

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy
University of the Southern Caribbean
Royal Rd., Maracas, St. Joseph, Trinidad and Tobago
Email: occupational.therapy@usc.edu.tt
Phone: 1(868)662-2241 Ext 2752

Instructions for Application to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program Starts in September 2018

WHAT TO ENSURE IS SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY

1. The completed USC Graduate Application (Form A)
2. The completed MSOT Experience Forms (Form B)
3. Two (2) passport sized colour photographs (frontal view only)
4. A non-refundable application fee of US \$50.00
5. Three (3) recommendation forms A & B (make a copy of B) (in sealed envelopes)
6. One (1) notarized copy of your birth certificate
7. One (1) notarized copy of your marriage certificate (where applicable)
8. One (1) copy of your undergraduate diploma
9. One official transcript from each institution previously attended and prerequisite courses taken
10. One (1) police certificate of good character less than 6 months old

NOTES to keep in mind for your application

1. The MSOT programme starts in September 2017. Students are admitted for FULL-TIME study for eight semesters. Students are to be available for classes and/or fieldwork between 8am – 6:00 pm Monday to Friday.
2. Prerequisite courses must have been completed with a grade of C+ or higher, though grades of A or B are strongly recommended. For applicants currently taking prerequisite courses satisfactory completion must occur prior to beginning the first semester in the MSOT program.
3. Your Personal Statement should respond to the prompt question with specific reference to occupational therapy. **Write 1,500 words maximum and include 2 references.**
4. Your resume should be 1-2 pages maximum, in Times New Roman font, 11 point size.
5. The 2018 MSOT application deadline is February 15th 2018. You will be notified by March 8th 2018 if your application has been reviewed and found eligible to move on to the interview. If so, you will be invited for a face-to-face interview with the MSOT Admissions Panel during the week of April 9th 13th 2018.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

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All prerequisite courses must have been taken within the last 10 years. For all courses that were not taken at USC please also submit course title, institution where taken, a syllabi/course description and grade which will be reflected on the official transcript. Pass/fail courses or grades below C+ will not be accepted as prerequisite coursework.

- Introduction to Statistics
- Abnormal Psychology
- Human Lifespan and Development
- Introduction to Sociology **OR** Introduction to Anthropology
- Anatomy and Physiology I **with Lab**
- Medical Terminology

All above courses may have been taken at USC or any other accredited institution. Medical Terminology may be taken 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>

VOLUNTEER or WORK EXPERIENCES

Your documentation (Form B) of your experience with OT (**Part I – 40 hrs minimum**) and experience with people with special needs or different from yourself (**Part II – 100 hrs minimum**) should meet the minimum hours. In addition to meeting the minimum hours, we strongly recommend that you aim to surpass the minimum as this exposure will not only enhance your application and interview but it will have prepared you well to succeed in the programme.

We also recommend that you include a wide range of exposure to varied populations and practice settings. Having had a breadth of exposure to a variety of age groups, cultures, and diagnoses which offer a broad perspective on the diversity of occupations will be an asset to an applicant.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATION

Each complete application that meets the minimum requirements is reviewed by the admission panel. Candidates are invited for an interview after successful review. The applications are weighted based on the following criteria

Cumulative GPA (25)

Personal Statement (20)

Grades in prerequisites (25)

Range and extent of experiences with OT (10)

Range and extent of experiences with persons with special needs of different from self (10)

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Resume (10)

The University of the Southern Caribbean (formerly, Caribbean Union College, CUC) is an independent Christian tertiary institution operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is dedicated to high ethical and moral values in keeping with Christian principles. Students applying to USC should understand that enrollment is granted to those who desire to actively uphold the aims and values of the University. The University's handbook spells out regulations by which the University is operated and governed. A student who chooses the University of the Southern Caribbean (USC) is expected to comply with all regulations. It is therefore imperative for students to study the handbook and sign a pledge of compliance before registering as a student.

STEP ONE:

Your Final Application:

1. Your application must be completed in block letters, in black ink and in your own handwriting.
2. Hand-deliver the application to the Graduate Department or mail the application to the Graduate Department, the University of the Southern Caribbean, (USC) P. O. Box 175, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, West Indies, with a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00. (or equivalent in TT\$).
3. All documents, except original certificates become the property of the University of the Southern Caribbean.
4. Please read carefully all information on the application forms and instructions sent to you from the University.
5. If you are from a foreign country, please do not leave your country to attend the University of the Southern Caribbean unless you receive your letter of acceptance.

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