

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FIELDWORK NEWS

Penn State DuBois OTA Program

Fall 2019

## PSU DuBois OTA Program Updates

Amy Fatula has been appointed as the POTA District IV Executive Officer. Please contact her if you work or live in the 11 counties of District IV and would like to be active or have any ideas for district activities .

## OT GLOBAL DAY OF SERVICE 2019

This Fall the sophomore students in OT 109 created “OT Busy Bags”. These bags contained items for children 3+ years of age and included: crayons, playdoh, notepads, small games, stickers, etc. The bags were then donated to the local Crossroads Community Action organization to be given to children displaced in shelters due to domestic violence. A guest speaker came to class and spoke of the services they provide to families in the area.



Students gather items to be placed in the “OT Busy Bags” during their OT 109 class. This project provides experience in advocacy and promotion of occupational therapy.



The PSU DuBois OTA program is accredited by ACOTE through 2024. There are specific standards that the program is bound to address throughout the curriculum to maintain accreditation. Based on the current standards implemented in 2011, there are 19 FW related standards to be addressed. This newsletter will be a communication tool to facilitate campus and clinic communication and compliance with the standards.

## In This Issue

- Program Update
- Assessing student performance
- Continuing education opportunities

*Thank you to all who participated in the PSU DuBois CE event in October. Our speaker Ray Heipp was engaging and has been a resource already by providing consultation and trial equipment to some of the attendees.*



## **We need you!**

**Our program is always seeking fieldwork sites and educators for our students.**

**Per ACOTE C.1.11: if you have 1 year full-time experience and are licensed, then you can begin the process of accepting a student. The AFWC will work with your site to ensure a contract is in place, and she will provide training and resources to ensure that the supervisor is adequately prepared to serve in that position.**



**When completing fieldwork visits, the AFWC often faces questions regarding how to best assess the OTA student in these areas. The AOTA Fieldwork Performance Evaluation items are listed below. Under each are sample objectives that can be used by the site to assess student performance. Then on page 3, are sample opportunities that can be used to allow for student performance in these areas.**

### **III: Evaluation/Screening**

#### **#7: Gathers Data:**

**“Under the supervision of and in cooperation with the occupational therapist and/or occupational therapy assistant, accurately gathers relevant information regarding a client’s occupations of self care, productivity, leisure, and the factors that support and hinder occupational performance.”**

#### **Sample Objectives:**

- ◆ **Gathers relevant information from chart review, client/caregiver interview, staff interaction or observation regarding current functional status and occupational needs.**
- ◆ **Demonstrates competency in seeking relevant information from appropriate source (chart, interview, staff, observation, etc).**
- ◆ **Demonstrates accuracy when obtaining data (ex: assist levels, FIM scores).**

#### **#8: Administers Assessments:**

**“Establishes service competency in assessment methods, including but not limited to interviews, observations, assessment tools, and chart reviews within the context of the service delivery setting.”**

#### **Sample Objectives:**

- ◆ **Observes standardized techniques when administering standardized assessment tools (instructions, materials, methods).**
- ◆ **Demonstrates accuracy when obtaining and recording assessment data.**
- ◆ **Demonstrates safety awareness when administering assessments.**

## Earn your NBCOT and PA CE units as a Fieldwork Educator

Do you want FREE units towards certification and licensure?

Use your skills, knowledge, and experience to train future OTAs for level I or II.

Refer to the following sites for more information regarding how to earn your units:

[NBCOT Renewal Activity Chart](#)

[PA Licensure Continuing Education Information](#)



Student Opportunities to address items #7 and #8:

- ◆ Create opportunities to allow for a student to observe, interview, or complete chart reviews even if this is not a regular occurrence in your setting.
- ◆ Allow the OTA student to accompany an OTR during evaluations to observe the data gathering process and eventually participate in some areas of the evaluation.
- ◆ Allow the OTA to practice assessment techniques on staff (muscle testing, goniometry, interview, standardized assessments)
- ◆ Create case study assignments that require the student to seek client data (require the student to determine the most appropriate data source and seek the information independently).
- ◆ Create an assignment to require the OTA student to present an inservice on a specific standardized assessment.
- ◆ Allow for student participation in home assessments. Allow the student to gather and record measurements/observations.

### Did you know?

Our students all purchase the [Occupational Therapy Toolkit](#). They can use this resource on fieldwork to provide clients with handouts and for treatment planning.

Our students have access to the [ICE Learning Center](#), which gives them access to a clinical video library. They can use these videos to review and prepare for fieldwork.

## AOTA Digital Badging Program

Do you have an interest in a particular area of OT? AOTA's digital badges are a good way to focus your CE activity and be recognized. Here are the current topics offered:

Autism  
Cancer Rehabilitation  
Driving and Community Mobility  
Early Identification  
Emerging Leaders Development Program  
Falls Prevention  
Fieldwork Educator  
Fieldwork Educator Certificate  
Home Modification  
Low Vision  
Lifestyle Redesign  
Leadership Development Program for Middle Managers  
Path to Leadership



**Penn State DuBois**

### **Community Education Opportunities:**

#### **Personal Care Home Administrator 100 Hour Training**

- ◆ OTAs & OTRs have the background to earn this credential (see site for details).

#### **Intro and Advanced American Sign Language**

- ◆ Learn this valuable skill and earn credits towards your certification and licensure requirements. University sponsored programs are applicable.



### **Contact Us**

For more information regarding the PSU DuBois OTA Program please contact :

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Visit our [program website](#) at:

(see link for fieldwork resources)