

ACOTE® December 2021 Accreditation Actions

The AOTA Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) met in December 2021 and took the following accreditation actions:

Final ACOTE decisions subsequent to an initial on-site evaluation:			
PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION	TERM	NEXT ON-SITE
Chatham University (OTD), Pittsburgh, PA	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
College of Saint Mary (OTD), Omaha, NE	Accreditation with Conditions	7	2028/2029
Johnson & Wales University-Providence (OTD), Providence, RI	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
Medical University of South Carolina (OTD), Charleston, SC	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
Platt College-Anaheim (OTA), Anaheim, CA	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
Towson University (OTD), Towson, MD	Accreditation with Conditions	7	2028/2029
Tufts University (OTD), Medford, MA	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
University of Findlay (OTD), Findlay, OH	Accreditation with Conditions	7	2028/2029
University of Kansas Medical Center (OTD), Kansas City, KS	Accreditation with Conditions	7	2028/2029
University of Michigan-Flint (OTD), Flint, MI	Accreditation Withheld; Preaccreditation	N/A	N/A
University of North Dakota (OTD), Grand Forks, ND and • University of North Dakota at Casper College (OTD), Casper, WY	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
Widener University (OTD), Chester, PA	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
Wingate University (OTD), Wingate, NC	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
<p><u>Accreditation granted following an initial on-site evaluation:</u> The accreditation review process confirms that the program is in full compliance with all the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level or Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist or a Baccalaureate-Degree-Level or Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant.</p> <p><u>Accreditation with Conditions granted following an initial on-site evaluation:</u> The accreditation review process confirms that the program is in substantial compliance with the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level or Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist or a Baccalaureate-Degree-Level or Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. A program in substantial compliance with the Standards may have areas of concern with one or more specific Standards that are believed to be readily correctable with appropriate evidence provided within 60 days of ACOTE action or a monitoring report due within one year. Once the areas of concern are corrected, the accreditation status will be changed to Accreditation.</p> <p>At the time of ACOTE action to grant Accreditation or Accreditation with Conditions, ACOTE awards an accreditation period based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-year review cycles are the standard number of years for initial accreditation; and • 7-year review cycles are granted to those programs that have no areas of noncompliance and have demonstrated exceptional educational quality. <p><u>Accreditation Withheld following an initial on-site evaluation:</u> The accreditation review process confirms that the program is not in substantial compliance with the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level or Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist or a Baccalaureate-Degree-Level or Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. The program may maintain Preaccreditation Status until all areas of noncompliance are resolved and not to exceed 5 years.</p>			

Final ACOTE decisions subsequent to a re-accreditation on-site evaluation:			
PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION	TERM	NEXT ON-SITE
Anoka Technical College (OTA), Anoka, MN	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2028/2029
Baker College of Muskegon (OTA), Muskegon, MI	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2028/2029
College of St. Scholastica (OTM), Duluth, MN	Accreditation	10	2031/2032
Colorado State University (OTM), Fort Collins, CO	Accreditation	3*	2024/2025
Hawkeye Community College (OTA), Waterloo, IA	Accreditation	10	2031/2032
Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus (OTM), Brooklyn, NY	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2028/2029
Milwaukee Area Technical College (OTA), Milwaukee, WI	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2028/2029
North Shore Community College (OTA), Danvers, MA	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2028/2029
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (OTA), Piscataway, NJ	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2024/2025
University of New Mexico (OTM), Albuquerque, NM	Accreditation	10	2031/2032
Zane State College (OTA), Zanesville, OH	Continuing Accreditation with Warning	-	2028/2029

Accreditation granted following a re-accreditation on-site evaluation: The accreditation review process confirms that the program is in full compliance with all the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level or Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist or a Baccalaureate-Degree-Level or Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant.

