



McMaster Occupational Therapy Program NEWSLETTER

November 2022

Hello Everyone!

We wanted to let you know about some exciting changes in the OT Program!

- Revisions to the Admissions Process
- NEW Black Equity Stream
- Academic Credentialing (Accreditation) & the Institutional Quality Assurance Program (IQAP)
- Revision to the McMaster OT Program Model
- OT Month Event

Revisions to the Admissions Process

- Historically the grade point average required for students to be invited to the Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) has been consistently high and rising each year
- To increase accessibility of our admissions process to a wider range of applicants, who could be excellent occupational therapists, we are shifting to a new approach:

A Pre-Recorded Video Interview Format, called Kira Talent, incorporating both verbal and written questions, allows us to increase the number of interviews. This format is commonly used for admissions processes for health programs.

We usually receive about 1,000 eligible applicants. As this process is new for all, interviews will be limited to the top 800 applicants based on sub-GPA. **Applicants will record their interviews between February 27 and March 10, 2023.**

We are excited about these opportunities to increase accessibility and inclusivity in our admissions process but cannot do this without you! Please consider volunteering to be part of our new admissions assessment process this spring. **If you can spare 4 hours (or more) between March 13 and 31, 2023 please click the link below** to fill out the recruitment survey:

<https://surveys.mcmaster.ca/limesurvey/index.php/148513?lang=en>.

Continued on the next page...

HOW DOES THE MCMASTER OT PROGRAM COMPARE?

Occupational
Therapy



#9 in the World

#5 in North America

#2 in Canada

Thank you for all your
efforts towards making our
OT Program so successful.
We truly could not do it
without you.

Information obtained from EduRank on
November 24, 2022
([https://edurank.org/medicine/occupatio
nal-therapy/](https://edurank.org/medicine/occupational-therapy/))

Black Equity Stream

The NEW [Black Equity Stream](#) - for applicants who self-identify as Black and who meet the minimum requirements - provides the option for a review process led by a panel of Black assessors. Applicants may also choose to submit a personal statement, providing context to their interview responses.

If you are willing to be part of the Black Equity Stream Review Panel, please complete the survey below by December 16, 2022:

<https://surveys.mcmaster.ca/limesurvey/index.php/148513?lang=en>.

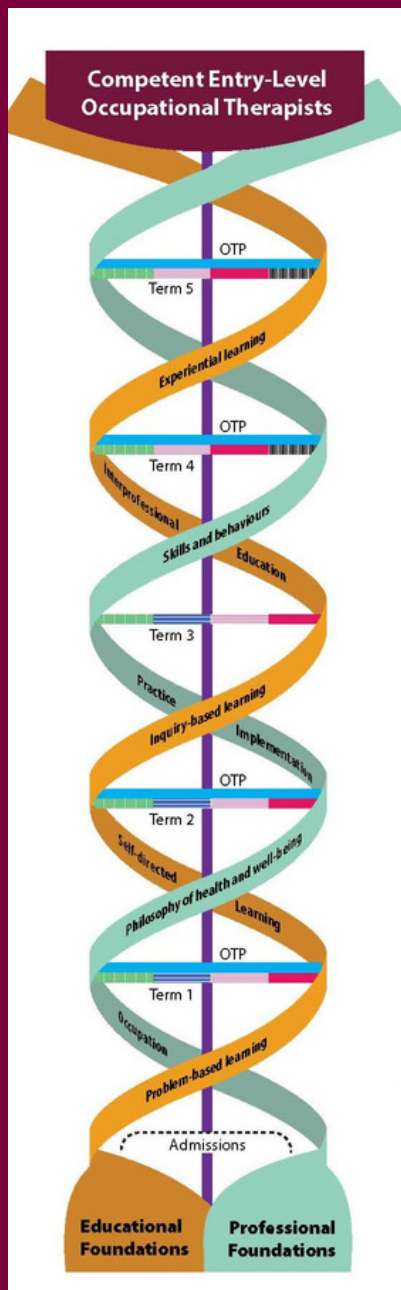
The [Facilitated Indigenous Admissions Program](#) (FIAP), for applicants who self-identify as Indigenous, continues to be available through the Indigenous Students Health Sciences Offices.

Collecting information on equity, diversity and inclusion will be a part of the process for all of our assessors and will include training opportunities related to addressing unconscious bias.

Accreditation and Internal Quality Assurance Program (IQAP)

OT Programs in Canada who wish to remain accredited undergo a review every seven years by the [CAOT Academic Credentialing Council](#) (ACC). We submitted the Self-Study Report in September 2022 and look forward to hosting the accreditation committee for the onsite review April 24-26, 2023. You may be hearing more about this visit as they want to hear from students, staff, community partners and faculty.

Continued on the next page...



Courses

- Professional Reasoning and Skills
- Foundational Knowledge
- Inquiry (Large seminar)
- Inquiry (Integration)
- Occupational Therapy Practicum – Fieldwork Education
- Evidence-Based Practice

Values

- Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

In addition to the CAOT review process, universities in Ontario have an [Internal Quality Assurance Process](#) (IQAP), which programs must complete every eight years. Virtual visits will be held on May 1-2, 2023.

The Revised OT Program Model

On the left you will see our revised OT Program Model. The "Steps and Pillars" have been replaced by a helix and we have updated the language for both the Professional and Educational Foundations. We have also added Justice, Equity Diversity, and Inclusion as a central theme (or rod) of the program. More details can be found on the [McMaster OT Program Website](#).

OT Month Event

On October 28, 2022 the McMaster OT Program hosted a World Café event in honour of OT Month. A group comprised of educators, students and clinical community focused on the challenges and opportunities to advance diversity and inclusion within the McMaster community. Thanks to all who participated in this important dialogue.

For more information about the new admissions process or what you can expect as an assessor please contact Sandra Moll at molls@mcmaster.ca.

For more information about the Accreditation and IQAP processes and/or the new OT Program Model please contact Jackie Bosch at boschj@mcmaster.ca.



Visit our website at srs-ot.healthsci.mcmaster.ca