

ACOTE® July 2019 Accreditation Actions

The AOTA Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) met in July 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
Lackawanna College (OTA), Scranton, PA	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
South College-Knoxville Main Campus (OTA), Knoxville, TN	Accreditation	5	2023/2024
University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences-Florida Campus (OTD), St. Augustine, FL <i>(Previously accredited June 2002 – December 2009)</i>	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
West Coast University-Los Angeles (OTD), Los Angeles, CA	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
Cabarrus College of Health Sciences (OTA), Concord, NC	Accreditation	10	2028/2029
Central Penn College (OTA), Summerdale, PA	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Goodwin College (OTA), East Hartford, CT	Accreditation	5	2023/2024
Governors State University (OTM), University Park, IL	Accreditation	10	2028/2029
Marion Technical College (OTA), Marion, OH	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
New England Institute of Technology (OTM), East Greenwich, RI	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Salus University (OTM), Elkins Park, PA	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
Thomas Jefferson University-Bucks County, Pennsylvania Campus (OTA), Trevoese, PA	Accreditation	10	2028/2029
University of Southern Maine at Lewiston-Auburn College (OTM), Lewiston, ME	Accreditation	7	2025/2026
University of Toledo (OTD), Toledo, OH	Accreditation	7	2028/2029
Wright College (OTA), Chicago, IL	Accreditation	5	2023/2024

*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.

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
Medical Education and Training Campus/University of the Incarnate Word (OTA), Fort Sam Houston, TX	Probationary Accreditation
National American University-Independence Campus (OTA), Independence, MO	Probationary Accreditation-Inactive
South University-West Palm Beach (OTA), Royal Palm Beach, FL	Probationary Accreditation
Trinity Washington University (OTA), Washington, DC	Probationary Accreditation

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

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
National American University-Centennial Campus (OTA), Centennial, CO	Accreditation-Inactive
Southwest Virginia Community College at Virginia Highlands Community College (OTA), Abingdon, VA (additional location of Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, VA)	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
University of Louisiana at Monroe (OTA), Monroe, LA	7 to 10 years	2028/2029
Walters State Community College-Greeneville Campus (OTA), Greeneville, TN	5 to 7 years	2025/2026

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
Boston University, College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (Sargent College) (OTM), Boston, MA	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary
Jefferson College of Health Sciences (OTM), Roanoke, VA	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary
Lincoln College of New England (OTA), Southington, CT	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary
Virginia Commonwealth University (OTM), Richmond, VA	Accreditation Withdrawn-Voluntary

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

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
College of Saint Mary (OTD), Omaha, NE	Approval of increased enrollment
Creighton University (OTD), Omaha, NE	Approval to teach out the hybrid cohort in Greater Omaha, Nebraska and add a hybrid cohort in Phoenix, Arizona
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (OTA), Piscataway, NJ	Approval to move from 1776 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, New Jersey to a new campus location 675 Hoes Lane West, Piscataway, New Jersey
St. Catherine University (OTD), St. Paul, MN	Approval to add a dual degree undergraduate and OTD (3 + 3) model
University of Puget Sound (OTM), Tacoma, WA	Proceed with modified on-site evaluation regarding the increased enrollment from 40 to 55 for fall 2019
Weatherford College (OTA), Mineral Wells, TX	Approval to move to the main campus facilities at 225 College Park Drive, Weatherford, TX 76086

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
Cleveland University-Kansas City (OTA), Overland Park, KS	Preaccreditation Status Denied
Midwestern University-Downers Grove (OTD), Downers Grove, IL	Preaccreditation Status Granted
Murray State University-Paducah Regional Campus (OTM), Paducah, KY	Preaccreditation Status Denied
Rush University (OTD), Chicago, IL	Preaccreditation Status Granted
University of Cincinnati (OTM), Cincinnati, OH	Preaccreditation Status Granted
University of Pittsburgh (OTD), Pittsburgh, PA	Preaccreditation Status Granted
Western New England University (OTD), Springfield, MA	Preaccreditation Status Granted

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.

Preaccreditation Status Denied: The proposed program does not meet one or more of the Standards and there does not appear to be evidence of the ability to comply within the immediate future. No further action will be taken unless the program sends notification of the intent to proceed with the accreditation process. The institution retains the option of proceeding with the initial on site evaluation.

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

PROGRAM, LEVEL, CITY, STATE	DECISION
Cleveland State University (OTD), Cleveland, OH	Candidacy Status Granted
Concordia University Wisconsin (OTD), Mequon, WI	Candidacy Status Deferred
GateWay Community College/East Valley Institute of Technology (OTA), Phoenix, AZ	Candidacy Status Granted
Keiser University-Fort Myers (OTM), Fort Myers, FL	Candidacy Status Granted
Pima Medical Institute-San Marcos (OTA), San Marcos, CA	Candidacy Status Granted
San Joaquin Valley College-Fresno Campus (OTA), Fresno, CA	Candidacy Status Granted

University of Arkansas-Fayetteville/University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (OTD), Fayetteville and Little Rock, AR	Candidacy Status Granted
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (OTM), Belton, TX	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 August 20, 2019, the number of programs in the accreditation process totaled 562*.

Program Status	OT Doctoral	OT Master's*	OTA Baccalaur.	OTA Associate	TOTAL
Accredited Programs	30	125	0	215	370
Accredited Programs Transitioning to Higher Degree Level*		48		2	
Candidate Programs	39	11	1	11	62
Applicant Programs	85	17	9	18	129
TOTAL	154	153	10	244	561

**NOTE: The total program count does not include the 48 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.