

Occupational Therapists



Occupational Profile

DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

OVERVIEW

Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that help build or restore Vocational, homemaking, and daily living skills, as well as general independence, to persons with disabilities or developmental delays. Belongs to the Health Science career cluster and Therapeutic Services career pathways.

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

Basic Skills:

- Service Orientation
- Active Listening
- Critical Thinking
- Monitoring
- Judgment and Decision Making

Technology Skills:

- Computer Based Training Software
- Graphics or Photo Imaging Software
- Medical Software
- Optical Character Reader or Scanning Software
- Word Processing Software

Knowledge:

- Psychology
- Therapy and Counseling
- Medicine and Dentistry
- Education and Training
- English Language

Work Interests involve descriptive categories (compatible with Holland's Model) attributed to success in this career:

- **Investigative** – Involves working with ideas requiring an extensive amount of research, fact finding, problem solving, and thought analysis.
- **Social** – Involves working with, communicating with, and teaching people; providing service.

Work Styles depict worker characteristics conducive for this career:

- **Problem Sensitivity**
- **Deductive Reasoning**
- **Inductive Reasoning**
- **Oral Comprehension**
 - **Oral Expression**

Work Values are associated with aspects of work that provide satisfaction in this career:

- **Achievement**—Sense of accomplishment; results oriented.
- **Working Conditions**—Job security; good working conditions.
- **Relationships**—Provide service to others in non-competitive environment.

Aptitudes reflect an ability to acquire skills and knowledge for success in this career:

- **Problem Sensitivity**
- **Deductive Reasoning**
- **Inductive Reasoning**
- **Oral Comprehension**
 - **Oral Expression**

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2014 Estimated Employment	2024 Projected Employment	2014-24 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,795,100	1,949,240	154,140	0.9	58,145
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	86,030	98,955	12,925	1.5	3,190
Occupational Therapists	895	1,150	255	2.8	45

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>

2017 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Mean Wage	Mean Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Exp Wage	Exp Salary
Total All Occupations	20.93	43,539	10.09	20,991	26.35	54,813
Total Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	34.33	71,400	17.33	36,038	42.83	89,081
Occupational Therapists	36.06	74,998	28.52	59,320	39.83	82,837

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-employment-and-wages>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Master's Degree	None	None

A master's degree is required for occupational therapists that may include commensurate internship experience. Licenses, certificates, and/or commissions required. Sources: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>, https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_training_system.htm, and <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/iowa-licensed-occupations>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level	Minimum Skill Level	Maximum Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4	4	5
Locating Information	5	5	5
Reading for Information	6	6	7
Applied Technology	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Business Writing	3	3	5
Workplace Observation	3	3	4
Listening for Understanding	4	3	4

An ACT assessment-based credential issued in determining essential work skills needed for employment success across industries and occupations. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6 & higher). Source: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-employers/assessments.html>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Occupational Therapists Employed?)

Ambulatory Health Care Services
Hospitals
Self Employed
Social Assistance

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>