

# *A Calling to Improve Lives*



**CREIGHTON  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

[creighton.edu/OT](https://creighton.edu/OT)

**Creighton  
UNIVERSITY**

School of Pharmacy and  
Health Professions  
Occupational Therapy



# Welcome to the Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program

Discover a path that fuels your compassion, fulfills your calling and ignites your desire for lifelong exploration, knowledge and service. The possibilities are boundless in the Creighton University Doctor of Occupational Therapy program.

As a member of our close-knit community, you'll join a remarkable group of professionals—students, faculty, researchers, practitioners, alumni and mentors—all united in advancing the field of occupational therapy. Together, we strive to shape careers, transform lives, serve communities and achieve remarkable outcomes.

Prepare yourself for a transformative experience shaping your future and empowering you to make a difference in the lives of patients and their families. You'll have the confidence and skills to help people of all ages overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

Now, more than ever, the world needs Creighton-educated occupational therapists.

**Top-20  
OT program**

*U.S. News & World Report*

*More than*  
**10,000**  
**service hours**  
*in the last decade*

**100% of 2023  
graduates are  
employed**  
OR IN FELLOWSHIPS

*More than*  
**850 clinical sites**  
CONTRACTED ACROSS THE  
NATION AND THE WORLD

**30 faculty hold  
doctoral degrees**

**98.67% overall  
pass rate**  
ON NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPY EXAMINATION  
*for the past 3 years*



## Pioneering Pathways to Degree Completion

The OTD curriculum provides quality learning opportunities for students from all pathways with synchronous and asynchronous lecture attendance and face-to-face lab instruction. Omaha OTD students attend lecture in a traditional classroom format, while hybrid pathway students may watch live captures or lecture recordings. Adjunct faculty serve as lab instructors and work with the core faculty in Omaha to present the lab component of the curriculum on Regis, Phoenix and University of Alaska – Anchorage (UAA) campuses.

The goal of these pathways is to create a learning environment that acknowledges the unique needs of adult learners while maximizing connection with faculty and fellow students in all locations.

### Omaha Program

Since 1985, the occupational therapy program provides students with innovative study in remodeled labs and classrooms while in a full-time, traditional campus setting. Occupational therapy students will gain critical learning experiences from seasoned faculty, over 30 with doctoral degrees and seven who have been recognized with American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) fellow status. As leaders in the field, they look to innovation in various research and scholarly works to provide you both didactic and experiential learning.

### Alaska Hybrid Pathway

In 2008, we began our University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA)–Creighton University Distance Initiative. The entry-level program initiative includes asynchronous and synchronous teaching and learning in a unique hybrid model. This dynamic and distinctive pathway allows students interested in rural healthcare issues to explore the needs of the area, the Native population and give perspective to the culture.

### Regis Hybrid Pathway

In 2015, we began an exciting collaboration with Regis University in Denver, Colorado. This pathway follows the successful hybrid model that began with our Alaska Pathway. A collaborative pathway between two Jesuit, Catholic institutions, this high-quality program is rigorous but offers smaller cohorts for relationships to develop among classmates and instructors.

### Phoenix Hybrid Pathway

In the fall of 2021, we welcomed our first occupational therapy students to our Phoenix, Arizona, pathway. The move to the region is a direct response to the growing shortage of health care professionals in the area. With the same emphasis on clinical education and compassionate, whole-person care, the Phoenix location is a true extension of our existing pathways. The Phoenix pathway offers a hybrid learning experience.



## Get out of the classroom and into the world.

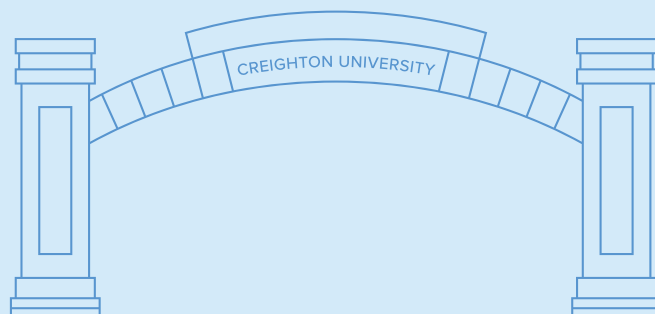
At Creighton, we understand the importance of your role as an occupational therapist. We take our responsibility seriously in equipping you with the knowledge and experience to excel.

