

# Employment Opportunities

Occupational therapists are employed in a variety of settings including hospitals, the academe, private clinics, industrial companies, private homes, regular and special schools, community-based programs and rehabilitation centers. Specialty practice areas include sensory integration, hand therapy & work programs, mental health, community-based rehabilitation, and developmental disabilities (pediatrics) among others.

Named 7th best career in 2013 by the Wall Street Journal, and predicted in onetonline to have a 'bright outlook', Occupational Therapy services are in great demand locally and internationally.

# Occupational Therapist



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The **PROFESSIONALS**



## Occupational Therapist

Be the best  
**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



# Occupational Therapist

Occupational therapists evaluate, manage, and improve people's ability to perform needed, important and meaningful daily living tasks and occupations that have been disrupted by disease, injury, aging, psycho-social and environmental conditions.

## Functions

- Clinician
- Academician/ Educator
- Administrator/ Manager
- Entrepreneur
- Team Collaborator/  
Community-Based Resource Person
- Researcher/ Research  
Consumer/ Theory Developer
- Advocate/ Program & Policy  
Developer
- Leader

## Skills and Competencies

Occupational therapists are trained to work with persons of different ages and conditions. Competencies include good interpersonal and communication skills and a very good understanding and appreciation of the occupational, health, natural, and social sciences. They must be analytical, creative and innovative; possess skills in organizing and managing a unit, department or center; and inclined to engage in research and applying research results in clinical practice.

## Basic Educational Requirement

Occupational Therapists are educated and trained for four to five years to obtain a bachelor's degree including two years of general education and two

years of occupational therapy subjects. The final year is dedicated to clinical internship in different facilities. OT education comprises the liberal arts; occupational science; natural, social and medical sciences; human growth and development; mental health; and physical rehabilitation. Prior to practice, passing the local licensure examinations is a must. Many countries also require foreign-educated therapists to undergo licensing and registration.

## Cost of Education

Occupational therapy education costs approximately 40,000-60,000 pesos/semester in private schools. The cost maybe 15-20% lower in public schools. This cost excludes expenses for books, uniforms, living allowance and other school requirements.