

ACOTE® December 2018 Accreditation Actions

The AOTA Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) met in December 2018 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
A.T. Still University, Arizona School of Health Sciences (OTD), Mesa, AZ	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Drake University (OTD), Des Moines, IA	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Samuel Merritt University (OTD), Oakland, CA	Accreditation	5	2023/2024
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Austin Campus (OTD), Austin, TX	Accreditation	5	2023/2024
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-California Campus (OTD), San Marcos, CA	Accreditation	5	2023/2024
Virginia Commonwealth University (OTD), Richmond, VA	Accreditation	7	2025/2026

*Accreditation Granted following an initial 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 Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, a Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, or an Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. A program in **substantial compliance** with the Standards may be in noncompliance with one or more specific Standards that are believed to be readily correctable. At the time of ACOTE action, ACOTE awards an accreditation period based on the following criteria:*

- 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.

Final ACOTE decisions subsequent to a re-accreditation on-site evaluation:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION	TERM	NEXT ON-SITE
Belmont University (OTM), Nashville, TN	Accreditation	10	*
Chatham University (OTM), Pittsburgh, PA	Accreditation	10	*
Crowder College-Webb City (OTA), Webb City, MO	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Eastwick College (OTA), Ramsey, NJ	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
EHOVE Adult Career Center/Lorain County Community College (OTA), Milan, OH	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Fox Valley Technical College (OTA), Appleton, WI	Accreditation	5	2023/2024
Gannon University (OTM), Erie, PA	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Lenoir-Rhyne University (OTM), Hickory, NC	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Linn-Benton Community College-Healthcare Occupations Center (OTA), Lebanon, OR	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Quinnipiac University (OTM), Hamden, CT	Accreditation	10	*
St. Louis College of Health Careers, County Campus (OTA), Fenton, MO	Accreditation	10	2028/2029
Shawnee State University (OTA), Portsmouth, OH	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Suffolk County Community College-Michael J. Grant Campus (OTA), Brentwood, NY	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Trinity Washington University (OTA), Washington, DC	Probationary Accreditation	5	2023/2024
Washburn University (OTA), Topeka, KS	Accreditation	7	2025/2026

Accreditation 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 Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, a Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, or an Associate-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant. A program in **substantial compliance** with the Standards may be in noncompliance with one or more specific Standards that are believed to be readily correctable. At the time of ACOTE action, ACOTE awards an accreditation period based on the following criteria:

- 5-year review cycles are given to programs that are reaccredited, but 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.

**NOTE: Per the ACOTE decision to move to a single point of entry for occupational therapy education at the doctorate level by July 1, 2027, accreditation of entry-level master's programs may be granted for a period to extend no later than June 30, 2027. As of September 2018, an abeyance of the mandate requiring all entry-level occupational therapy programs to transition to the doctoral level is in effect. If the mandate is rescinded at the spring 2019 meeting of the Representative Assembly, the term of accreditation will be adjusted and a revised accreditation certificate issued.*

Probationary Accreditation Action: Probationary Accreditation is an accreditation category. During a period of Probationary Accreditation, programs are recognized and listed as being accredited. Probationary Accreditation is usually limited to 1 year. However, extensions may be granted by ACOTE for good cause. Programs receiving ACOTE's notification of a change of status to Probationary Accreditation must notify currently enrolled students and those seeking admission that the program has been placed on probation. Probationary status may be removed when the program has demonstrated that it is in substantial compliance with the Standards:

- Because the areas of noncompliance are resolved, or
- Because the program has documented significant progress toward compliance with the cited areas of noncompliance within the allowed time period.

Failure to come into substantial compliance with the Standards within the allowed time period will result in a change of status to Accreditation Withdrawn.

Final ACOTE decision to continue Probationary Accreditation subsequent to a review of a Plan of Correction or Progress Report:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Hawkeye Community College (OTA), Waterloo, IA	Probationary Accreditation

Final ACOTE decision to remove Probationary Accreditation subsequent to a review of a Plan of Correction or Progress Report:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
River Valley Community College (OTA), Claremont, NH	Accreditation (Changed From Probationary Accreditation)

Accreditation (changed from Probationary Accreditation): The accreditation review process confirms that the program has corrected the concerns leading to Probationary Accreditation status and is now in substantial compliance with the ACOTE Accreditation Standards for a Doctoral-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, a Master's-Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapist, or an Associate Degree-Level Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant.