Our faculty is here to guide you on your journey, tailoring your clinical education to meet your needs and aspirations. With a network of over 850 clinical sites across the United States and internationally, each placement offers a distinctive focus that enhances your development as a practitioner.

Through an immersive 41.5 weeks of experiential education, you will gain the knowledge and practical skills to provide patient-centered care that prioritizes outcomes and holistic wellness. We believe in empowering you to make a lasting impact on the lives of those you serve.

For the capstone experience, you'll apply your expertise to develop deeper skills in one or more of the following areas:

- Clinical Practice
- Research
- Leadership
- Administration/Management
- Program and Policy Development
- Advocacy
- Education







## Jesuit values enrich your education.

As a practitioner in the field of health care, occupational therapists see the importance of combining their practice with faith, service and spirituality. You'll find these ideas in the occupational therapist's oath that you take your first month of class, and in many of the Jesuit values that encourage:

- Developing the whole person
- Respecting each person as an individual
- Striving toward excellence and the greater good
- Promoting justice and serving communities as women and men for and with others
- Reflecting critical thought and responsible, ethical action



“Creighton is different than many other universities because of the attention to not only professional formation, but spiritual and personal formation. Students are invited to many self-reflection and development activities including retreats, professional conferences, international immersions, community engagement, service learning and student leadership. Students come from around the U.S., and our clinical affiliations allow exposure and experiences from top-notch health care facilities.”

**BRENDA COPPARD, PHD, OTR/L, FAOTA**  
*Professor of Occupational Therapy*

## Turn your passion into lifelong purpose.

At Creighton, we graduate occupational therapists who are ready to make an impact in their profession, in the lives of their patients and the communities they serve.

From areas where resources are limited to academics where new treatment regimens are being researched and developed, to neighborhood clinical centers that attend to the community's needs—you'll find Creighton occupational therapists are well prepared for a lifetime of professionalism and calling.

## Fellowship Programs

The occupational therapy fellowship programs in pediatrics, neurology and gerontology align with the mission of creating reflective occupational therapy practitioners who serve clients and their families with a focus on respect for diversity, local, national and global service and holistic care.





# Join the Creighton community

Founded in 1878, Creighton University is one of 27 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States. The University, based in Omaha, Nebraska, is well known for its outstanding interdisciplinary and comprehensive educational programs taught in the Jesuit tradition of educating the whole person—academically, spiritually and socially. Creighton's nine schools and colleges span the arts and sciences, law, business and the health sciences, offering a broad array of undergraduate, professional and graduate programs for nearly 9,000 students.

## **Jesuit Values at the Core of Belonging**

Inspired by the Catholic and Jesuit tradition, our Creighton community believes each human being is a profound gift from God, deserving of

dignity and opportunity. The School of Pharmacy and Health Professions established a Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee to promote belonging. We are dedicated to fostering an inclusive culture where students, staff, and faculty can thrive every day at Creighton University.

By embracing JEDI principles, we honor our community's rich tapestry of backgrounds, beliefs and values. We understand this empowers us individually and equips our students to become healthcare practitioners who truly provide patient-centered care. Together, we are shaping a future where diversity and inclusivity are integral to healthcare, positively impacting individual lives and our society.

## Student Success a Top Priority

The Office of Academic and Student Affairs (OASA) is dedicated to helping students succeed both inside and outside the classroom. The OASA team builds community, provides academic support and makes the student experience meaningful. Additionally, when students face difficult questions or challenges, OASA connects them with the best resources for success.

- Partners with academic advisors and instructors to support student success in coursework and clinicals.
- Leads elective courses and teaches strategies for success in professional school with focus on wellness and persistence by academic success consultants.
- Optimizes individual performance by working with academic success consultants. Tutoring available for challenging material.
- Oversees new student orientation and onboarding.
- Supervise and assists with Student Government activities.
- Consult and refers students to University partners, including:
  - SAS (Student Accessibility Services)
  - Title IX
  - SCS (Student Counseling Services)
  - Student Health
  - Financial Aid
  - Emergency loans
- Collaborates with Student Life Formation and Belonging.