*Accreditation with Conditions granted following a re-accreditation on-site evaluation: The accreditation review process confirms that the program is in substantial compliance with the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level or Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist or a Baccalaureate-Degree-Level or Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. A program in **substantial compliance** with the Standards may have areas of concern with one or more specific Standards that are believed to be readily correctable with appropriate evidence provided within 60 days of ACOTE action or a monitoring report due within one year. Once the areas of concern are corrected, the accreditation status will be changed to Accreditation.*

Continuing Accreditation with Warning granted following a re-accreditation on-site evaluation: The accreditation review process confirms that the program is not in compliance with one or more of the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level or Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist or a Baccalaureate-Degree-Level or Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. The program's current accreditation status will be extended until all areas of noncompliance are resolved. Once the program has come into full compliance, a new accreditation term will be awarded. The amount of time the program maintained continuing accreditation with warning status will be deducted from the new accreditation term.

At the time of ACOTE action to grant Accreditation or Accreditation with Conditions, ACOTE awards an accreditation period based on the following criteria:

- 5-year review cycles are given to programs that raise significant concerns as determined by ACOTE;
- 7-year review cycles are the standard number of years for reaccreditation; and
- 10-year review cycles are granted to those programs that have no areas of noncompliance and have demonstrated exceptional educational quality.

**Less than 5-year review cycles may be granted to accredited master's or associate-degree-level programs that are transitioning to a higher degree level. The accreditation term awarded by ACOTE is established based on the scheduled graduation date of the last class of master's or associate-degree-level students. These programs will be scheduled for a full on-site evaluation in the designated academic year unless the programs complete the transition to the higher degree level before that date.*

Final ACOTE decision subsequent to a request from the program to be placed on inactive status:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Chatham University (OTM), Pittsburgh, PA <i>(Program in the process of transitioning to the OTD level)</i>	Accreditation-Inactive
College of Saint Mary (OTM), Omaha, NE <i>(Program in the process of transitioning to the OTD level)</i>	Accreditation-Inactive and 2-year extension of the accreditation term from 2021/2022 to 2023/2024.
Emory and Henry College-Marion Campus (OTM), Marion, VA <i>(Program in the process of transitioning to the OTD level)</i>	Accreditation-Inactive
Nova Southeastern University-Ft. Lauderdale (OTM), Ft. Lauderdale, FL <i>(Program in the process of transitioning to the OTD level)</i>	Accreditation-Inactive
South Arkansas Community College (OTA), El Dorado, AR	Accreditation-Inactive

*Inactive Status: Inactive status is a special status applied only to programs that are **not currently enrolling new students** and do not plan to enroll new students in the future. The status "inactive" does not replace any other current accreditation status. The designation follows the regular accreditation status (e.g., Accreditation—Inactive or Probationary Accreditation—Inactive). Students graduating from a program with Accreditation—Inactive or Probationary Accreditation—Inactive status are considered graduates of an accredited program.*

Final ACOTE decision to extend the accreditation period subsequent to a review of a Plan of Correction or Progress Report:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	TERM EXTENSION	NEXT ON-SITE
Abilene Christian University (OTM), Abilene, TX	7 to 10 years	2030/2031
American International College (OTM), Springfield, MA	7 to 10 years	2030/2031
Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (OTA), Jonesboro, AR	7 to 10 years	2030/2031
Caddo Kiowa Technology Center/Southwestern Oklahoma State University (OTA), Fort Cobb, OK	7 to 10 years	2030/2031
Jefferson College-Hillsboro (OTA), Hillsboro, MO	7 to 10 years	2030/2031
Muskingum University (OTM), New Concord, OH	5 to 7 years	2027/2028
Pima Medical Institute-San Marcos (OTA), San Marcos, CA	5 to 7 years	2027/2028

Accreditation terms for programs that were cited with no more than two areas of noncompliance may be extended if the areas are corrected within 1 year of ACOTE's action on the Report of On-Site Evaluation. For initial programs, terms may be extended from 5 to 7 years; for reaccredited programs, terms may be extended from 5 to 7 or from 7 to 10 years. This decision is based on ACOTE's review of the Plan of Correction or Progress Report submitted by the program and a determination that the program has fully resolved the cited areas of noncompliance.

