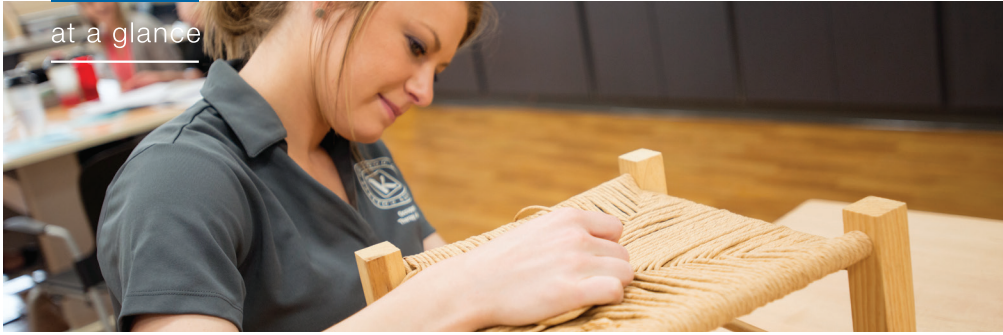


at a glance



**Allied Health**

2164 Linn Hall

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# Occupational Therapy Assistant

Department: Allied Health

Degree: Associate of Applied Science

Entry time: Fall

Length: 2 years (5 semesters, including 1 summer)

- Kirkwood's Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program has maintained a consistent **100 percent pass rate on the national board exam**.
- The program faculty has vast experience in **inpatient acute hospital, behavioral health, skilled nursing facility, and pediatrics**.
- The program features **caring instructors** who have received outstanding leadership and mentorship awards.
- Classes utilize **new facilities** with state-of-the-art equipment.
- **Small lectures and labs** allow for **personal attention** and facilitate meaningful interactions between faculty and students.
- Graduating highly qualified clinicians, Kirkwood's OTA program is **focused on student success**.
- **Kibbie Grant:** Students in this program may be eligible to have half their tuition paid for by the Kibbie Grant. Go to [www.kirkwood.edu/Kibbie](http://www.kirkwood.edu/Kibbie) for more details.

## Program Description

OTAs work with patients of all ages and help them learn skills to lead independent lives. They work under the supervision of an occupational therapist to provide hands-on services to clients who are learning new ways to succeed in the occupation of life. At Kirkwood, students will learn to use the latest equipment and techniques to promote their success as they move into their careers.

The primary location for Occupational Therapy Assistant students is the Kirkwood Linn County Regional Center in Hiawatha.

## Career Opportunities

School systems  
Assisted living facilities  
Hospitals  
Outpatient clinics  
Long-term care facilities  
Private practice

## Sample Classes

Human Anatomy and Physiology  
Professionals in Health  
Foundations of OT  
Basic Medical Terminology  
Introduction to Psychology  
Pathophysiology for the OTA  
Functional Kinesiology  
Psychosocial Dysfunction  
Physical Dysfunction  
Community Health and Special Populations  
Pediatric Interventions for the OTA  
Geriatric Interventions for the OTA

## Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the national certification exam administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Successful completion of the exam leads to the Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) designation. Most states, including Iowa, require a license to practice. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification exam or obtain state licensure.

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)  
6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200  
North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929  
(301) 652-AOTA | [www.acoteonline.org](http://www.acoteonline.org)

## Scholarships

Kirkwood will help you pay for college! Kirkwood awards more scholarships than any other community college in Iowa. For more information and to apply, visit [www.kirkwood.edu/scholarships](http://www.kirkwood.edu/scholarships).

Kirkwood Community College shall not engage in nor allow unlawful discrimination against individuals involved in its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, age, disability, or actual or potential parental, family, or marital status. If you have questions or complaints related to compliance with the policy, please contact the Vice President of Human Resources at Kirkwood Community College, 313 Kirkwood Hall, 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, Telephone: 319-398-5572, Email: [equity@kirkwood.edu](mailto:equity@kirkwood.edu), or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education, John C. Kluczynski Federal Building, 230 S. Dearborn Street, 37th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604-7204, Telephone: 312-730-1560, Fax: 312-730-1576, Email: [OCR.Chicago@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Chicago@ed.gov).