Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines
Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines/) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/).

Application
Applications for the MS OT handled annually using the OT Centralized Application Service (OTCAS) (https://portal.otcas.org/). OTCAS provides a full-service, Web-based application and admissions process for prospective occupational therapy program applicants.

Following are important timelines for the OTCAS application cycle (see OTCAS for specific dates).

- **Mid July:** OTCAS applications cycle opens (see OTCAS for specific dates).
- **Mid January (December 1 if international):** Deadline for submission of all application material to OTCAS (see OTCAS for specific dates).

Once recommended for acceptance to UWM’s MS in Occupational Therapy Program, students need to apply to and be accepted by UWM’s Graduate School. However, students may apply to UWM’s Graduate School at any time prior to being recommended for acceptance to the OT Program.

Admission
The MS in Occupational Therapy Program admits students on the basis of a holistic, competitive application process. Students are accepted into the program once per year in Spring and begin professional coursework in the following Fall.

In addition to Graduate School requirements (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission/), applicants must meet these departmental requirements to be considered for admission to the program.

1. An undergraduate degree completed by the end of the Spring semester of the year prior to beginning the OT Program, from an accredited institution, with an overall cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).
2. Six prerequisite courses, required to be completed by end of Fall semester of the year prior to beginning the OT Program, with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUMA</td>
<td>Human Anatomy</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMP</td>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMAN</td>
<td>Human Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTP</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT</td>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSCI</td>
<td>Select one of the following natural science courses:</td>
<td>3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<td>BIO</td>
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<td>PSY</td>
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</tbody>
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1. Courses requiring a lab component.
2. Courses with laboratory-based data analysis required.
3. Submission of scores on the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission/#gre) taken within the last five years.

4. Completed OTCAS application.

5. Three letters of recommendation: One letter must be from an academic source and one from a clinical/health-related source. The third letter can be either from an academic or clinical/health-related source. All three letters must use the OTCAS form.

6. Reasons Statement or Personal Essay: This is the same as the OTCAS essay. Address why you selected occupational therapy as a career and how an occupational therapy degree relates to your immediate and long-term professional goals.

7. Additional Question: Answer why the Occupational Therapy Program in the Department of Occupational Science & Technology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is a good fit for you. Limit 250 words.

For all admission and application related questions, please contact (414) 229-4713 or OT-program@uwm.edu.

**Credits and Courses**

The program is a tracked curriculum of 75 credits over 28 months, including a minimum of 24 weeks of full-time fieldwork during the program. OCCTHPY 810 serves as the capstone requirement for the degree. Students will enroll as full time students for each term of study (Summer, Fall, Spring). There is no part-time option for students in the MS in OT program. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 and a grade of B- or better in all required courses. Students who do not maintain this will be placed on probation.

**Transcript-Designated Concentrations**

Through judicious use of electives, students may also choose one of two transcript-designated concentrations. This may require completion of more than the minimum 75 credits.

**Additional Requirements**

**Major Professor as Advisor**

The Graduate School requires that each student have a major professor to advise, supervise, and approve the program of study. Students are assigned faculty advisors in the MS in OT program upon acceptance into the program.

**Time Limit**

The student must complete all degree requirements within four years of initial enrollment.