

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

University courses - Victoria

MARCH 2024, CAREERS DEPARTMENT



Introduction

This document has been developed to assist domestic Year 12 students and their families in researching occupational therapy courses in Victoria. Please use entry requirements and indicative selection ranks listed in this document as a guide only and check university websites for up-to-date information.

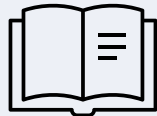
Disclaimer: Information has been taken from university websites and the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) website. Universities featured in this guide reserve the right to change course information, admissions, and entry requirements at any time and without notice. Note: photos in this document are stock images and aren't representative of students at the universities.

Written by Sandie McKoy, March 2024
Career Development Leader, Catholic College Wodonga



Indicative ATAR

Please use indicative ATARs and selection ranks as a guide as they may change for future intakes.



English prerequisite

EAL = English as an Additional Language. 'Any other English' includes English, English Language and Literature.



Undergraduate

This is usually your first course at university. For example - bachelor's degree.



Graduate

This is study you do once you have graduated from a bachelor's degree. For example - Master's degree.





TELL ME ABOUT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Occupational therapists are like the superheroes of getting people back on their feet after tough times like injuries, illnesses, or disabilities.

They don't just look at the injury itself, they think about everything going on in someone's life - like what makes them happy, what challenges they're facing at home, work, or school, and what goals they want to reach.

They come up with cool and creative ways to help people do everyday stuff on their own again, making life feel a bit more normal. Whether it's helping a student in school who's struggling, someone recovering from a bad accident in hospital, or grandparents wanting to stay active, occupational therapists are all about turning "I can't" into "I can!".

Are there jobs?

Yes. There were 23,900 occupational therapists in 2021. Numbers are likely to reach 25,600 by 2026. Check up to date info on [Labour Market Insights](#) and research jobs on [seek.com](#).

Will I have to go to uni?

Yes. You can only become a qualified occupational therapist through studying an accredited degree at uni.

CAN I SPECIALISE?

Yes! Occupational therapists can work in 'Areas of Practice' such as:

- Autism
- Cardiac
- Community Health
- Disability
- Driving
- Environmental Modifications
- Leadership & Management
- Mental Health
- Motorised Mobility Devices
- NDIS
- Neurology & Acquired Brain Injury
- Occupational Justice
- Occupational Rehabilitation
- Palliative Care
- Paediatric
- Private Practice
- Pain Management
- Rehabilitation
- Sexuality & Intimacy
- Vision Impairment
- Working with older people

Read about the above Areas of Practice [here](#).

Not ready for uni?

VET is an amazing way to start your OT journey. You can study a variety of courses related to supporting people through studying at a registered training organisation such as a TAFE or through a traineeship. Not only will you engage in industry experience, you'll be qualified to work in that industry while you study at uni.

While a VET course won't provide guaranteed entry into a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at a Victorian university, it can boost your chances of gaining entry, depending on your secondary school results, the VET qualification level, and if the course is 'graded'. You can search for courses via the [Victorian Skills Gateway](#) and for traineeships via a job search site such as [seek.com](#).

The following are three entry level courses you could consider.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

What is the course?

Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

Why should I consider early childhood?

This course is fantastic for people interested in working in paediatric occupational therapy, or occupational therapy in an education setting such as a primary school or early learning centre.

ALLIED HEALTH

What is the course?

Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance (Occupational Therapy).

Why should I consider allied health assistance?

You will be qualified to work as an occupational therapy assistant and will gain an excellent introduction to the rehabilitation industry.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

What is the course?

Certificate III in Individual Support.

Why should I consider studying this course?

You can specialise in either aged care or disability. Both specialisations will prepare you to work with people in these industry areas.



How to become an occupational therapist

This information is for courses in Victoria.

STEP 1: Secondary school studies

Study VCE subjects such as Biology, Health And Human Development, Psychology, Physical Education, and Mathematics. Achieve a competitive ATAR.

STEP 2: complete an accredited occupational therapy degree

Complete an accredited undergraduate or graduate entry degree at one of the following universities:

La Trobe University
Charles Sturt University
Monash University
Australian Catholic University
Federation University
Deakin University
Swinburne University

You will need to meet English language requirements, inherent requirements (e.g., communication skills), and academic entry requirements for course admission. You may also be required to get or prove you have certain immunisations and get Police Record, Working with Children and NDIS screening checks.

Register with the Occupational Therapy Board via AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency) as a student OT.

STEP 3: Registration

Apply to register with the [Occupational Therapy Board](#) so you can work as an accredited Occupational Therapist.

STEP 4: Renew your registration each year

Renew your registration each year and ensure you meet the registration standards (i.e., continuing professional development hours).

STEP 5: Further studies

Increase your skills and competencies by undertaking further studies in areas of interest such as play therapy, mental health, or research.



What ATAR will I need?

When it comes to the ATAR, there are three ways Year 12 leavers can gain direct entry into an occupational therapy degree in Victoria – achieving a selection rank above the lowest rank for the relevant intake, achieving above the guaranteed ATAR, or receiving a place in the ACU Guarantee program.

SELECTION RANK

Universities use the 'selection rank' when assessing course applications.

The selection rank is your ATAR plus any adjustment factors taken into consideration by the university (e.g., equity and academic adjustments).

Adjustment factors are added to your combined study scores (VCE aggregate) and your ATAR is re-ranked.