# Admission Information

Congratulations on everything you’ve done to reach this stage in your professional journey to the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions.

We know you’ve worked hard, and we want to help make the next step as smooth as possible. We love talking to prospective students and encourage you to schedule an appointment with our admission staff.

## Application Process and Scholarships

The Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions Occupational Therapy program participates in the centralized application system [otcas.org](https://otcas.org). Applicants are encouraged to apply early. We review applications on a rolling basis and award admission-based scholarships throughout the admission cycle. Once interview seats are full, we may be unable to interview additional qualified candidates.

Before completing your application, please learn more about our admissions requirements below.

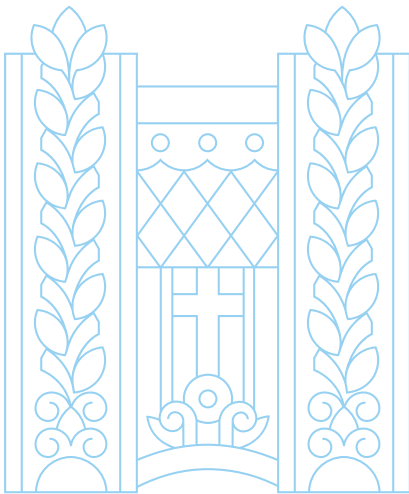
**To apply**, applicants must submit all the following materials through OTCAS, an occupational therapy centralized application service, which includes:

- An official transcript must be submitted to OTCAS from each institution the applicant has attended and/or is currently attending. Official transcripts must be received directly from the issuing institution(s).
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Observation in an OT setting supervised by a licensed occupational therapist.
  - Applicants will be considered for an interview prior to completion of observations. Admitted candidates will be required to complete their observations by August 1 of the year they matriculate.

## Prerequisites

For admission into the Doctor of Occupational Therapy programs at Creighton University, you must meet the following requirements:

- a minimum of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of prerequisite coursework.
- Prerequisite courses may be completed at any regionally accredited institution and must be completed with a grade of C or better (a C- grade is not acceptable). All prerequisite coursework must be completed by August 1 of the desired year of entry.



## COURSES

	Semester Hours	Quarter Hours
Theology, Philosophy and/or Ethics <i>(also includes religion or logic)</i>	3	4.5
Culture, Ideas and/or Civilizations <i>(includes history, world religions, American studies, world literature or women’s studies)</i>	3	4.5
Human Anatomy <i>(if enrolled in a combined anatomy/physiology course, six semester hours will be required)</i>	3	4.5
Psychology <i>(three of the six hours must include either human development or abnormal psychology)</i>	6	9
English Composition	3	4.5
Statistics	3	4.5
Medical Terminology	1	1.5
Electives <i>(Creighton Undergraduate students must complete six hours of Theology among the elective hours)</i>	38	57
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>

The School of Pharmacy and Health Professions will make the final determination regarding courses satisfying requirements.

The entry-level program in occupational therapy (OTD) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA) located at: 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E Bethesda, MD 20814 [accred@aota.org](mailto:accred@aota.org) | 301.652.2682  
More information on ACOTE can be found at [acoteonline.org](https://acoteonline.org).

## Learn More



Application Process  
and Scholarships



Prerequisites



## A Leader in Health Sciences Education

Creighton University's \$100 million Phoenix expansion and the \$75 million CL Werner Center for Health Sciences Education in Omaha help position Creighton as one of the nation's largest health professions educators.

Creighton University is a nationally recognized institution that delivers an interprofessional approach that reflects the future of clinical care and is an extension of our classroom teaching. This innovative enterprise, one of the first in the nation, ensures students in Creighton's health sciences programs receive a team-based education that prepares them to collaborate and share knowledge with other health care professionals in their careers.

The collaborative approach is the key to improving the patient experience—and you'll learn that firsthand as a Creighton student.

Creighton  
UNIVERSITY

---

School of Pharmacy and  
Health Professions  
Occupational Therapy

For more information:  
call 402.280.2662 or visit  
[creighton.edu/OT](http://creighton.edu/OT)