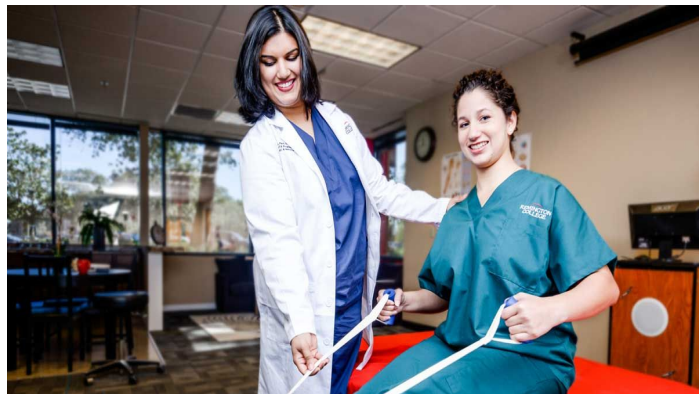


Occupational Therapy



An Occupational Therapist helps people reach their goal of doing everyday activities. They achieve this by working with people to better patients' abilities to do certain occupations they want to do or need to do.



Characteristics/skills to be an OT:

- Good communication skills- Occupational Therapists spend a good amount of time listening to their patients. They have to explain to the patients in-depth procedures and certain situations they will be dealing with.
- Problem solver- Each patient will have a different problem wrong with them when they come in. Some may have one or two while others have several problems. They all need to be solved according to the problem.

- Helpful- The point of being an Occupational Therapist is to help others do every day activities. If you aren't a helpful person being an OT is not a good idea.
- Organization skills- Appointments will be made by patients that OT's need to keep track of. Also, they will need the patient's records kept organized so they can solve each problem and know what they are talking about.
- Physical strength- Occupational therapists have to move their clients from one area to another or getting in and out of a vehicle. Other times occupational therapists move objects for their clients.
- Writing skills- You have to explain clearly to the client exactly what you are doing and how you are doing it. Keeping detailed files on all clients will help not just the client and their medical team, but also the other family members who may be taking care of them.

Advancements

To become an Occupational Therapist assistant you will need an associate's degree or one year certificate program. Their salary is \$52,300. If wanted you could go back to college to obtain a Master's degree. If you are working for a certain company they may pay for you to return and get a better degree. This job salary is \$78,810. Actual salaries may vary greatly depending on specialization in the field, experience and location. Becoming an Occupational Therapist doesn't guarantee any actual job growth.

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