Your selection rank will be different for each course at each university as each institute uses their own adjustment programs.

You won't know what your selection rank is, but you'll need to achieve a rank above the 'lowest selection rank' for the relevant intake year.

Learn about the selection rank and ATAR profiles via this [video](#).

GUARANTEED ATAR

The following universities have a 'guaranteed ATAR' program.

The guaranteed ATARs for occupational therapy for Monash are relevant for the 2024 intake and may change for the 2025 intake.

La Trobe University
[Aspire Community Contribution Program](#)

Bendigo campus – 65
Melbourne campus – 75

[Regional Benefits Program*](#)
Bendigo campus – 80

Federation University
[Early Offer Program](#)
Gippsland Churchill campus – 70

Monash University
[Monash Guarantee program*](#)
Peninsula campus – 78

[Monash Indigenous Entry Scheme*](#)
Peninsula campus – 50

*Note – these programs are only available to eligible applicants.

NO ATAR

Australian Catholic University offers the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at the Melbourne and Ballarat campuses.

They have an early entry program called '[ACU Guarantee](#)'. Successful applicants can receive a conditional 'ATAR free' offer for the course through this program.

The University calculates a selection rank using your Year 11 grades. The selection rank can be boosted through providing up to three personal statements.

The conditions of the early offer program are successfully completing Year 12, achieving course prerequisites, and ordering your VTAC preferences correctly.

Course Summary

This page lists the occupational therapy courses you can apply for at Victorian universities.
The rest of the document will give information about the courses at each university.

LA (Lowest ATAR)

Lowest ATAR to receive entry into the course excluding any adjustment factors for the 2024 January intake (VTAC applicants).

LSR (Lowest Selection Rank)

Lowest selection rank inclusive of ATAR + adjustment factors to receive entry into the course for the 2024 January intake (VTAC applicants).

L/N

Lowest ATAR for the 2024 January intake not published.

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

University	Course	Campus	LA	LSR
La Trobe University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	Melbourne	75.10	84.75
		Bendigo	61.10	74.20
	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) (First Nations Australian Entry)	Bendigo	L/N	L/N
Monash University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	Peninsula	77.30	86.65
	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) Indigenous Entry	Peninsula	L/N	L/N
Deakin University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Geelong Waterfront	60.10	72.00
		Warrnambool	50.10	62.10
	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Regional & Remote)	Geelong Waterfront Warrnambool	58.0 53.85	70.00 64.05
Federation University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	Gippsland - Churchill	52.45	63.30
Australian Catholic University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Pass & Honours)	Melbourne	83.00	86.25
		Ballarat	72.35	80.60
Charles Sturt University	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Albury-Wodonga	70.70	70.70

GRADUATE ENTRY

University	Course	Campus
La Trobe University	Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Melbourne
Monash University	Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Peninsula
Swinburne University	Master of Occupational Therapy	Hawthorn

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate and graduate entry degrees. Courses are fully accredited.

Hone your professional skills with 1,000 hours of placement in Australia's leading health organisations.

In second year you will undertake part-time 'service learning' in a local school or other agency.

Learn from experts in paediatrics, musculoskeletal, neurology and mental health practice.

Develop clinical skills in purpose built facilities with hands-on workshops and practice simulations.

Subject to completion of local requirements, graduates of the Master's degree may be eligible to apply to practice in other countries including the UK, North America and Sweden.



It's easy to take our daily activities for granted, like brushing our teeth, going to work, or getting out of bed. Workplace injuries, chronic illness, disability, and mental health issues can change our ability to do these things independently, impacting our quality of life. As an Occupational Therapist, you'll develop skills to help people maximise their abilities and reach their full potential.

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

La Trobe's Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) provides you with the clinical knowledge, professional skills and industry connections needed to launch your career.

In this 4-year degree you will hone your professional skills with 1,000 hours of placement in Australia's leading health organisations, learn from experts in paediatrics, musculoskeletal, neurology and mental health practice, and develop clinical skills in purpose built facilities with hands-on workshops and practice simulations.

GRADUATE ENTRY

Master of Occupational Therapy Practice

La Trobe also offers an accredited Occupational Therapy qualification at the graduate level. Below is the entry pathway:

Step 1

Complete a bachelor degree that has a specialisation in one of the following areas: health, education, social, psychological or biological sciences. Achieve a Weighted Average Mark (WAM) of at least 65%.

Step 2

Apply for the 2-year Master of Occupational Therapy Practice.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) at the Melbourne (Bundoora) and Bendigo campus and the Master of Occupational Therapy Practice at the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus are accredited by the Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd (OTC).

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

FIRST NATIONS AUSTRALIAN ENTRY

This is an alternative entry into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) for applicants who are First Nations Australian. Choose the 'First Nations Australian' tagged course via VTAC.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply via the [Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre](#). Applications open for Year 12 students on 29 July 2024.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#).

Course	Prerequisites – Units 3 and 4	Campus
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English.	Melbourne Bendigo
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) (First Nations Australian Entry)	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English. Interview.	Bendigo
Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Detailed information on selection criteria .	Melbourne

PATHWAYS

The following are examples of pathways into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours). Note – there are no guaranteed pathway courses into the degree.

Via a La Trobe University Diploma course

STEP 1: Diploma in Health Sciences

Complete the 1-year Diploma at the Melbourne campus.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

Apply for the 4-year occupational therapy degree.

