The Anoka Technical College Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant is a 71-credit program. Course work includes a combination of general education courses, occupational therapy theory and skill building courses, and on-the-job experiences at various fieldwork sites. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the fieldwork sites. All academic coursework must be completed before students are placed on their Level II fieldwork experience. The Level II fieldwork must be completed within 6 months of completing the required coursework. Enrollment in the fieldwork classes may be limited due to the availability of fieldwork sites.

### Program Learning Outcomes

1. Practice using innovative and evidence-based interventions within the role of the entry-level Occupational Therapy Assistant.
2. Demonstrate professional attributes, ethical standards, and values of the profession.
3. Deliver competent services/outcomes by using reflection, strengths, client centered and occupation based interventions, and critical and creative thinking.
4. Collaborate inter/intra professionally.
5. Work with people from diverse backgrounds in a variety of practice settings serving the community.

### Industry and Career Outlook

Young or old, we all have a job to do – the job of living. Learning, growing, playing, working, managing our homes, and caring for our families and ourselves are among the occupations of life.

Sometimes physical, emotional, or other challenges prevent people from participating fully in the job of living. Stroke, injury, depression, and developmental disabilities, for example, can make it difficult for people to do everyday tasks or be as active and as independent as they’d like. Occupational therapy – a vibrant, growing profession – makes it possible for people to regain independence and to enjoy life to its fullest. By choosing a career in occupational therapy, you will make a difference. You will improve the lives of children, young people, and adults alike. Occupational therapy assistants work with the supervision of registered occupational therapists to provide hands-on services to children and adults who are learning new ways to succeed in the occupations of life.

Students today can look forward to dynamic careers working in varied settings with people of all ages. Many practitioners help children thrive in the “occupations” of childhood learning, playing, and growing. Some work in schools with students who have learning disabilities or behavioral problems. Others work with children who have cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, and other disabilities. Practitioners also work with individuals in their homes, community centers, rehabilitation hospitals, and nursing homes. In these settings, they may support people with traumatic injuries, strokes, Alzheimer’s disease, or mental health problems.

Wage information is available from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.
## Program Sequence

### Fall Semester
- **COTA 1001** Introduction to Occupational Therapy  
  4 credits
- **COTA 1050** Clinical Conditions  
  4 credits
- **COTA 1105** Therapeutic Applications I  
  3 credits
- **HLTH 1005** Anatomy and Physiology  
  4 credits
- **Total:** 15 credits

### Spring Semester
- **COTA 1155** Therapeutic Applications II  
  2 credits
- **COTA 1260** Performance Skills and Applications  
  3 credits
- **COTA 1270** Productive Aging/Geriatric Practice  
  4 credits
- **COTA 1280** Mental Health and Wellness  
  4 credits
- **COTA 1290** Level I Fieldwork Behavioral  
  1 credit
- **PSYC 1406** General Psychology  
  4 credits
- **Total:** 18 credits

### Summer Semester
- **ENGL 1107** Composition I  
  4 credits
- **OR**  
  - **ENGL 2105** Business and Technical Writing  
    4 credits
  - **PSYC 1506** Lifespan Development  
    4 credits
  - **SPCH 1500** Intercultural Communication  
    3 credits
- **Total:** 11 credits

### Fall Semester
- **COTA 2310** Professional Seminar  
  2 credits
- **COTA 2330** Physical Rehabilitation Practice  
  4 credits
- **COTA 2340** Children and Youth Practice  
  4 credits
- **COTA 2350** Community Practice  
  4 credits
- **COTA 2391** Level I Fieldwork Traditional  
  1 credit
- **Total:** 15 credits

### Spring Semester
- **COTA 2411** Level II Fieldwork Rotation A  
  6 credits
- **COTA 2421** Level II Fieldwork Rotation B  
  6 credits
- **Total:** 12 credits

## Graduation Requirements

All COTA courses and HLTH1005 must be completed with a grade of C or higher. All ENGL, PSYC, and SPCH courses must be completed with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

## Faculty Contact

- **Julie Grivna** 763-576-4262
- **Barbara Kloetzke** 763-576-4017
- **Becky Johnson** 763-576-4222

For more information about the Occupational Therapy program you can contact the Advisor’s or you can e-mail questions to FutureOTAStudent@anokatech.edu