American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (AOTA-ACOTE)

Director of Accreditation: Teresa Brininger, PhD, MBA, OT, CHT

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PROFILE OF ACCREDITING ORGANIZATION

Accreditor types: Programmatic
Recognition Status: Recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education

Range of Accreditation Activity: ACOTE is a nationally-recognized accrediting body for occupational therapy educational programs in the United States, Puerto Rico, and internationally, offering one or more of the following credentials for the occupational therapist: professional master’s degree, combined baccalaureate/master’s degree, and/or professional occupational therapy doctorate degree. In addition, ACOTE accredits occupational therapy assistant baccalaureate-degree-level and associate-degree-level educational programs in the United States and Puerto Rico. This recognition includes the accreditation of occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant educational programs offered via distance education.

International Accreditation Activity:
1 Non-U.S. institutions or programs operating outside the U.S.
0 U.S. institutions or programs operating outside the U.S.
No Organization evaluates credentials or degrees from outside the U.S.

Program Countries
United Kingdom

Sponsoring Organization: ACOTE is an associated body of the AOTA. An AOTA-ACOTE policy delineates the functional relationship.

Composition of Decision-Making Body:
Occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant practitioners and educators, higher education representative and public members.

1,539,635 Operating Budget for Accrediting Unit Only
0 Direct support from any sponsoring organization
0 In-kind support from any sponsoring organization

Employees: 4 Full-time 1 Part-time
Volunteers: 148 – served 2020-2021

PROFILE OF ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

448 Accredited U.S and non-U.S. Programs

448 Degree-Granting:
239 Public
172 Private Nonprofit
37 Private For-Profit

0 Non-Degree-Granting:
0 Public
0 Private Nonprofit
0 Private For-Profit

30,750 Students

PROFILE OF ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

Frequency of Comprehensive Reviews and Required Follow-Up: On-site reviews once every five or seven years for initially accredited programs; five, seven or ten years for re-accredited programs. Annual and interim reports are required.

Frequency of Comprehensive Review of Accreditation Standards: Every 5 years.

Summary of Formal Actions 2020-2021

66 Initial Candidacy or Preaccreditation Granted
0 Initial Candidacy or Preaccreditation Denied
28 Initial Accreditation Granted
0 Initial Accreditation Denied
18 Accreditation Continued Following Comprehensive Review
19 Accreditation Continued Following Comprehensive Review with Required Follow-up

0 Notice or Warning
1 Probation
0 Show Cause
0 Accreditation Terminated or Removed
0 Actions under Appeal
31 Other

Summary of Additional Actions
25 Substantive Changes Reviewed