Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) Degree
Admission Requirements

I. Application via online application system, OTCAS. Information considered for admission includes:
   A. Demographic information
   B. Personal statement (essay)
   C. Experiences and achievements
   D. Licenses and certifications as applicable
   E. Minimum of bachelor degree or higher conferred by a regionally-accredited institution completed by start of the first OTD semester with preferred minimum 3.20 cumulative undergraduate GPA as obtained from most recent degree completed
   F. Official transcript(s) from regionally-accredited institution(s) showing grades earned in pre-requisite courses
   G. Three letters of recommendation as specified in OTCAS (identified in OTCAS as Evaluations)
   H. GRE - Taken within past five years
      - Writing section score: 3.5 or higher preferred
      - Competitive score on verbal and quantitative sections
   I. Two separate observation or work experiences under direct supervision of a licensed occupational therapy practitioner who has no personal connection to applicant; minimum of 20 hours at each of the two different type of settings and each with a different population. Supervisor must complete Volunteer or Work Experience in Occupational Therapy form [Due to COVID-19, Volunteer or Work Experience in Occupational Therapy is waived for the students applying to begin OTD Program Fall 2021]
   J. Three to 3-½ minute self-recorded video responding to three prompts:
      - What do you know about the profession of occupational therapy and how does the profession align with your interests, skill set, and strengths?
      - Describe a time when you failed at a task or responsibility. Explain how you recovered and what you learned.
      - What else would you like the Occupational Therapy Admissions Team to know about you?
   K. Confirmation of review, understanding, willingness and ability to meet the Department of Occupational Therapy’s Essential Functions for Coursework and Fieldwork with or without accommodations
   L. Verification age will be 18 years or older by Fall 2021 start date

II. Pre-requisite course requirements
   A. All pre-requisite coursework earned at regionally-accredited institution(s)*
   B. All courses completed within past 10 years; past 5 years preferred
   C. Minimum grade of B- preferred on four-point scale (grades of C+ or lower are not acceptable) [Due to COVID-19, courses with status of P/F or U/S will be considered relative in merit to other related course grades]
   D. Courses taken for Advanced Placement (AP) credit are accepted for pre-requisite courses if said courses appear on an official transcript from the degree-awarding institution
   E. Transfer credit accepted by the degree-awarding institution is preferred from regionally accredited baccalaureate degree-granting institutions*
   F. Science lab pre-requisites: traditional course delivery preferred to online
   G. Anatomy & Physiology: Cadaver lab preferred
   H. No more than two prerequisites incomplete prior to the application deadline preferred

*Prior determination of equivalency is recommended using Xavier University’s Transfer Equivalency System (TES)

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<tr>
<th>Required Pre-requisite Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Kinesiology (3 cr hr); Lab recommended – waived for Fall 2021 start</td>
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<td>2. Introductory level Sociology or Anthropology (3 cr hr)</td>
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<td>3. Statistics (3 cr hr); through Math or Psychology department recommended</td>
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<td>4. Physics (3 cr hr); Lab required</td>
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<td>5. Abnormal Psychology (3 cr hr)</td>
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<td>6. Developmental Psychology (lifespan) (3 cr hr)</td>
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<td>7. Anatomy &amp; Physiology I (3 cr hr); Lab required</td>
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<td>8. Anatomy &amp; Physiology II (3 cr hr); Lab required</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Neuroanatomy or Neuroscience (3 cr hr); Lab recommended – waived for Fall 2021 start</td>
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<td>10. Medical Terminology (1 cr hr)</td>
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III. Application and Acceptance Process
Application deadline is rolling with applications accepted for start in Fall 2021 until slots are filled. For accepted students, one required online course is recommended for completion Summer term prior to Fall Program start (or latest by Summer term after). Each Fall and Spring semester require a heavy load of rigorous courses which need to be successfully completed to move forward with a cohort. Offers of acceptance will be determined by the following: 1) Applications will be reviewed, scored, and rank-ordered; 2) Top candidates meeting criteria will be offered acceptance; 3) Remaining applicants who meet criteria will be wait-listed and offered acceptance as slots are available until admissions close. Note: For students entering Xavier University as freshman, up to fifty percent of slots will be held for those who qualify for the “Direct Admit Pathway.”

IV. Additional Program requirements upon acceptance include but are not limited to the following:
A. The required course recommended for completion in Summer is online and asynchronous. It requires use of a computer that meets Xavier’s operating system requirements. See Xavier’s Technical Requirements for Online Courses to ensure adequate preparation. Also required is a working knowledge of an online classroom management system, i.e., Blackboard or Canvas, the latter the system used by Xavier.
B. To participate in the required Total Immersion Diversity Experience (TIDE) fieldwork Level I experience in Year 3 students must have a valid passport, or the ability to obtain a valid passport for travel. For non-US passport holders, students may need to obtain a visa for travel outside the US. Contact the Center for International Education (CIE) at 513-745-3489 or studyabroad@xavier.edu with questions around this requirement.
C. Documentation on record of immunizations: measles/mumps/rubella, hepatitis B, varicella (chicken pox), tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis.
D. Documentation on record of annual updates without lapse throughout program duration:
   a). History and physical exam;
   b). TB test and seasonal influenza vaccination;
   c). FBI/BCI criminal history record check (a felony conviction may affect certification and licensure);
   d). Negative drug screen results per request;
   e). CPR certification;
   f). HIPAA and Universal Precautions/Blood Borne Pathogen training;
   h). Liability insurance through Xavier University;
   i). Student health insurance;
   j). Membership in OOTA and AOTA.
E. OTD program continuation including but not limited to the following:
   a). Minimum grade of B in all courses;
   b). Semester and cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;
   c). Ethical behavior commensurate of a future health care provider;
   d). Meet Department of Occupational Therapy’s Essential Functions for Coursework and Fieldwork.

Note: Candidacy Status was granted by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. ACOTE’s telephone number c/o AOTA is (301) 652-AOTA; web address is www.acoteonline.org. Please read the Prospective Applicant Letter from ACOTE explaining further this process. The Xavier University Program must have a preaccreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Program approved by Xavier University, Higher Learning Commission, Ohio Department of Higher Education.
Candidacy Status granted by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (see note above).