

Your path to Occupational Therapy.

(July 2020)

You're studying for a degree but would like to become an Occupational Therapist.

How do I become an Occupational Therapist?

The first step is to take an accredited course at third level. Registration is currently with The Association of Occupational Therapists of Ireland ([AOTI](#)).

[University College Limerick](#): MSc Occupational Therapy: 2 years. Minimum of a second class honours primary degree (2.2) (Level 8 National Qualifications Authority of Ireland) or a postgraduate degree (Level 9 National Qualifications Authority of Ireland). The type of previous undergraduate degree awarded is not a limiting factor in terms of eligibility.

Candidates may apply to this programme in the final semester of an undergraduate programme and must produce evidence that all requirements for postgraduate study are met by the end of June in the year that the programme commences. Once all standard requirements are met for postgraduate applications at UL, the HPAT (Health Professions Admission Test- Ireland) will be used as the sole instrument to select students for this programme.

Candidates applying to the MSc Occupational Therapy programme in UL must register for HPAT-Ireland + Written Component (Registration fee €160).

HPAT – Ireland will be held on 22 February 2020.

[NUI, Galway](#): BSc 4-years. Apply through the CAO by February 1st.

[Trinity College Dublin](#): BSc 4-years. Apply through the CAO by February 1st. Mature students contact Admissions.

[University College Cork](#): BSc 4-years. Apply through the CAO by February 1st.

What other options are there?

To use your qualification gained abroad in Ireland it must first be validated by CORU.

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Validation/>

[The Health Professionals Council](#) regulate this industry in the UK and have a list of approved courses for registration on their website. More information can be found on the [College of Occupational Therapists](#) website which also includes a handbook of courses online.

The following 2-year **accelerated** courses enable graduates of other disciplines to obtain a qualification in Occupational Therapy (this list may not be exhaustive – please check appropriate websites).

[Glasgow Caledonian University](#): MSc Occupational Therapy. First or 2.1 degree in health, behavioural or social sciences with basic knowledge of statistics. A degree with relevant pre-professional experience. Must complete a module before start of course. For closing and late applications go to website.

[Queen Margaret University College](#), Edinburgh: PGDip/MSc Occupational Therapy. An honours degree. . For closing date and late applications visit website.

[University of Brighton](#): PGDip/MSc Occupational Therapy (Health through Occupation). Degree and/or experience.

Knowledge and understanding of occupational therapy. Work experience in health or social care preferred but not essential. Application and closing date available online.

<http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/occupational-therapy-pre-registration-msc> MSc Occupational Therapy. A first or upper second class honours degree from any discipline with strong applicants demonstrating

The Career Development Centre offers advice and information in good faith on the basis of the best information available to it. The Centre does not accept any responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice or information. Please check with individual universities before applying for courses.

a science profile and evidence of informed insight into the profession of occupational therapy. Applicants with a lower second class honours degree who have extensive experience of working in a health or social care setting will also be considered. Check website for application and closing dates.

[University of Derby](#): MSc Occupational Therapy [pre-registration] – honours degree of 2.1 or above and you will need to have a range of skills that demonstrate your commitment, enthusiasm and professional suitability for a career in occupational therapy. You will require relevant experience and evidence that you will be able to manage the academic demands of Masters level study. Visit website for application and closing dates.

[University of Cumbria](#): MSc Occupational Therapy –1st or 2nd class honours degree in a relevant subject. If you have an unrelated first degree, but also experience in occupational therapy, your application will be considered. Candidates will need to show post-qualification academic performance, a range of continuing professional development (CPD), and relevant professional experience. Require a clear understanding of the work of an occupational therapist, so it is useful if you have undertaken some work experience or shadowing. Visit website for application dates.

[Leeds Beckett University](#): MSc Occupational Therapy. You will require an honours degree, normally a 2:1, relevant to occupational therapy. You will also require a good understanding of the occupational therapy profession and occupational therapy practice along with an understanding of health and social care. Applicants will also be required to pass medical screening and agree to a Criminal Records Bureau check. Check website for further information.

- [London South Bank University](#): BSc Occupational Therapy. Entry Requirements; A Level BBB **or**;
- BTEC National Diploma DDM **or**;
- Access to HE qualifications in Health and Social Care or similar with 30 Distinctions and 15 Merits **or**;
- Equivalent level 3 qualifications worth 128 UCAS points
- Applicants must hold 5 GCSEs A-C including Maths and English or equivalent (reformed GCSEs grade 4 or above).

English language

If your first language is not English you must have the following minimum International English Language Test Score (IELTS) results at the time of applying:

- 7.0 overall or equivalent
- 7.0 in the listening and reading sections
- 7.0 in the writing and speaking sections.

Interview

If your initial application to a Health and Social Care course is successful, you'll be invited for an interview.

Visit our [interview page](#) for information on preparing for the day and what to bring.

Further information on our website.

[University of Northumbria](#), Newcastle: MSc Occupational Therapy. 1st or 2.1 honours in a health subject or related subject to occupational therapy. Visit website for further information.

BSc Occupational Therapy **UCAS Code; B920**. 3 years-full time. [Entry Requirements](#) for 2020/2021.

[University of Teeside, Middlesbrough](#): [MSc Occupational Therapy](#). Applicants should normally have a 2.1 honours degree. Applicants are advised to contact the Admissions Tutor for further information before applying.

BSc Occupational Therapy. Entry requirements; You are expected to have:

- recent Level 2 Academic Study within the last three years.
- a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4 (C) or above including English language, maths and science. Key Skills/Functional Skills Level 2 in Communication and Application of Number can be accepted in place of English and maths GCSE. Please note these are not required if you are doing an Access course – however, you must have English and maths as listed below.*

3 credits at distinction and 27 graded Level 3 credits at merit.

*We can accept level 2 Access units in communication and maths in place of English and maths GCSEs.

Irish Leaving Certificate

120 points from five Highers/Honours subjects, preferably including biology. For further information go to website.

The Career Development Centre offers advice and information in good faith on the basis of the best information available to it. The Centre does not accept any responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice or information. Please check with individual universities before applying for courses.

[University of East Anglia](#), Norwich: MSc Occupational Therapy. Degree at grade 2:1 or above. We recommended that you submit your application for September 2017 entry by 31 July 2017. Visit website for future application information.

It is also possible to apply for a second undergraduate degree in the UK. Applications for the courses through <http://www.ucas.com/>

Where can I get help with the application form and interview?

A [Careers staff](#) member can give you feedback on your application form (*tip – fill out a photocopy of the form first*) at a 45 minute appointment, we also have a file and books on writing personal statements.

Some of the universities giving courses have tips on their websites. These include:

Before attending your interview you should visit at least two occupational therapists to help you appreciate the demands and role of an occupational therapist.

Some type of experience working/caring for people with a disability or disadvantaged, either paid or voluntary would benefit applicants.

Useful Contacts

www.tudublin.ie/career-developmentcentre/	Career Development Centre
www.aoti.ie	Association of Occupational Therapists in Ireland
www.baot.co.uk/	British Association of Occupational Therapists
www.hpc-uk.org	Health & Care Professionals Council
www.nhscareers.nhs.uk	British National Health Service Careers website
www.wfot.org/	World Federation of Occupational Therapists

The Career Development Centre offers advice and information in good faith on the basis of the best information available to it. The CDC does not accept any responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice or information.

We would like to thank the Career Development Centre NUIG for sharing this information with us.

The Career Development Centre offers advice and information in good faith on the basis of the best information available to it. The Centre does not accept any responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice or information. Please check with individual universities before applying for courses.