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
Ameritech College of Healthcare (OTA), Draper, UT	5 to 7 years	2024/2025
Arkansas State University-Jonesboro (OTD), Jonesboro, AR	5 to 7 years	2024/2025
Emory and Henry College, Marion Campus (OTM), Marion, VA	5 to 7 years	2024/2025
Georgia State University (OTM), Atlanta, GA	5 to 7 years	2024/2025
Illinois Central College-Peoria Campus (OTA), Peoria, IL	7 to 10 years	2027/2028
MCPHS University-Manchester Campus (OTM), Manchester, NH	5 to 7 years	2024/2025
University of Utah (OTM), Salt Lake City, UT	7 to 10 years	*
Wesley College (OTM), Dover, DE	5 to 7 years	2024/2025

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 will be 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 request from the program to be placed on Inactive Status:

Lincoln College of New England (OTA), Southington, CT	Probationary Accreditation-Inactive
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*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 subsequent to a request from the program to voluntarily withdraw from accreditation:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Inter American University of Puerto Rico-Ponce Campus (OTA), Mercedita, PR	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary (effective 01/01/2019)

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

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
CBD College (OTA), Los Angeles, CA	Approval of an additional cohort and third start date per year
Goodwin College (OTA), East Hartford, CT	Approval of an additional cohort
Pima Medical Institute-Tucson (OTA), Tucson, AZ	Approval of move to a new campus
Touro University Nevada (OTD), Henderson, NV	Approval of increased enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Miami Campus (OTD), Miami, FL	Approval of move to a new location
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Miami Campus (OTM), Miami, FL	Approval of move to a new location
West Coast University-Los Angeles (OTM), Los Angeles, CA	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
Boston University, College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (Sargent College) (OTD), Boston, MA	Preaccreditation Status
Cayuga Community College-Fulton Campus (OTA), Fulton, NY	Preaccreditation Status
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (OTA), Salisbury, NC	Preaccreditation Status
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Miami Campus (OTM), Miami, FL	Preaccreditation Status
Walsh University (OTM), North Canton, OH	Preaccreditation Status
Walters State Community College-Greeneville Campus (OTA), Greeneville, TN	Preaccreditation Status

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.

Final ACOTE decision subsequent to a review of a Candidacy Application (Step 1 of the Initial Accreditation Process):

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Bay State College (OTA), Boston, MA	Candidacy Status Granted
Iona College (OTM), New Rochelle, NY	Candidacy Status Granted
Johnson & Wales University-Providence (OTD), Providence, RI	Candidacy Status Granted
Moravian College (OTM), Bethlehem, PA	Candidacy Status Granted
Radford University-Roanoke Satellite Campus (OTM), Roanoke, VA (Additional location of Radford University, Radford, VA)	Candidacy Status Deferred
Shawnee State University at Southern State Community College (OTA), Hillsboro, OH (Additional location of Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, OH)	Candidacy Status Deferred
South College-Nashville Campus (OTA), Nashville, TN	Candidacy Status Granted
Towson University (OTD), Towson, MD	Candidacy Status Granted
Tufts University (OTD), Medford, MA	Candidacy Status Granted
University of Findlay (OTD), Findlay, OH	Candidacy Status Granted
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Dallas Campus (OTD), Irving, TX	Candidacy Status Granted
Union College (OTA), Lincoln, NE	Candidacy Status Granted
Widener University (OTD), Chester, PA	Candidacy Status Granted

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 2011 ACOTE Accreditation Standards.

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.

As of December 18, 2018, the number of programs in the accreditation process totaled 507*.

Program Status	OT Doctoral	OT Master's*	OTA Baccalaur.	OTA Associate	TOTAL
Accredited Programs	29	100	0	218	347
Accredited Master's Programs Transitioning to the Doctoral Level*		72			
Candidate Programs	34	11	0	14	59
Applicant Programs	72	8	4	17	101
TOTAL	135	119	4	249	507

**NOTE: The total program count does not include the 72 programs that are retaining accreditation for the master's programs while the transition to the doctoral level is finalized.*

Additional information regarding occupational therapy accreditation may be obtained from the ACOTE Web page (www.acoteonline.org) or from accreditation staff at (301) 652-6611 x2042 or accred@aota.org.