Via a La Trobe University bachelor degree

STEP 1: Bachelor degree

Complete at least the first year of one of the following 3-year degrees:

Health Science (Melbourne, Bendigo, Online).

Biomedicine (Melbourne).

Biomedical Science (Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo).

Bachelor of Exercise Science (Bendigo).

Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science (Melbourne).

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

Apply for the 4-year occupational therapy degree.

SELECTION RANK ADJUSTMENTS

If eligible, La Trobe will add adjustment factors to your VCE aggregate to recalculate your ATAR and boost your [selection rank](#) for entry into their courses. For example, your ATAR might be 60 but after adjustment factors are added, your selection rank might be 72.5. Adjustment factors are calculated from initiatives such as the following. Note – if you're eligible for multiple initiatives, the maximum aggregate adjustments you can receive is 20.

Subject adjustments

Applicants can receive a maximum of 12 adjustments for high achievement in eligible Units 3 and 4 subjects. In the 2024 intake, the eligible subjects were: Biology, Chemistry, any Mathematics, and LOTE. Adjustments for the 2025 intake will be advertised via [VTAC](#) from 29 July 2024.

Priority Access Program

A maximum of 15 adjustment factors are awarded to applicants who fall within any of the following categories: priority school (5), priority campus (5), regional school (5).

Read about the program [here](#). Note – the Priority Access Program is undergoing a review for the 2025 intake.

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

Applicants can receive a maximum of 20 adjustment factors for disadvantage that has impacted their education. Applicants can apply for [SEAS](#) via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) between 29 July – 11 October 2024 after creating their VTAC account and adding course preferences.

Elite Athlete ATAR Adjustment

Applicants can receive up to 5 aggregate adjustments. Click [here](#) for information.

Rural and Regional Student Access Scheme (RRSAS)

Students residing in an area classified as RA2 or higher are eligible for the following adjustments:

Regional students applying to courses at the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus will receive 5 aggregate points.

Regional students applying to courses at Bendigo, Albury Wodonga, Mildura and Shepparton will receive 10 aggregate points.

Click [here](#) for information.

GUARANTEED ATAR PROGRAMS

The following programs provide a guaranteed ATAR for The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours).

La Trobe Aspire Early Entry Program

Applications for the [Community Contribution](#) stream of the Aspire Early Entry program will open on 15 April and close on 6 September 2024. Selection is based on a statement about your community service, volunteering, or leadership. Successful applicants will unlock the following 'Aspire ATARs' for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours).

Bendigo campus: 65

Melbourne campus: 75

Regional Benefits Program

This [program](#) is for students who study at a regional school and is applicable to the occupational therapy degree at the Bendigo campus. The guaranteed ATAR is 80. You will be automatically considered for the program once you apply for the course via VTAC or UAC.

FIRST YEAR SUBJECTS

The following are the first-year subjects for the 2024 intake. They may change for the 2025 intake.

Semester 1

Human Biosciences A

Foundations of Professional Practice

Understanding Health and Wellbeing

Elective

Semester 2

Human Biosciences B

Research and Evidence in Practice

Occupational Science: Introduction to

Occupation

Diverse Perspectives of Occupation, Health and Wellbeing.

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Course is fully accredited.

1000 hours of clinical experience

Undergraduate and graduate entry degrees.

Internationally recognised course.

Occupational Therapy courses have been running for over 15 years.

Take part in scenario-based learning, where you'll use problem solving strategies in occupational therapy case studies.

Gain hands-on experience with placements in clinical, community and school settings, across metropolitan and rural locations.



The Monash University Department of Occupational Therapy is a world leader in the generation of knowledge about occupation, participation and wellbeing and its translation into occupation-focused practices, and an academic provider of choice for undergraduate and graduate-entry occupational therapy education that is socially responsive, community-focused, evidence-based and international in its outlook.

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

With a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours), you'll learn how to support people of all ages to participate in everyday activities, and gain the knowledge, skills and practical experience needed as a qualified occupational therapist. Our course focuses on scenarios to assist you in learning about the assessment and intervention processes used by occupational therapists. During your degree you'll gain at least 1000 hours of practical experience working with individuals, groups and communities within a range of settings. You may even complete a placement with a rural health service.

GRADUATE ENTRY

Master of Occupational Therapy Practice

Monash also offers an accredited Occupational Therapy qualification at the graduate level. Below is the entry pathway:

Step 1

Complete a bachelor's degree with a Weighted Average Mark (WAM) of at least 65%. Achieve subject prerequisites in the bachelor's degree or in one of two unit options at Monash.

Step 2

Apply for the 2-year Master of Occupational Therapy Practice.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) and the Master of Occupational Therapy Practice are accredited by the Occupational Therapy Council of Australia and are recognised by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists

FIRST YEAR SUBJECTS

The following are the first-year subjects for the 2024 intake. They may change for the 2025 intake.

Semester 1

Human Structure and Function 1.
Foundations of Health in Primary Clinical Care.
Psychology for Occupational Therapy.
Professional Issues.

Semester 2

Human Structure and Function 1.
Foundations of Occupational Therapy Practice.
Human Occupation and Development.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply via the [Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre](#). Applications will open for Year 12 students on 29 July 2024.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#)

Course	Prerequisites	Campus
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English.	Peninsula
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) – Indigenous Entry	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English. Supplementary Form. Voluntary interview.	Peninsula
Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	Detailed information on selection criteria .	

