

Do you want to be an Occupational Therapist?

"Occupational therapy is where science, creativity and compassion collide."

- Jessica Kensky



QS World University Rankings 2023

Sample study plan

Foundation Studies Programme



Delivered by UP International College New Zealand

Duration:

- 6 months
- 8-9 months
- 12 months

The AUT Certificate in Foundation Studies ensures you not only meet AUT undergraduate course entry requirements but that you are fully prepared for the challenges of degree-level study.

The UP English Language Test (UPELT) has been developed to help provide prospective students with obtaining their English language scores prior to enrolment.



Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapy)



Delivered by Auckland University of Technology

Duration: 3 years

Study the Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapy) and develop the skills to become an occupational therapist, and promote the health and wellbeing of individuals, groups and communities.

The occupational therapy degree is intensive and involves learning in an interprofessional environment, in the classroom and in clinical practice settings.



Registered Occupational Therapist



Career opportunities

When you graduate you can apply to register as an occupational therapist in New Zealand and other countries.

Occupational therapists work with all age groups in:

- Primary Health Organisations (PHOs)
- Community development
- Health centres and hospitals
- Research
- Schools
- Residential care facilities
- Private practice
- Rehabilitation and ACC

Employability

Pay for occupational therapists varies depending on experience, qualifications and employer.

Pay for occupational therapists working in private practice depends on their experience and the success of their business.

Occupational therapists working for Te Whatu Ora Health NZ usually earn

\$58k–\$86k per year

Senior occupational therapists who supervise staff can earn

\$87k–\$119k per year

Occupational therapists working in schools usually earn

\$59k–\$92k per year

Sources: Auckland Region District Health Boards/PSA, 'Allied, Public Health, Scientific & Technical Multi Employer Collective Agreement, expires 30 June 2023', 2022; District Health Boards/PSA, 'Allied, Public Health, Scientific & Technical Multi Employer Collective Agreement, expires 30 June 2023', 2022; and NZEI, 'Ministry of Education, NZEI Te Riu Roa and APEX Multi-Union Collective Agreement for Field Staff from 13 October 2021–27 January 2023', 2022.

Find out more at careers.govt.nz

Occupational therapists also need to be registered with the Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand (OTBNZ) and have a current Practising Certificate.

The Vulnerable Children Act 2014 means that if you have certain serious convictions, you can't be employed in a role where you are responsible for, or work alone with, children.

New graduates have a better chance of finding work where adequate supervision is available such as in private clinics or public hospitals.

Job opportunities for experienced occupational therapists are good because:

- New Zealand's large ageing population is using more occupational therapy services to remain independent and active
- demand is increasing for occupational therapists to provide mental health and addiction services.

Occupational Therapist appears on 'Tier 2 role eligible for work to residence' in Immigration New Zealand's Green list 2022.

This means the Government is actively encouraging skilled occupational therapists from overseas to work in New Zealand.

Find out more at immigration.govt.nz



Fahima Muse

Community Occupational Therapist, Greenlane Clinical Centre

Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapy)

"I wanted to have a meaningful career that will make a difference in the community. What I liked about occupational therapy is that it enables you to spend quality time with clients and make their life more meaningful. It's a rewarding career that allows you to give someone the ability to live a meaningful life. That's why I enrolled in the Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapy) at AUT."



Overview

Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapy)

Why choose Occupational Therapy?

Occupational therapists promote the health and wellbeing of individuals, groups and communities. They help people participate in everyday activities including learning, communication, interpersonal interaction and relationships, mobility, self-care, domestic life, and social life.

Occupational therapists can also modify people's environment – or the activity itself – to help them participate in the activity.

Throughout your study you complete block placements (at least 1,000 hours across the degree) in a number of practice settings to prepare you for professional registration. In your final year, you complete a 15-week block placement (either within Auckland or in a region outside of Auckland).



What you'll learn

All health sciences students take the same courses in the first semester.

Year 1, Semester 2: Experiencing Occupation, Personal and Environmental Factors in Occupation, Occupational Therapy Practicum I – includes two-week practice education within or outside of Auckland.

