



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

#### 1. Where can I observe occupational therapists working in Trinidad and Tobago?

Currently, there are 16 registered occupational Therapists in Trinidad and Tobago. You may find the list and contact information on the website of the Trinidad and Tobago Occupational Therapy Association. [www.ttota.com](http://www.ttota.com). There is also a Facebook page for TTOTA under Trinidad and Tobago Occupational Therapists.

Overseas applicants may find contacts for Caribbean occupational therapists through the Association of Caribbean Occupational Therapists [www.caribbeanot.com](http://www.caribbeanot.com). There is also a Facebook page under Association of Caribbean Occupational Therapists.

#### 2. Is this MSOT programme accredited?

The MSOT at USC was approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists on March 7<sup>th</sup> 2016. WFOT approval is granted for five years. The MSOT was also approved by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) in December 2015. The programme must be underway with students enrolled before ACTT can start process for accreditation which it will undertake in collaboration with The Council for Professions Related to Medicine in the Ministry of Health.

#### 3. Is the programme GATE approved?

Once a programme is approved by the ACTT it is eligible to be submitted for GATE approval. The MSOT has been submitted for GATE approval but has NOT yet been approved for funding.

#### 4. Is the programme full-time? Are classes offered at night and/or on weekends?

The programme is offered full-time only with classes and internships running throughout the day. Classes on the USC campus are offered Monday to Thursdays during the day and on Fridays until 12 noon. Fieldwork I and II are considered the bridge to professional practice and are scheduled during regular full-time working hours Monday to Friday. A few classes *may* be offered in a partially online or blended format as possible. Full time employment during this programme is not recommended.



**5. How much does this programme cost?**

Tuition and fees for the entire MSOT programme (eight semesters - 67 credits) is approximately TT\$160,000. This does not include the cost of accommodation, board, books, and other items such as laptop and polo shirts. Travel to and accommodation for Fieldwork is the responsibility of the student.

**6. Are there any scholarships for Trinidad and Tobago nationals and or CARICOM students?**

Information on scholarships can be found on the USC website and at [www.scholarships.gov.tt/](http://www.scholarships.gov.tt/)

**7. Do I have to have all the prerequisite courses? Do they have to be taken more recently than 10 years?**

Yes, all the listed prerequisite courses are required and they must have been taken within the last 10 years. The material covered in these life-science prerequisite courses is foundational knowledge and will not be repeated within the courses of the MSOT. While we encourage students with a diversity of academic backgrounds to apply to the program, these foundational courses are necessary to give all students an equal chance of success in the more advanced courses that build on this knowledge base.

There will be consideration given to allow one (1) co-requisite course taken only during the first semester.

**8. Where can I get the course medical terminology?**

Medical Terminology may be taken at other approved tertiary institutions or online. We will accept the following course:

Comprehensive Medical Terminology 1 & 2. (3.3 credits) Certificate upon completion.  
You may find it at <[Universalclass.com](http://Universalclass.com)>

**9. Will there be a uniform for MSOT students?**

No, there is no uniform for regular classes, but the standard USC campus dress code will apply. However, while MSOT students are on Fieldwork or Service Learning Placements they will be required to wear the placement uniform which is a MSOT polo shirt and khakis. It is understood that some placement sites may also have their own additional requirements appropriate to the clinical nature of the site.

**10. Where can I find out about housing options?**



Information on Housing can be found on the USC website and through the Student Development and Services Department.

**11. Where will the Fieldwork Placements (FW) be carried out? Who will be the FW preceptors?**

Fieldwork Level I starts from the second semester of the programme and lasts for one week full-time (40 hours). The placements sites will be in Trinidad and Tobago under direct supervision of registered occupational therapists who have had at least one-year experience practicing. Students will go on Level I placement in groups of two or three.

There are three Level II Fieldwork II placements which start in the second year and progress from 7-weeks, 8-weeks, to 9-weeks long. Students will go on placement in groups of two or three. The supervision model will be direct supervision by an OT and mixed (direct and distant) supervision by an OT.

Where appropriate and feasible, international placements will be facilitated in the later placements to enhance student learning and preparation for intended practice contexts.

###