PATHWAYS

The following are examples of pathways into the undergraduate entry occupational therapy degree. Note - there are no guaranteed pathway courses into the degree.

Via a VET pathway

STEP 1: Diploma or Advanced Diploma

Complete a graded Diploma or Advanced Diploma at a registered training organisation such as a TAFE.

STEP 2: Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours). Admission into the degree will be based on academic merit from the VET course and applicants should have at least a minimum 70% average. Applicants must have completed the VCE subject prerequisites, and the entire academic record of the applicant will be taken into consideration (ATAR + VET grades).

Via a higher education pathway

STEP 1: tertiary study

Complete at least one year of full-time study (48 credit points) of a recognised university degree with a minimum average mark of 70%.

STEP 2: Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours). Applicants must have completed the VCE subject prerequisites or equivalent university units to be eligible. Admission to this course is competitive and applicants may need to meet a higher requirement to be offered a place.

SELECTION RANK ADJUSTMENTS

If eligible, Monash will add adjustment factors to your VCE aggregate to recalculate your ATAR and boost your [selection rank](#) for entry into their courses. For example, your ATAR might be 60 but after adjustment factors are added, your selection rank might be 70. Adjustment factors are calculated from initiatives such as the following:

Subject adjustments

Applicants can receive up to 6 adjustments for high achievement in eligible Units 3 and 4 subjects. In the 2024 intake, the eligible subjects were Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Health And Human Development, Physical Education, and Psychology. Eligible subjects for the 2025 intake will be advertised via [VTAC](#) from 29 July 2024.

Elite Student Athlete and Performer Entry Scheme

Applicants can receive up to 10 ATAR points. Click [here](#) for information.

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

Applicants can receive adjustment factors for disadvantage that has impacted their education. Applicants can apply for [SEAS](#) via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) between 29 July - 11 October 2024 after creating their VTAC account and adding course preferences.

GUARANTEED ATAR PROGRAMS

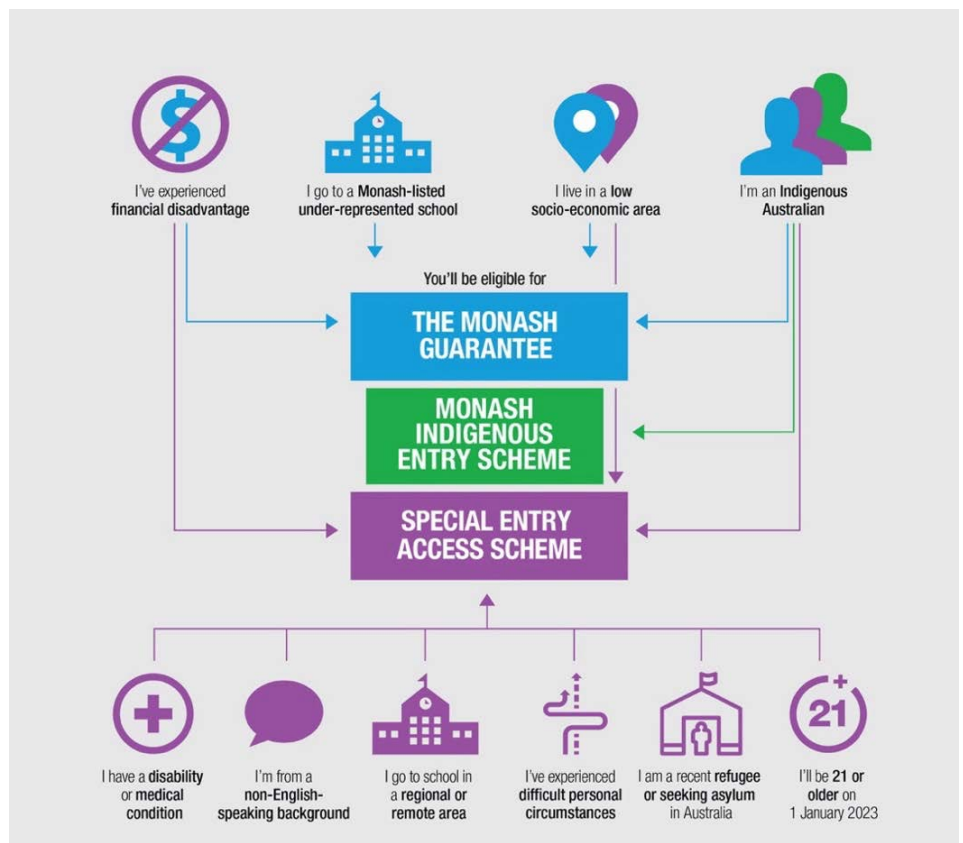
The following programs provide a guaranteed ATAR for The Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours). Note: the ATARs listed below are relevant for the 2024 intake and may change for the 2025 intake.

Monash Guarantee

Applicants eligible for the [Monash Guarantee](#) program will be guaranteed entry into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) with an ATAR of at least 78, providing they meet entry requirements and preference the course in their VTAC account correctly. Applicants apply for the scheme via SEAS. Applications will open on 29 July via VTAC and close on 11 October 2024.

Monash Indigenous Entry Scheme

This is an alternative entry into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) for applicants who are First Nations Australian. Choose the 'Indigenous Entry' tagged course via VTAC. Applicants will need to achieve a minimum ATAR of 50, meet course entry requirements, and submit a supplementary information form. Click [here](#) for information.



DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Course is fully accredited. Graduates are eligible to work in Australia and overseas.

1000 hours of clinical experience beginning in the first year.

With Deakin's award-winning simulated learning resource, develop a wide array of discipline specific skills with over 30 authentic and carefully designed work-integrated learning challenges.

Selected students can gain international experience in either India or Denmark.

Our researchers in occupational therapy have broad experience in topics such as design for inclusion, carer support, childhood intervention and development, speech therapy and self-determination.



Pursue a career that will have direct impact on people's lives. Study occupational therapy and equip yourself with the specialised knowledge to promote good health and wellbeing both at home and in the workplace. Occupational therapy empowers people to reach goals, and lead active, healthy and productive lives.

BACHELOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Deakin's accredited Bachelor of Occupational Therapy gives you a cutting-edge and practical education. It will prepare you to identify people's strengths and limitations, environmental and social supports and barriers, and the role these play in people's ability to participate in occupations that are meaningful to them. You will gain the expertise to develop personalised, evidence-based intervention plans for people whose health and wellbeing is affected by a range of issues, including injury, illness, disability, or environmental barriers.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

You'll undertake a minimum of 1000 hours of practicum placements when studying occupational therapy at Deakin, starting in year one. Placements are conducted in a range of settings, including schools, hospitals, clinics, community health organisations and industry. Occupational therapy has experienced one of the strongest growth rates in the health industry over the past 10 years. You'll graduate ready to change the world with this globally accredited degree.

INDIGENOUS APPLICANTS

Applicants can apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy through the NIKERI Institute. They can also apply for the indigenous Access Scheme. Click [here](#) for information.

EARLY ENTRY

N/A

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

Deakin's Bachelor of Occupational Therapy is accredited by the [Occupational Therapy Council of Australia](#) (OTC) and the [World Federation of Occupational Therapists](#) (WFOT), which means you will be able to practise professionally in Australia as well as overseas.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply via the [Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre](#). Applications will open for Year 12 students on 29 July 2024.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#)

Course	Prerequisites	Campus
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English.	Geelong Waterfront Warrnambool
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Regional and Remote)	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English.	Geelong Waterfront Warrnambool

PATHWAY EXAMPLES

The following are pathway options if you haven't met the requirements for direct entry into the course. Note – there are no guaranteed pathway courses into the degree.

Via a VET pathway - qualification from a Deakin partner

STEP 1: Diploma

Complete one of the following Diplomas from a Deakin VET partner institute:

Diploma course

Community Services
Nursing
Early Childhood Education and Care
Mental Health
Counselling
Myotherapy
Remedial Massage
Laboratory Technology
Work Health and Safety.

Deakin partner RTOs:

Bendigo TAFE
Box Hill Institute
Chisholm Institute
Kangan Institute
TAFE NSW
South West TAFE
The Gordon.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

Via a higher education pathway

STEP 1: Bachelor of Health Science

Complete the first year of the Bachelor of Health Science at Deakin.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy. Selection will be based on your academic results.

SELECTION RANK ADJUSTMENTS

If eligible, Deakin will add adjustment factors to your VCE aggregate to recalculate your ATAR and boost your [selection rank](#) for entry into their courses. For example, your ATAR might be 60 but after adjustment factors are added, your selection rank might be 70. Adjustment factors are calculated from initiatives such as the following:

Subject Bonus Points

Applicants can receive up to 10 adjustments for high achievement in eligible Units 3 and 4 subjects. In the 2024 intake, the eligible subjects were Biology, Health and Human Development, and any Mathematics. Eligible subjects for the 2025 intake will be advertised via [VTAC](#) from 29 July 2024.

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

Applicants can receive adjustment points for short or long-term disadvantage. Applicants can apply for [SEAS](#) via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) between 29 July – 11 October 2024 after creating their VTAC account and adding course preferences. Examples of adjustments and the maximum aggregate include:

Category 1: Personal Information and Location

- Indigenous applicants: 15
- Regional or remote student: 10
- Under-represented school: 10
- Non-English speaking background: 5

Category 2: Financial Disadvantage

- Up to 10 adjustments

Category 3: Disability or Medical Condition

- Up to 10 adjustments

Category 4: Difficult Circumstances

- 2019/2020 bushfires: up to 10 adjustments
- Other difficult circumstances: up to 10 adjustments.

Elite Athlete and Performers Adjustment Scheme

Eligible applicants will receive up to 5 adjustment points. Click [here](#) for information.

Regional and Remote Entry Scheme

Through this scheme, applicants who live in an eligible location will be eligible for up to 10 VCE aggregate points towards their selection rank. Choose the 'Regional and Remote' tagged course via VTAC. Click [here](#)

Under-represented Discipline

Men applying for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy are eligible to receive additional consideration. Apply via SEAS Category 1.

FIRST YEAR SUBJECTS

The following are the first-year subjects for the 2024 intake. They may change for the 2025 intake.

Semester 1

Understanding Health
Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology
Communication and Diversity
Foundations of Occupational Science and Therapy A

Semester 2

Functional Human Anatomy
Integrated Human Physiology
Introduction to Aboriginal Studies
Foundations of Occupational Science and Therapy B.

FEDERATION UNIVERSITY

Course is fully accredited.

Special focus on occupational therapy in rural and remote settings.

1000 hours of clinical placement.

Focus on interprofessional practice.