Year 2: Explore how illness or injury impacts on people performing their occupations and typical occupational therapy intervention. Experience practice education in both semesters. Throughout the year you'll need to complete fieldwork hours.

Year 3: Learn about using evidence in practice to work with individuals; how to work with communities, organisations or groups of people; and how to change systems to enable participation. Develop decision-making skills around assessment and intervention.

*We're one of the biggest health science education providers in New Zealand, and Times Higher Education has ranked our health programmes in the top 101-125 worldwide in 2023. The rankings organisation QS considers our nursing programmes in the top 150 in the world, and our public health programmes are ranked in the world's top 150 by the Shanghai Ranking (Academic Ranking of World Universities 2022).

AUT Certificate in Foundation Studies

Programme type	Fast-track	Standard	Standard Plus	Foundation Connect
Duration	6 months	8-9 months	12 months	6 months
Tuition fees*	\$18,750 NZD	\$23,250 NZD	\$29,900 NZD	\$15,990 NZD
Resource fee	\$800 NZD	\$800 NZD	\$800 NZD	\$800 NZD**
Exam fee	\$350 NZD	\$350 NZD	\$350 NZD	\$350 NZD**
Application fee	\$400 NZD	\$400 NZD	\$400 NZD	\$400 NZD**
2023 Start dates (incl. Orientation)	13 February, 26 April, 10 July, 2 October	13 February, 26 April, 10 July, 2 October	13 February, 26 April, 10 July, 2 October	13 February, 26 April, 10 July, 2 October
English language requirements***	IELTS 6.0 (no band less than 5.0)	IELTS 5.5 (no band less than 5.0)	IELTS 5.0 (no band less than 4.5)	IELTS 4.5 (no band less than 4.0)
International entry requirements	IB: at least 4x 4 grade CIE: 2 B grades and 2 C grades	IB: at least 3x 4 grade CIE: 4 C grades	IB: at least 2x 4 grade CIE: 2 D grades and 2 C grades	Please contact UP International College at international@up.education

*The tuition fees quoted above are in \$NZD and are correct at the time of publication (30 November 2022). Visit aut.up.education

** Students starting with Foundation Connect will pay the Resource, Application and Exam fees once and will not be charged again upon progression to Foundation.

***IELTS criteria can be substituted for assessment with an UP English Language Test (UPELT) or accepted equivalents.

Progression requirements

For Certificate in Foundation Studies students applying for entry to AUT in 2023.

All AUT undergraduate degree offers require the following minimum University Entrance (UE) marks from the Certificate in Foundation Studies: eight courses (each with a pass rate of 50%) made up of four compulsory courses (English I and II, Culture & Society, Tertiary Study Skills), and four optional academic courses.

Programme	Minimum University Entrance marks (out of 400) for four academic courses	Semester Intake	Minimum Duration (Years)	Minimum English language proficiency	Additional requirements
Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational Therapist)*	275	February	3	English II (65% minimum), or IELTS 7.0 overall (with no band below 6.5), or equivalent	Must be capable of meeting Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (HPCA Act) and Vulnerable Children's Act (VCA Act) requirements, including police vetting, immunisation screening and referee reports. At least one subject from Biology, Chemistry, Algebra, Statistics

*Limited places. Successful completion of the Certificate in Foundation Studies does not guarantee entry into these degrees. The professional body (Registration Board) may impose additional requirements at registration.



Scholarships

Progression Scholarships

Progression scholarships of up to NZ\$5,000 are awarded towards the tuition fees of the first year of undergraduate degree study at Auckland University of Technology.

Pathway Scholarships

International Excellence Scholarships of up to NZ\$5,000 and Fast Track Foundation Scholarships of up to NZ\$2,500 are available for the Foundation Studies Programme.

Foundation Connect Scholarship

Student who successfully progress from Foundation Connect programme to Standard Foundation programme will be awarded up to NZ\$5,000 scholarship if they achieve top results.



Scan to learn more about Scholarships and Academic Entry Requirements



Find out more at:
AUT.UP.EDUCATION