

| Original Council Spring 2013                                                                          | Council Document C March 2014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Current                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Rationale                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| Applicants must submit an application no later than Nov 15 of the year preceding entry to the program | Priority Application Deadline: October 15<br>Final Deadline all Applications: February 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Application Fee:<br>An application Fee of \$50.00 must be submitted by the application deadline<br><br>Application Deadlines:<br>Early Application Deadline: November 1<br>Final Deadline all Applications: February 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ACU is situated between TTUHSC and TWU. TTUHSC has an early deadline and TWU has one final deadline both of Oct. 1 and 15 <sup>th</sup> consecutively.<br>Most schools in Texas inform applicants of admission by Jan. I positioned ACU to receive final applicants after that date in hopes of gaining additional qualified applicants.                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | It is in the best interest of the applicant to turn the application in as early as possible.<br>Meeting the application requirements does not guarantee admission.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                       | An official transcript(s) in English (or translated to English) of all previous college work (official means an original with the seal that comes directly from the issuing institution to ACU). The transcript must indicate a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Admissions are made on the assumption that applicants will have the bachelor's degree by the time of matriculation, and if not, the Graduate School admission is void; <b>Transcripts must reflect pre-requisite courses or a plan must be provided from the applicant to fulfill the pre-requisite course prior to the start of the program.</b> | <b>Transcripts and coursework:</b><br>Applicants must submit official transcripts in English (or translated to English) of all previous college work (official means an original with the seal that comes directly from the issuing institution to ACU). The transcript must indicate a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Admissions are made on the assumption that applicants will have the bachelor's degree by the time of matriculation, and if not, the Graduate School admission is void. At the time of the application, applicants must demonstrate the ability to complete all required pre-professional coursework prior to enrollment in the first semester of the program. In addition, all prerequisite coursework must be completed within seven years prior to enrollment. Both Anatomy and Physiology must be complete at the time of application and no more than 9 hours of prerequisite courses can be in progress for the application file to be reviewed. <u>AP and CLEP credit will not be accepted for any prerequisite course.</u> | All coursework must be within the last 7 years to ensure pre-requisite classes align with accreditation standards (ACOTE). Both Anatomy and Physiology must be completed must be completed prior to the time of application and no more than 9 hours of prerequisite courses can be in progress at the time of application review in order for the application review team to have a clear idea of the students capability with foundational knowledge required for OT. |

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| Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.25 -<br>- Note: the acceptance threshold may be higher due to the competitive nature of acceptance | A minimum cumulative undergraduate approximate 3.00 and a minimum prerequisite GPA to 3.25                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>GPA:</b> An overall GPA of 3.2 is required to apply. Prerequisite and general science course grades will specifically be reviewed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Most OT schools require a 3.0 GPA to apply to OT school, however, in reality the average GPA of students getting into OT school is 3.6. In the interest of being transparent, we have decided to require a 3.2 GPA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Original</b>                                                                                                                            | <b>First Cohort</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Current</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Rationale</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Applicants must have performed a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer/observation activity in an OT setting                                    | Applicants must have performed a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer/observation activity in an OT setting. Applicants are encouraged to complete observation hours in more than one clinical setting. Applicants should download and complete the Occupational Therapy observation hours form; | <b>Experience:</b> Applicants are expected to have some knowledge of the occupational therapy profession. This can be acquired as volunteer work, observation hours and/or paid work in a professional occupational therapy setting. A minimum of 40 hours of observation is required prior to the application deadline. Eighty to 100 hours of experience is recommended, preferably in more than one occupational therapy setting. Applicants should have each site where volunteer, observation or work hours are obtained complete the <a href="#">Verification of Observation Hours form</a> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | The minimum required observation hours for OT schools across Texas is 40, however, all program directors agree that the average student admitted to OT school has approximately 100 hours and those hours are typically obtained in more than one site. The average number of observation hours for our first cohort was 93. In the interest of being transparent, we have decided to communicate a higher number of hours as a part of our admission requirements. |
|                                                                                                                                            | Two letters of recommendation (one must be from a clinician who has observed the student). Recommendation forms should be submitted through the online application;                                                                                                                          | <b>Letters of recommendation:</b> Two letters of recommendation are required. At least one letter must be provided from an occupational therapist and the other letter provided by a professional who has observed your work. Applicants may submit written letters of recommendation or use the recommendation form that is included as part of the <a href="#">online application</a> . Letters of Recommendation should be completed by individuals who have: (a) observed you during any health care-related volunteer or paid work; (b) previous or present instructors and/or advisors; (c) previous or present employers; and (d) health care professionals. Letters of recommendation should include elements demonstrating the applicants: (1) willingness to learn; (2) integrity; (3) perseverance; and (4) ability to interact with patients/clients. | In order for letters of recommendation to be valuable it is important that at least one letter be provided by an OT and the other by some kind of professional that can accurately comment on the applicants' professional behavior and skills.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| Applicants must complete an essay as part of the application process                                    | Applicants must complete an essay as part of the application process. ACU requires occupational therapy applicant to submit a 2-3 page, double spaced personal essay regarding your interest in and journey towards the field of occupational therapy. Your essay should include: spiritual and/or life experiences that influenced your decision to apply to occupational therapy school, and clinical experience or observation that evoked passion about occupational therapy. | <b>Personal Essay:</b> Applicants must complete an essay as part of the application process. The essay should be two to three pages, double-spaced with one inch margins, 12 pt. font, and should describe your interest in occupational therapy. The personal essay is an opportunity for the applicant to describe what is meaningful about the profession of occupational therapy that has drawn the applicant to the profession. Examples such as occupational therapy observation experiences and/or spiritual/ life experiences that relate to choosing occupational therapy as a profession should be discussed. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Applicants must achieve acceptable evaluations on interviews by a panel of OT faculty and practitioners |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Immunizations and CPR:</b> Verification of required immunizations must be submitted prior to matriculation into the professional curriculum. CPR is required prior to fieldwork and will be provided in the program for a separate fee.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Most OT schools require CPR as admission requirements. All students must have current CPR to begin fieldwork. CPR certifications must be renewed every two years. Our fieldwork begins the second semester and ends the sixth semester of the program. In order to keep students current, CPR will be provided by the end of the students first semester at ACU. |