Make a meaningful difference in the community with an occupational therapy degree. You'll assist and empower people to overcome limitations in their daily lives and occupations. Our program has special focus on occupational therapy in rural and remote settings and being equipped to handle the unique challenges of these areas.

BACHELOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (HONOURS)

Occupational therapists are qualified health professionals who are skilled in a number of areas, including physical health, mental health, rehabilitation, pain management, driving assessments and paediatrics. Our program focuses on contemporary occupational therapy practice and is based on real-life scenarios and cases. It takes four years full-time to complete and covers a variety of topics. Some subjects are delivered with other health professional students so you will have an inter-professional experience, which will increase your employability upon graduation.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Rural Australians have less access to occupational therapists than Australians who live in cities and the demand for qualified occupational therapists continues to grow. This program is designed to help to fill this gap, while providing you with rewarding career opportunities. You'll undertake a minimum of 1000 hours of practicum placements.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Occupational Therapy Program is currently accredited by The Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd (OTC) and is approved by the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia.

FIRST YEAR SUBJECTS

The following are the first-year subjects for the 2024 intake. They may change for the 2025 intake.

Semester 1

Anatomy and Physiology for Rehabilitation Science 1.
Introduction to Occupational Therapy.
Communication Skills for Health Professionals.
Foundations of Allied Health Professional Practice.

Semester 2

Anatomy and Physiology for Rehabilitation Science 2.
Lifespan Development for Health A.
Health and Healthcare in Australia.
Enabling Occupation through Partnerships.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply via the [Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre](#). Applications will open for Year 12 students on 29 July 2024.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#)

Course	Prerequisites	Campus
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	Units 3 and 4: minimum study score of 25 in any English; Units 1 and 2: satisfactory completion of two units of mathematics (any combination); Units 3 and 4: satisfactory completion of at least one of the following – Biology, Chemistry, Health and Human Development, any Mathematics, Physical Education, or Physics. Plus – submission of a supplementary form.	Gippsland - Churchill

FEDERATION UNIVERSITY

PATHWAY

The following are examples of pathways into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours). Note – there are no guaranteed pathway courses into the degree

Via a higher-education pathway at Federation University

STEP 1: first year of a bachelor degree

Complete the first year of one of the following courses at Federation University:

Bachelor of Community and Human Services.

Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education).

Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary).

Bachelor of Nursing.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

Apply for the occupational therapy degree. You will be considered for entry into the degree based on your academic performance.

Via a VET pathway

STEP 1: Diploma of Nursing

Complete the 2-year Diploma of Nursing at a Registered Training Organisation such as Federation University.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)

Apply for the occupational therapy degree. You will be considered for entry into the degree based on your academic performance.

SELECTION RANK ADJUSTMENTS

If eligible, FedUni will add adjustment factors to your VCE aggregate to recalculate your ATAR and boost your [selection rank](#) for entry into their courses. For example, your ATAR might be 60 but after adjustment factors are added, your selection rank might be 68. Adjustment factors are calculated from initiatives such as the following.

Subject adjustments

Applicants can receive up to 5 adjustments for high achievement in eligible Units 3 and 4 subjects. In the 2024 intake, the eligible subjects were: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Eligible subjects for the 2025 intake will be advertised via [VTAC](#) from 29 July 2024.

Access and Equity Scheme

Applicants can apply for this scheme via the Special Entry Access Scheme ([SEAS](#)). Applicants apply for SEAS after creating their VTAC account and adding course preferences. Across the four SEAS categories Federation University will award a maximum adjustment of 15 aggregate points per applicant. Applications will open between 29 July – 11 October 2024.

The following are examples of adjustments and the maximum aggregate per category:

Category 1: Personal Information and Location

- Indigenous applicants: 15
- Living or school postcode: 10
- Under-represented school: 10
- First in family to attend uni: 5
- Non-English speaking background: 5

Category 2: Financial Disadvantage

- Up to 10 adjustments

Category 3: Disability or Medical Condition

- Up to 10 adjustments

Category 4: Difficult Circumstances

- Up to 10 adjustments.

GUARANTEED ATAR

The [guaranteed ATAR](#) for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at FedUni is 70.

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM

Applications for the [Early Offer](#) program are now open and will close on 1 December. Selection is based on an online application. Successful applicants will receive a conditional offer to the course.

To receive a formal offer, applicants will need to complete Year 12, meet course prerequisites, achieve an ATAR of at least 70, and preference the course in their VTAC account correctly.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Melbourne and Ballarat campuses.

The Melbourne course is fully accredited and the Ballarat course is undergoing accreditation approval.

1000 hours of clinical placement starting in the first year of the course.

Participate in 80 hours of community engagement in your second and fourth years.



Our occupational therapy programs will prepare you to empower others, helping them to achieve occupational outcomes that support wellbeing. You'll build empathy, enhance your respect for dignity and diversity, specialise in helping vulnerable individuals and communities, and recognise your responsibility towards the common good and ethical decision-making.

BACHELOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

You will learn how to analyse and assess occupational performance; apply and evaluate interventions to enable occupational performance; and collaborate and communicate effectively with clients and their families and colleagues. High achieving Bachelor of Occupational Therapy students can undertake honours in the third and fourth years, provided they meet admission requirements.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

You will undertake 1000 hours of professional practice education, starting in the first year, working with people across the life-span to help them overcome physical, cognitive or societal barriers to participation. ACU has strong industry ties with a range of health and community services for placements and significant stakeholder engagement with many health partners.

