

Pattern I – Baccalaureate
Master of Science Degree Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How often will you accept students into the Occupational Therapy Program?

Students will enroll in the occupational therapy major courses once per year in the fall semester. Forty students are accepted from the pool of applicants.

2. Can I still take the prerequisite courses at a community college?

All of the prerequisite courses required to enroll in the major courses may be taken at community colleges with the exception of neuroanatomy, which must be taken at SJSU. A description of a neuroanatomy course taken at a university other than SJSU may be sent to the Occupational Therapy department for possible approval.

3. During what semester is it recommended that I matriculate at SJSU?

It is recommended that students enroll in Biology 109 (neuroanatomy) and a minimum of 2 San José State University advanced general education courses (university requirements) in the spring semester prior to enrollment in the occupational therapy major courses in the next fall semester.

4. When should I apply to be considered for enrollment in the occupational therapy major courses?

One must first apply to the university. For matriculation in the fall semester the filing date begins October 1st of the preceding year. The Department of Occupational Therapy's Enrollment Committee will meet in April to review applicant files for the fall semester. Students must have submitted the occupational therapy personal data form and transcripts to the Occupational Therapy Department to be considered.

For those students who wish to matriculate to San José State University in the spring semester prior to their enrollment in the occupational therapy major courses the filing date begins August 1st the preceding semester.

5. Must I have completed all prerequisite requirements before I can be considered for enrollment in the major courses?

No, classes and/or the required volunteer hours may be in progress at the time the Enrollment Committee meets to consider your application. However, those applicants who have successfully completed all prerequisites, including volunteer hours will have the advantage over those students who still have work in progress when the committee meets. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the fall semester classes.

6. How long will it take to get through the program?

The BS/MS program is a 3 ½-year program. It consists of 4 semesters of undergraduate courses. The student will be admitted to Graduate Studies and complete a year of graduate courses, followed by a 6-months of internship. After successful completion of academic and fieldwork requirements the student will graduate with a Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy and is eligible to take the National Certification Examination.

7. Will I still earn a bachelor's degree?

Yes. After successful completion of 4 semesters of undergraduate occupational therapy course work and the completion of 120 units the student will have earned a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy. However, the bachelor's degree does not meet the standards needed to sit for the national certification board examination that is required to practice as an occupational therapist.

8. Will I have to apply for graduate school?

Yes. You will apply for graduate school during the 3rd semester of the undergraduate courses.

9. What criteria will be used to determine my acceptance into the graduate courses?

You must have a minimum 3.0 G.P.A. in the last 60 semester units of course work including the first three semesters of the occupational therapy undergraduate courses; 3.0 departmental G.P.A. based on the first three semesters of course work is required.

**** You must also have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) sometime during the first three semesters of your OT undergraduate classes and earned a combined score of 1,000 on quantitative and verbal (minimum GRE verbal score of 450 and a minimum writing score of 3.5).***

10. What will happen if after taking the undergraduate courses my G.P.A. is not at the level needed for acceptance into the graduate program?

You will not be eligible to proceed into the graduate occupational therapy program. An occupational therapy advisor will meet with you to formulate a plan for completion of the bachelor's degree.