

Occupational/Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant

<p>Overview</p>	<p>Occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) work under supervision of Registered Occupational Therapists (OT) to provide diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation programs to the clients having functional challenges. The challenges may be caused by physical or mental issues, injury, delays in development, social disorders, or aging. They prepare the equipment and resources and carry out treatment plans (designed by occupational therapists).</p> <p>They help clients learn skills needed for day to day activities as well as work activities. They also contribute to completing splints and create or repair assistive devices. They train the clients and caregivers use of wheelchairs and other assistive devices (high- and low-tech).</p>								
<p>NOC Code</p>	<p>Other Technical Occupations In Therapy And Assessment (3237)</p>								
<p>Alias Job Titles</p>	<p>Occupational therapist assistant; Occupational therapy assistant; Occupational therapy technician; Physical rehabilitation technician</p>								
<p>Qualifications Required</p>	<p>Occupational therapy assistants require completion of a two-year occupational therapy assistant (OTA) college program.</p>								
<p>Salary Range</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Average hourly</th> <th>Range hourly</th> <th>Average yearly</th> <th>Range yearly</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>\$26.01</td> <td>\$22.67 - \$44.21</td> <td>\$50,710</td> <td>\$44,207 - \$86,208</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Average hourly	Range hourly	Average yearly	Range yearly	\$26.01	\$22.67 - \$44.21	\$50,710	\$44,207 - \$86,208
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<p>Job Demand</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Employment outlook is good to fair across provinces. More information is available here.</p>								
<p>Growth Opportunity</p>	<p>Without further education, advancement opportunities for Occupational Therapist Assistants are limited.</p>								

Years' Experience Required	0-1 years
Training Options (if available)	<p>Having a diploma in Physiotherapy assistant program from an accredited institution is usually required. Some examples of such programs:</p> <p>Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant at SAIT</p> <p>Occupational/Physical Therapist Assistant at Vancouver Community College</p> <p>Therapist Assistant Program (PTA & OTA Major) at MacEwan University</p> <p>Occupational Therapist Assistant & Physiotherapist Assistant at Centennial College</p> <p>Find more programs</p>
Personal Qualities	<p>Excellent communication skills; empathetic; ability to work independently, Physical and mental stamina; Critical thinking skills, Patience, Flexibility, Organizational skills and attention to detail; Manual dexterity; teamwork</p>
Notes/Other Information	<p>No certification is currently required.</p> <p>Occupational/Rehabilitation therapist assistants work in a variety of settings including private practices, hospitals, continuing or long-term care facilities, rehabilitation facilities, schools, and private homes. They generally work weekdays but may be required to work some evenings and weekends.</p> <p>The work can be physically demanding and they need to help clients transfer, stand, walk, and exercise. They may be on their feet for long periods of time. They may also be required to move heavy equipment.</p>
Steps towards capacity building to become competitive for this job	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Getting admitted into diploma in Occupational Therapy/Rehabilitation Assistant program. 2. If not possible, one can start having a certificate program/ on-the-job training as a Rehabilitation aide or assistant, then enter into the Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

**References and
resources**

- i. [Alberta Learning Information Service](#)
- ii. [Job Bank Canada](#)
- iii. [National Occupation Classification ESDC](#)
- iv. [Neuvoo](#)
- v. [Indeed](#)