



TOTA

TEXAS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Entry-Level Expectations for Occupational Therapy

The purpose of fieldwork education is to support the progression from occupational therapy student to entry-level generalist practitioner. To ensure competencies, level II fieldwork students are evaluated at the midpoint and ending point of each rotation through the Fieldwork Performance Evaluation (FWPE) form. Competencies are dynamic and multi-dimensional necessities that enable entry-level abilities.

Proficiencies to build include interprofessional qualities, evaluation processes, intervention planning, clinical reasoning, and ethical actions amongst other pertinent skills. Below are key points per section of the FWPE. To reference the tool in its entirety, please access the citation located at the bottom of this page. Intervention strategies that necessitate additional training and certification, such as Neurodevelopmental Treatment (NDT), seating and mobility, and certain feeding approaches, are beneficial for students to implement under guidance but are generally not considered as entry-level skills.

Fundamentals of Practice

- Adheres to ethics
- Adheres to safety protocols
- Demonstrates good judgment

Basic Tenets of Occupational Therapy

- Articulates values, beliefs, and perspectives of the profession
- Articulates the value of occupation and outcomes of therapy
- Articulates the role of OT clearly and accurately to others

Practice Management

- Demonstrates collaboration and assigns tasks appropriately
- Understands cost and funding systems
- Demonstrates knowledge about the organization
- Meets productivity and volume of work standards

Communication

- Provides clear and effective verbal and nonverbal language
- Produces clear and accurate documentation
- Initiates collaboration with the fieldwork educator to maximize the learning experience

Intervention

- Uses evaluation results to articulate intervention rationale
- Establishes accurate and appropriate client-centered plans
- Modifies tasks, environments, and approaches for success
- Implements client-centered and occupation-based plans
- Uses evidence and resources to inform intervention plans

Screening and Evaluation

- Articulates clear rationale for the evaluation process
- Obtains information from all relevant sources
- Determines a strong and thorough occupational profile
- Selects appropriate assessment tools with accurate administration for valid findings
- Modifies the evaluation process appropriately
- Interprets evaluation data and results accurately
- Synthesizes and documents evaluation results to accurately record occupational performance and justify service needs

Demonstrates

Professional Behaviors

- Seeks learning opportunities
- Responds to feedback constructively and incorporates in a timely manner
- Demonstrates efficient, consistent, and acceptable work behaviors
- Manages time effectively
- Adjusts therapeutic approaches to meet the needs of others
- Respects cultural, socioeconomic, and identity diversity including belief systems

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American Occupational Therapy Association. (2020). Fieldwork Performance Evaluation (FWPE) for the Occupational Therapy Student (Revised in 2020) [PDF]. <https://www.aota.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/EducationCareers/Fieldwork/Fieldwork-P-Performance-Evaluation-Occupational-Therapy-Student.pdf>