

Pre-Occupational Therapy at UNT

Prospective Student Handout

The University of North Texas (Denton Campus) does not offer a program, major, or concentration in Pre-Occupational Therapy Studies. Instead, the Office of Health Professions provides **advising** and **guidance** for any current student who expresses an interest in applying and attending an Occupational Therapy program after graduation. Therefore, no UNT student has to ‘qualify’ for our services; as long as you are a current student, we will gladly serve you.

The Office of Health Professions provides the following services:

- Personalized Advising
- Career Exploration
- Application Guidance and Planning
- Review of Entrance Requirements and Prerequisite Coursework
- Professional Timeline
- Interview Preparation and Personal Statement Review

Frequently Asked Questions about Pre-OT at UNT

What prerequisites do I need for OT schools?

All prerequisites are located on the each OT School’s website. If you plan to transfer to UNT, please see a list of all Texas OT prerequisites in our Pre-OT Packet (courses are presented as UNT course numbers): <https://cos.unt.edu/sites/cos.unt.edu/files/cos/COS%202017-6-12%20Pre-OT%20Packet.pdf>

When do I apply for OT school?

Students will apply for OT programs one year before enrollment. Many students use the year in between to complete their Bachelor’s degree. Be sure to check all deadlines on the OTCAS and the OT Schools’ websites.

Is a Bachelor’s degree required for admission to an OT school?

Yes. Becoming an OT requires that you earn a Bachelor’s degree first. Any Bachelor’s is appropriate for admission.

What should I major in?

Many students choose to major in Kinesiology with the Allied Health track. Other popular majors: Integrative Studies, Biology, and Psychology. To learn more about these three degrees, please contact the College of Arts & Sciences to schedule a prospective appointment: 940-369-8606. To further explore the Kinesiology degree, please contact the College of Education at 940-565-2736. As mentioned above, any major is appropriate, so please contact the department on campus that houses the major of your interest.

Frequently Asked Questions about Pre-OT at UNT cont.

Do I have to major in science?

No. Beyond the required science courses, a broad liberal arts background is encouraged and expected, as is majoring in the field that most interests you.

What will make me a competitive candidate for OT school admission?

Though not all is required, the following information can help you become a competitive candidate:

- **GPA:** 3.6-4.0 is considered a competitive GPA for OT School
- **Entrance Exam:** Pre-OT students are required to take the GRE (Graduate Record Examination). Please visit the GRE website for more information: www.ets.org/gre
- **Community Service:** Pre-OT students should find volunteer opportunities that are consistent and relevant to their passion for serving others
- **Clinical Experience:** Students should shadow a OT regularly, and obtain direct-patient contact experience

Can I use my AP credit to fulfill my pre-health requirements?

It depends on the schools and the courses. Most schools will accept the credit, as long as the course is listed appropriately on the UNT transcript, along with the number of credit hours. However, it's best if you contact OT programs for more information.

When should I take the GRE?

Ideally, pre-occupational therapy students should take the GRE around March of the year they are applying.

Does UNT offer any Pre-Health clubs on campus?

Yes. Please visit our website for a list of Pre-Health organizations on campus:

<https://cos.unt.edu/advising/health-professions/pre-occupational-therapy-university-north-texas>

Can international students gain admission to Occupational Therapy programs?

Most of the Texas schools do accept non U.S. citizens. It is important that you check with the admissions offices in these particular programs to find out about requirements for TOEFL exams and the type of documentation necessary to get credit for international coursework taken abroad.

I am not sure if I would like to attend UNT. How can I learn more about transferring?

- 1) Feel free to schedule a prospective appointment with an advisor in the major of your interest. During your meeting, be sure to express your interest in Pre-OT and have a Pre-OT packet available (this can help evaluate how the Pre-OT courses will apply towards your major):
<https://cos.unt.edu/advising/health-professions/pre-occupational-therapy-university-north-texas>
- 2) Once you have been accepted to UNT, you will attend a new student orientation. At orientation, please attend our Pre-Health seminar to learn more about the journey to a Health Professional school.
- 3) After orientation, feel free to schedule an appointment with a Pre-Health Counselor in the Office of Health Professions: 940-369-8606.
- 4) Have questions about Pre-Health at UNT? Feel free to e-mail us or give us a call at 940-369-8606.