

ACOTE® December 2019 Accreditation Actions

The AOTA Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) met in December 2019 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
Cleveland University-Kansas City (OTA) , Overland Park, KS	Accreditation	5	2024/2025
Midwestern University-Downers Grove Campus (OTD) , Downers Grove, IL	Accreditation	5	2024/2025
Mountain View College (OTA) , Dallas, TX	Accreditation	5	2024/2025
Murray State University-Paducah Regional Campus (OTM) , Paducah, KY	Accreditation	5	2024/2025
Rush University (OTD) , Chicago, IL	Accreditation	7	2026/2027
University of Cincinnati (OTM) , Cincinnati, OH	Accreditation	7	2026/2027
University of Pittsburgh (OTD) , Pittsburgh, PA	Accreditation	7	2026/2027
Western New England University (OTD) , Springfield, MA	Accreditation	7	2026/2027

*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 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 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
Alvernia University (OTM) , Reading, PA <i>*Program opted to continue to offer the OTM program, so will be scheduled for a full on-site evaluation in academic year 2021/2022.</i>	Accreditation	2*	2021/2022
Chattahoochee Technical College (OTA) , Acworth, GA	Accreditation	7	2026/2027
College of Saint Mary (OTM) , Omaha, NE <i>*Program opted to continue to offer the OTM program in addition to the OTD program, so will be scheduled for a full on-site evaluation in academic year 2021/2022.</i>	Accreditation	2*	2021/2022
Erie Community College (OTA) , Williamsville, NY	Accreditation	7	2026/2027
Keiser University-Ft. Lauderdale (OTA) , Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Accreditation	7	2026/2027
Louisiana State University Health New Orleans (OTM) , New Orleans, LA	Accreditation	10	2029/2030
Mercy College (OTA) , Dobbs Ferry, NY	Accreditation	10	2029/2030
Misericordia University (OTM) , Dallas, PA	Accreditation	10	2029/2030
Santa Ana College (OTA) , Santa Ana, CA	Accreditation	5	2024/2025
Spokane Falls Community College (OTA) , Spokane, WA	Accreditation	10	2029/2030
University of Southern Indiana (OTM) , Evansville, IN	Accreditation	10	2029/2030

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 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 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.

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	Accreditation (Changed From Probationary Accreditation)
Medical Education and Training Campus/ Uniformed Services University (OTA), Fort Sam Houston, TX	Probationary Accreditation
Missouri Health Professions Consortium (OTA), Columbia, MO	Probationary Accreditation

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.

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 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.

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

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Baker College of Allen Park (OTA), Allen Park, MI	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
Boston University, College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (Sargent College) (OTD), Boston, MA	5 to 7 years	2025/2026
New England Institute of Technology (OTM), East Greenwich, RI	7 to 10 years	2028/2029

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 voluntarily withdraw from accreditation:

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Brightwood Career Institute (OTA), Pittsburgh, PA	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary
Midwestern University-Downers Grove Campus (OTM), Downers Grove, IL (Transition to OTD level completed)	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary
National American University-Independence Campus (OTA), Independence, MO	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary

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

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Ameritech College of Healthcare (OTA), Draper, UT	Approval of an additional cohort
Baker College Center for Graduate Studies (OTM), Flint, MI	Approval to move to new campus facilities at the Auburn Hills Campus in August 2020
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Austin Campus (OTD), Austin, TX	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Austin Campus (OTM), Austin, TX	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-California Campus (OTD), San Marcos, CA	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-California Campus (OTM), San Marcos, CA	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Florida Campus (OTD), St. Augustine, FL	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Florida Campus (OTM), St. Augustine, FL	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Miami Campus (OTD), Coral Gables, FL	Approval of modified cohort enrollment
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Miami Campus (OTM), Coral Gables, FL	Approval of modified cohort 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
Gwynedd Mercy University (OTM) , Gwynedd Valley, PA	Preaccreditation Status
Huntington University (OTA-B) , Huntington, IN	Preaccreditation Status
Lakeland Community College (OTA) , Kirtland, OH	Preaccreditation Status
North Central College (OTM) , Naperville, IL	Preaccreditation Status
Raritan Valley Community College (OTA) , Branchburg, NJ	Preaccreditation Status
San Jacinto College-South Campus (OTA) , Houston, TX	Preaccreditation Status
University of Central Arkansas (OTD) , Conway, AR	Preaccreditation Status
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Miami Campus (OTD) , Coral Gables, FL	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
Concordia University Wisconsin (OTD) , Mequon, WI	Candidacy Status Granted
Emory and Henry College-Marion Campus (OTD) , Marion, VA	Candidacy Status Granted
Maria College (OTM) , Albany, NY	Candidacy Status Deferred
Mount Mary University (OTD) , Milwaukee, WI	Candidacy Status Granted
New York Institute of Technology (OTD) , Old Westbury, NY	Candidacy Status Granted
Platt College-Anaheim (OTA) , Anaheim, CA	Candidacy Status Granted
Quinnipiac University (OTD) , Hamden, CT	Candidacy Status Granted
Shenandoah University (OTD) , Winchester, VA	Candidacy Status Granted
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (OTD) , Lubbock, TX	Candidacy Status Granted
Texas Woman's University (OTD) , Denton, Dallas, and Houston, TX	Candidacy Status Granted
University of Scranton (OTD) , Scranton, PA	Candidacy Status Granted
Western Michigan University (OTD) , Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, MI	Candidacy Status Granted
Xavier University (OTD) , Cincinnati, OH	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 2018 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 January 2, 2020, the number of programs in the accreditation process totaled 579*.

Program Status	OT Doctoral	OT Master's*	OTA Baccalaur.	OTA Associate	TOTAL
Accredited Programs	36	129	0	217	382
Accredited Programs Transitioning to Higher Degree Level*		43		2	
Developing Programs	46	11	1	11	69
Applicant Programs	87	19	9	13	128
TOTAL	169	159	10	241	579

**NOTE: The total program count does not include the 43 OT programs that are retaining accreditation for the master's program while the transition to the doctoral level is finalized or the 2 OTA programs that are retaining accreditation for the associate degree program while the transition to the baccalaureate 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.