



Ameritech College of Healthcare Launches Occupational Therapy Assistant Associate Degree Program

Ameritech's OTA program provides students with complete education, including unique fieldwork experience that corresponds with current curriculum

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DRAPER, Utah--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--<u>Ameritech College of Healthcare</u> today launched its new <u>Occupational Therapy</u> <u>Assistant (OTA) associate degree program</u>, starting with the September 2016 semester. The new program is designed to provide students with a diverse and inclusive curriculum, including comprehensive fieldwork that prepares students to pass the national certification exam and receive placement with a potential employer.

The program is designed to cover the therapy needs of all ages, from pediatric treatment to geriatric rehabilitation, focusing not only on muscle development but also real-life situations, such as home settings, hospice and hospital care. Ameritech's Draper campus now features simulation rooms for these different environments to train students in the types of circumstances they will encounter in real-world situations.

Courses include a unique fieldwork experience, where students gain practical experience in many disciplines at the same time as they learn those skills in the classroom. Ameritech's education includes numerous hours of shorter experiences in all disciplines.

"The Ameritech OTA curriculum is unique because it provides field work at the same time students are learning about those therapies—students learn about it, then they show their competency in the real world," said Dana Dunbar-Leavitt, OTA program director at Ameritech. "With our comprehensive and diverse program, our students will be among the best trained and most well-rounded OTAs in the healthcare field."

Graduates from the program receive their associate degree in 20 months and are prepared to become certified OTAs by sitting for the national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. Graduates may also be eligible for certification as a Certified Dementia Practitioner and CarFit Technician. The OTA program is accelerated, challenging, includes general education courses and has small class sizes of approximately 20 students.

Students work with adaptive equipment throughout the program duration for all industries and age ranges, and learn about subjects and therapies for hand, lymphedema, back and spine, neonatal ICU, end of life, hospice, ergonomics and more. These treatments are taught for all age ranges from pediatric to geriatric care.

Another unique aspect about Ameritech is its job placement. The college builds connections to excellent healthcare organizations and helps place its students with those providers. At any time during students' careers, they can contact the college for help with job placement.

The program also helps students work collaboratively with practitioners from other Ameritech degrees, such as nursing and medical assisting. Ameritech's healthcare programs are built to provide skilled graduates for the immense need for nurses, OTAs and other disciplines. Demand for OTAs is expected to grow by 43 percent for the 10-year period ending 2022, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Ameritech has applied for accreditation and has been granted Candidacy Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449; (301) 652-AOTA; and www.acoteonline.org. For more information about the OTA Program and to apply for admission, visit www.ameritech.edu or call (801) 816-1444.

About Ameritech College of Healthcare

Since 1979, Ameritech College of Healthcare has been committed to creating outstanding healthcare professionals. Over the past several decades, thousands of graduates have chosen Ameritech to assist them with their career transition into a variety of healthcare- and dental-related fields.

The college provides a fast track to a successful healthcare career through an expert faculty dedicated to the needs of the student. Students who graduate from Ameritech are better prepared for their healthcare field, have higher licensure pass rates and achieve better placement rates than other programs. The college offers programs in occupational therapy assistant, medical assistant, dental lab technician and nursing, including both RN license and RN-to-BSN degree completion programs.

Most faculty have years of practical experience in their professions and hold doctorate degrees in their related fields. For more information about Ameritech, please visit www.ameritech.edu or call 801-816-1444.

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Ameritech College Healthcare is a Draper-based private college whose nursing program reached its 10th anniversary this year. The program is geared toward ksl.com

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