Final ACOTE decision subsequent to a review of a Significant Program Change:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Belmont University (OTD), Nashville, TN	Approval of increased enrollment
Kent State University at Ashtabula (OTA), Ashtabula, OH	Approval to add a flex part-time track
Lenoir-Rhyne University (OTM), Hickory, NC	Approval to modify the curriculum to decrease program length and credit hours
St. Catherine University (OTA), St. Paul, MN	Approval to modify the lab schedule
Thomas Jefferson University-East Falls Campus (OTM), Philadelphia, PA	Approval to relocate summer courses to the Center City campus

University of Louisiana at Monroe (OTM) , Monroe, LA	Approval of an additional cohort
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Austin Campus (OTD) , Austin, TX	Approval of increased enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-St. Augustine Campus (OTM) , St. Augustine, FL	Approval of increased enrollment

Final ACOTE decisions subsequent to a review of an initial Report of Self-Study (Step 2 of the Initial Accreditation Process):	
PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Clovis Community College-Herndon Campus (OTA) , Clovis, CA	Preaccreditation Status Deferred
Concordia University Wisconsin (OTD) , Mequon, WI	Preaccreditation Status Deferred
Maria College (OTM) , Albany, NY	Preaccreditation Status Granted
Russell Sage College (OTD) , Troy, NY	Preaccreditation Status Deferred
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (OTM) , Belton, TX	Preaccreditation Status Granted
University of Minnesota (OTD) , Minneapolis and additional location in Rochester, MN	Preaccreditation Status Granted
Yeshiva University-Jack and Pearl Resnick Campus (OTD) , Bronx, NY	Preaccreditation Status Granted
<i>Preaccreditation Status Granted: The proposed program would appear to meet the Standards if fully implemented in accordance with the plans of the sponsoring institution. An initial on-site evaluation will be conducted before an accreditation decision is made.</i>	
<i>Preaccreditation Status Deferred: Information received from the program is incomplete and/or insufficient for evaluation. Supplementary information is requested for consideration at a subsequent ACOTE meeting.</i>	

Final ACOTE decision subsequent to a review of a Candidacy Application (Step 1 of the Initial Accreditation Process):	
PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Bond University (OTM) , Robina, Queensland, Australia	Candidacy Status Deferred
Bond University (OTD) , Robina, Queensland, Australia	Candidacy Status Deferred
Concordia University Ann Arbor (OTD) , Ann Arbor, MI	Candidacy Status Granted
Fairleigh Dickinson University-Florham Campus (OTD) , Florham Park, NJ	Candidacy Status Granted
George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (OTD) , Washington, DC	Candidacy Status Granted
Horry-Georgetown Technical College-Grand Strand Campus (OTA) , Myrtle Beach, SC	Candidacy Status Granted
Ithaca College (OTD) , Ithaca, NY	Candidacy Status Granted
Louisiana State University Health Shreveport (OTD) , Shreveport, LA	Candidacy Status Granted
Nova Southeastern University-Ft. Lauderdale (OTD) , Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Candidacy Status Granted
Springfield College (OTD) , Springfield, MA	Candidacy Status Granted
Utica College (OTD) , Utica, NY	Candidacy Status Deferred
<i>Candidacy Status Granted: The proposed program may now admit its first class of students according to the approved timeline and proceed to step 2 of the initial accreditation process (the preaccreditation review), which will be followed by step 3 (the initial on-site evaluation). Candidacy Status indicates that the program meets the requirements for Candidacy Status and the plans and resource allocations for the proposed program, if fully implemented, appear to demonstrate the ability to comply with the 2018 ACOTE Accreditation Standards.</i>	
<i>Candidacy Status Deferred: Information received from the program is incomplete and/or insufficient for evaluation. Supplementary information is requested for consideration at a subsequent ACOTE meeting.</i>	

As of January 3, 2022, the number of programs in the accreditation process totaled 671.

Program Status	OT Doctoral	OT Master's	OTA Baccalaureate	OTA Associate	TOTAL
Accredited	52	173	1	222	448
Candidate or Preaccreditation	80	8	5	9	102
Applicant	65	28	12	16	121
TOTAL	197	209	18	247	671

NOTE: OT (38) and OTA (4) programs transitioning to a higher degree level are included in the total count.

Additional information regarding occupational therapy accreditation may be obtained from the ACOTE Web page (www.acoteonline.org) or from accreditation staff at accred@aota.org.