

Fieldwork Defined

General Information about Level I Fieldwork

The goal of Level I fieldwork is “to introduce students to the fieldwork experience, to apply knowledge to practice, and to develop understanding of the needs of clients.”

(2018 ACOTE Accreditation Standards for an Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant)

- Per the 2018 ACOTE standards, qualified personnel for supervision of the Level I student include, but are not limited to
 - Occupational therapy practitioners initially certified nationally
 - Psychologists,
 - Physician assistants
 - Teachers,
 - Social workers,
 - Nurses,
 - Physical therapists

The supervisor must be knowledgeable about occupational therapy and cognizant of the goals and objectives of the Level I Fieldwork experience.

- Services may be provided to a variety of populations through a variety of settings. Experiences may include those directly related to occupational therapy, as well as other situations to enhance the students' understanding of the developmental stages, tasks, and roles of individuals throughout the life span.
- Some examples of possible sites: Day care centers, schools, neighborhood centers, hospice, homeless shelters, community mental health centers, and therapeutic activity or work centers.

General Information about Level II Fieldwork

The goal of Level II fieldwork is to develop competent, entry-level, generalist occupational therapy assistants. Level II fieldwork is integral to CPCC’s curriculum design and includes an in-depth experience in delivering occupational therapy services to clients, focusing on the application of purposeful and meaningful occupation.

(2018 ACOTE Accreditation Standards for an Educational Program for the Occupational Therapy Assistant)

- Students **must** complete a minimum of 16 weeks, full-time Level II fieldwork. This may be completed on a part-time basis, but student must be there at least 50% of the full time equivalent.
- CPCC Curriculum completes these 16 weeks in two separate 8 week fieldwork experiences.
- Students **must** be supervised by a currently licensed or otherwise regulated occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant (under the supervision of an occupational therapist) who has a minimum of 1 year full-time (or its equivalent) of practice experience subsequent to initial certification and who is adequately prepared to serve as a fieldwork educator.