FIRST YEAR SUBJECTS

The following are the first-year subjects for the 2024 intake. They may change for the 2025 intake.

Semester 1

Human Biological Science 1
Psychology for Allied Health
Health and Occupation
Foundations of Occupational Therapy (Professional Practice).

Semester 2

Infants and Children
Self and Community
Evidence-Based Practice and Health
Conditions
Musculoskeletal Structure and Function for Occupational Therapy.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PROGRAM

If you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander through VTAC, you will be invited by ACU to take part in an interview. You may receive an offer based on your potential to succeed. Click [here](#).

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

The ACU Bachelor of Occupational Therapy has been developed to ensure new graduates will meet the competency standards of the [World Federation of Occupational Therapists \(WFOT\)](#) and [Occupational Therapy Council \(OTC\)](#). The program in Melbourne is fully accredited with OTC and the program at Ballarat is under the accreditation approval process.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply via the [Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre](#). Applications will open for Year 12 students on 29 July 2024.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#)

Course	Prerequisites	Campus
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Pass and Honours)	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English, and 25 in at least one of Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.	Melbourne Ballarat

Bridging programs are available for the science subjects.

PATHWAY EXAMPLES

The following are two pathway options if you haven't met the requirements for direct entry into the course. Note - there are no guaranteed pathway courses into the degree.

Via an ACU enabling course

STEP 1: enabling program

Complete the 40-week Foundation Studies Program at the ACU Melbourne campus or online. Achieve a GPA of at least 6.28 (85% or above).

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply for the 4-year Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

Via a higher education pathway

STEP 1: Bachelor degree

Complete the first year of a health science degree such as Exercise and Sport Science at ACU or another university.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply to transfer into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at ACU. The GPA from your studies will be converted to an ATAR and you will compete for entry.

SELECTION RANK ADJUSTMENTS

If eligible, ACU will add adjustment factors to your VCE aggregate to recalculate your ATAR and boost your [selection rank](#) for entry into their courses. Adjustment factors are calculated from initiatives such as the following. Note - if you're eligible for multiple initiatives, the maximum aggregate adjustments you can be awarded is 12.

ACU Subject Program

Applicants can receive up to 5 adjustment factors for high achievement in eligible Units 3 and 4 subjects. In the 2024 intake, the eligible subjects were Biology, Chemistry, any English, Health And Human Development, Mathematical Methods, Specialist Mathematics, and Psychology. Eligible subjects for the 2025 intake will be advertised via [VTAC](#) from 29 July 2024.

Elite Athlete and Performers Program

Eligible applicants will receive up to 5 adjustment factors.

Schools Relationship Program, Campus Program, and Regional Schools Program

Eligible applicants will receive a maximum of 5 adjustment factors across these three access schemes.

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

Applicants can receive adjustment points for short or long-term disadvantage. Applicants can apply for [SEAS](#) via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) between 29 July - 11 October 2024 after creating their VTAC account and adding course preferences.

Read about the above programs via this [link](#).

Youth Ministry

Applicants who studied Youth Ministry in Year 12 at school are eligible for 5 adjustments.

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM

The [ACU Guarantee](#) is a program that uses an alternative selection rank for entry into most courses.

A selection rank is calculated from your Year 11 academic results and can be boosted by several factors such as completing up to three personal statements and living in a rural/regional area.

Successful applicants will receive a conditional offer for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy and will no longer require an ATAR or study scores for entry into the course.

To receive a formal offer, applicants will need to complete Year 12, meet course prerequisites, and preference the course in their VTAC account correctly.

Applications for the program will open on 22 July and close on 16 September 2024.

Note: applicants will still need to formally apply for courses via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre.

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

Albury-Wodonga campus.

Course is fully accredited.

1000 hours of clinical placement starting in the first year of the course.

Small class sizes.



If you're looking to build a career that will enhance people's health and wellbeing, the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy from Charles Sturt University will develop and inspire your passion to rise to challenges and make a difference to people, their families and communities.

BACHELOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Our four-year, full-time occupational therapy degree gives you a detailed understanding of the theoretical and practical components of the discipline. You'll study physiology and how the human anatomy works, so you can make informed decisions when you graduate and confidently step into the workforce and begin a rewarding career as an occupational therapist.

Taught at the Albury Campus, you will benefit from small class sizes, enthusiastic educators and Charles Sturt's close ties with practitioners, health and social services, and the community.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

You can be confident that what you are learning is highly relevant to practice and the 1000 hours of practical experience is excellent preparation for work as an occupational therapist. You will engage with people of all ages. From aged-care facilities to early childhood centres and schools – you'll be able to put your occupational therapy skills to work with a diverse range of community members and groups.

FIRST YEAR SUBJECTS

The following are the first-year subjects for the 2024 intake. They may change for the 2025 intake.

Semester 1

Introductory Functional Human Anatomy
Introduction to Australian Society and Health Person, Environment and Occupational Foundations
Health and the Human Body: Cells, Immunity, and Musculoskeletal System.

Semester 2

Health and the Human Body: Systemic Human Physiology
Indigenous Health
Communication for Health Practice
Occupational Therapy Practice.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#)

CONNECTIONS - FIRST NATIONS DIRECT ENTRY PROGRAM

First Nations Australian applicants who complete the 5-day Connections program may be eligible to receive guaranteed entry into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy. The program is free, and travel, meals and accommodation costs will be subsidised. Click [here](#).

