $76,790

**JOB PROSPECTS/OPPORTUNITIES:**  
Opportunities for occupational therapist assistants should be very good. Employment is anticipated to increase 43% from 2014 to 2024. Occupational therapist assistants with past experience working in occupational therapy offices or healthcare settings will have the best job opportunities.

**REASONS FOR OPPORTUNITIES:**  
Occupational therapy assistants (OTA) will continue to be in demand as the elderly population grows. As more healthcare facilities employ occupational therapists, more OTA’s will be needed to help administer prescribed treatments to patients and assisting with treatment facility operations.

**LICENSURE & CERTIFICATION:**  
A license is required to practice as an occupational therapy assistant in most states. Licensure is usually based on meeting the requirements for certification from the National Board for Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). NBCOT offers the credentials to those who graduate from entry level programs accredited by Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) and who also pass the NBCOT exam.

**Source:** US Department of Labor