

## Overview of Ohio Licensing Process for Foreign Educated Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)

### The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE), Of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA)

OTA typically requires a two-year associate degree offered through a community college. To find an accredited program in Ohio visit <http://otptat.ohio.gov/PTPrograms.aspx>. Program entry requirements vary between institutions. Potential students should:

- Check with college admissions office to find out if proof of English proficiency is required before admission into the academic program. If so, applicant will need to take the **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT)** at any time in the process. Internet-based version - Score must be 83 or higher. The applicant needs to contact the Educational Testing Services (ETS) at 609-771-7100 or register online at [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org). The Board must receive the test scores directly from ETS.
- Have foreign transcripts evaluated
  - **Documentation of Education:** In Ohio, college coursework completed outside the United States requires a course-by-course analysis from an approved international credential evaluation service. The Ohio Department of education is able to utilize credential evaluations from any of the following organizations:

#### Evaluation Services

[American Education Research Corporation](#)

[World Education Services](#)

[Educational Credential Evaluators Inc.](#)

[Educational Perspectives](#)

[Educational Records Evaluation Services](#)

[Academic & Credential Records Evaluation & Verification Service \(ACREVS\)](#)

[Foreign Credits, Inc.](#)

[Globe Language Services](#)

[Institute of Foreign Credential Services](#)

[International Education Research Foundation](#)

[Josef Silny and Associates](#)

\*Disclaimer: Please confirm Evaluation Services are accepted by the chosen accredited program and board. More information on credited evaluation services can be found on the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) website: <http://www.naces.org>.

#### Steps for Board Certification

##### Verification of Citizenship

Applicant will need to attest to one of the following:

- United States citizen
- Alien lawfully admitted for permanent residency in the United States (attach a copy of the front and back of their alien registration card)
- Other non-immigrant status (attach a copy of documentation such as an I-20 and I-94)
- I am a foreign national not living in the United States



#### National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

<https://www.nbcot.org/>

Apply for the **National Board Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)** Exam at

<https://www.nbcot.org/>

- Review the NBCOT Certification Exam Handbook
- Submit either a paper or online application with the exam fee (\$515 for online applicants; \$555 for paper applicants).
- Have your school registrar submit an official final transcript or Academic Credential Verification Form (ACVF).
- NBCOT will send you an "Authorization to Test" (ATT) letter. Once you receive the ATT letter you can schedule the examination on the [NBCOT website](#)



**Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers (OTPTAT) Board**  
<http://otptat.ohio.gov/>

**OTPTAT Board Exam** Application (Forms available on the [OTPTAT website](#))

- Demonstration of English Proficiency ([TOEFL iBT](#))
- Background check completed by Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and investigation (BCI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Certification of Entry Level Education
- Verification of NBCOT certification exam

**Ohio's Jurisprudence Examination**

- Must receive a 90% or better

Disclaimer: This information is provided only as an overview. All programs, processes and/or fees are subject to change. Please verify above information with appropriate agency or governing agency.  
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