HOW TO APPLY

Step 1: apply direct to the University

If you have strong Year 11 results, apply direct to the university via the '[Charles Sturt Advantage \(Early Offer\)](#)' program. Your application will be assessed based on your year 11 grades and answers to a soft skills assessment. Applications open on 1 May and close on 31 August 2024 and you will be notified in late September if you've received a conditional or firm offer for the course.

Step 2: via a Tertiary Admission Centre

Apply via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) or the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Note – applicants planning to apply for the [Schools Recommendation Scheme](#) must apply via UAC. Your application will be assessed on your Year 12 results. It's important to apply via VTAC or UAC in case you don't receive an offer via the Advantage program.

VTAC: applications open 29 July 2024.

UAC: applications open 3 April 2024 for NSW students and late July/early August 2024 for Victorian students.

Course	Recommended study	Campus
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	Biology	Albury-Wodonga

PATHWAY EXAMPLES

The following are pathway options if you haven't met the requirements for direct entry into the course. Note – there are no guaranteed pathway courses into the degree.

Via a Charles Sturt enabling course

STEP 1: enabling course

Complete the 6-month [Undergraduate Certificate in University Preparation](#) on-campus or online.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

Via a VET pathway

STEP 1: VET course

Complete an AQF Certificate IV or higher qualification at a Registered Training Organisation such as a TAFE.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

Via a higher education pathway

STEP 1: higher education subjects

Successfully complete at least two University level subjects (AQF level Associate Degree or higher) demonstrating a reasonable prospect of success through Grade Point Average (GPA) gained in these studies.

STEP 2: Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Apply for the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

SELECTION RANK ADJUSTMENTS

At Charles Sturt, you can receive up to 12 points of Adjustment Factors. These adjustment factors may be awarded across one or more of the following categories:

- Regional Location Adjustment (maximum 5 points)
- Subject Performance (maximum 10 points)
- Educational Disadvantage (maximum 7 points).

Adjustment factors are calculated automatically for applicants who apply via UAC, VTAC or direct to Charles Sturt

Regional Location Adjustment

Applicants who attend a regional high school will be awarded 5 adjustment points.

Subject performance

Applicants can receive up to 10 adjustment points for excellence in certain subjects.

Educational Disadvantage

Up to 7 adjustment points can be awarded for educational disadvantage.

Applicants applying via VTAC for the Albury-Wodonga campus can apply for adjustment factors via the Special Entry Access Scheme. Applicants applying via UAC can apply via the Educational Access Scheme.

Click [here](#).

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAMS

The following early entry programs provide a way to receive an ATAR free or a guaranteed ATAR entry into the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy.

Charles Sturt Advantage (Early Offer)

Applications open on 1 May and close on 31 August. Selection is based on Year 11 results and answers to a soft skills assessment. Successful applicants can receive a firm (ATAR free) or conditional offer (must meet a minimum ATAR).

Schools Recommendation Scheme

Applications open 3 April for NSW students and August for Victorian students, and close on 16 September 2024. Selection is based on Year 11 results and a school rating of your aptitudes. Successful applicants will receive a firm or a conditional offer via the UAC system. Click [here](#).

ACCREDITATION

This course is approved by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists, accredited by the Occupational Therapy Council Ltd (OTC) and approved by the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia (OTBA).

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Hawthorn campus.

Course is fully accredited.

1000 hours of clinical placement.

One of only 3 graduate entry occupational therapy degrees in Victoria.

Strong focus on innovation, technology and industry experience.

Focus on problem-based learning.



The Master of Occupational Therapy prepares you with the skills to further your professional healthcare knowledge and help transform the lives of those with neurological, musculoskeletal, or mental health issues. This course is designed for self-directed practitioners capable of working in community, acute and rehabilitation settings. Upon graduation, you'll be eligible to practice as a qualified occupational therapist.

GRADUATE ENTRY

Master of Occupational Therapy

Swinburne offers an Occupational Therapy degree at the graduate level. Applicants will need to complete a bachelor's degree first. Suggested pathway courses at Swinburne include the Bachelor of Health Science and the Bachelor of Health Science (Professional). Students undertake problem-based learning which requires them to collaboratively question, research, interpret core information and develop meaningful responses to case scenarios.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Students will undertake 1000 hours of professional practice training including 800 hours of work placements and at least 240 hours of other professional practice activities in other units. Students complete three professional work placements in community- or hospital-focused agencies that offer short-and long-term therapy, as well as an innovative project-based placement in the Design Factory Melbourne.

Course	Prerequisites	Campus	Guaranteed ATAR
Master of Occupational Therapy	Detailed information on selection criteria .	Hawthorn	N/A - Grad entry
Bachelor of Health Science	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English.	Hawthorn	60
Bachelor of Health Science (Professional)	Minimum study score of 30 in English (EAL) or 25 in any other English.	Hawthorn	80

GRADUATE ENTRY PATHWAY

The following is the pathway to be eligible for the Master of Occupational Therapy at Swinburne University.

Step 1

Complete a bachelor's degree and achieve a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 65%. Complete subject prerequisites (anatomy and physiology) in the degree or complete a bridging course through Swinburne.

Suggested course at Swinburne University: Bachelor of Health Sciences.

Step 2

Apply for the 2-year Master of Occupational Therapy Practice.

COURSE INFORMATION

Click [here](#)