How to apply to BGSU OTD on OTCAS



Introduction

- This presentation is meant to be a resource for all students interested in applying to the BGSU OTD program
- <u>PTCAS Fee Waiver</u> program. This is limited on a first-come, first-serve basis, and only provides a waiver for application to **one program**.
- Visit the PTCAS Applicant help center for assistance with completing application



OTCAS Fee Waiver

- Not program dependent
- Based on income level
- Submit as soon as you are ready to apply
- Must submit **before** you submitOTCAS application
- Only valid for 14 days (you must submit your application within 14 days of receiving the waiver)
- Must provide tax return documents (yours or parents)



BGSU OTD Key Dates

- Priority application deadline: December 5, 2025
 - All applications submitted before or on this date will receive a decision by December 20, 2025
- General application deadline: June 19, 2026



Before you apply

Make sure that you...

- Have completed all prerequisite courses, or have a plan to complete them
- Contacted evaluators to request letters of recommendation, especially OT letter
- Written a draft of your essays
- Compiled your resume
- Have copies of unofficial transcripts from all schools you attended (including community college)



OTCAS application status

- Application status
 - Received: OTCAS has received your application and is waiting for transcripts to arrive
 - Complete: Your transcripts have been received by OTCAS and is in queue to be verified
 - Verified: Your transcripts have been verified by OTCAS. Your application, together with transcripts is now available for programs to view. Programs may choose to process and review your application at this time
- Your status can be viewed from theOTCAS applicant dashboard



Create an account on OTCAS

- Go to the <u>OTCAS login page</u>:
- Click "Create an Account"
- If you applied in an earlier cycle, you can sign in with your previous username and password





Re-applying/Restarting application

- If you are a re-applicant, or created an account in a previous cycle, you will be asked if you want to restart your application
 - You should keep your existing application as far as possible to prevent processing delays
- Decide if you want to keep existing data
 - You can keep coursework, demographic information, test scores, transcripts
 - Letters of evaluation, essays, program specific requirements will not be copied
 - Allow up to 24 hours for the information to be copied over



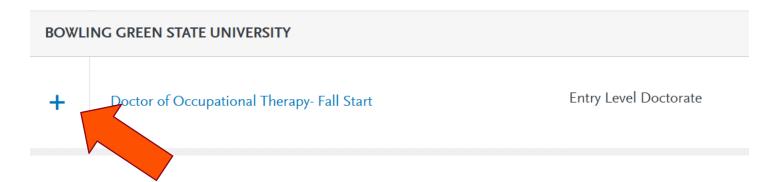
Add Programs

- Select BGSU as the program you are applying to
- Ensures you receive information about the program

1. Search program name



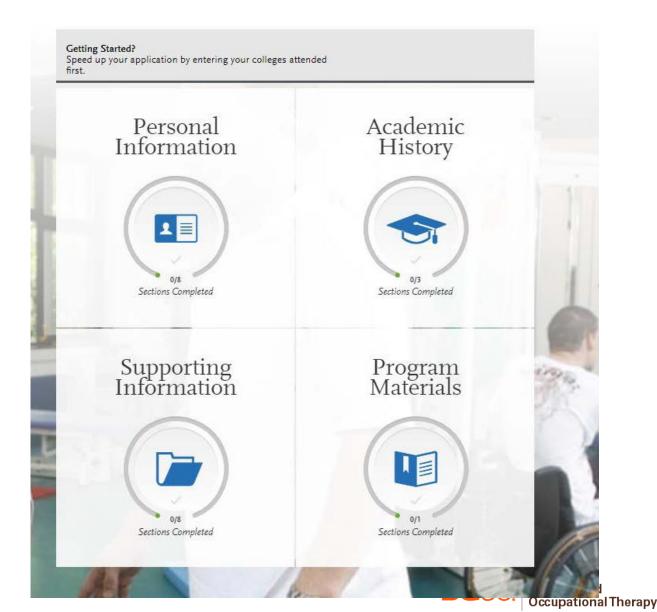
2. Click the "+" to add program to your list





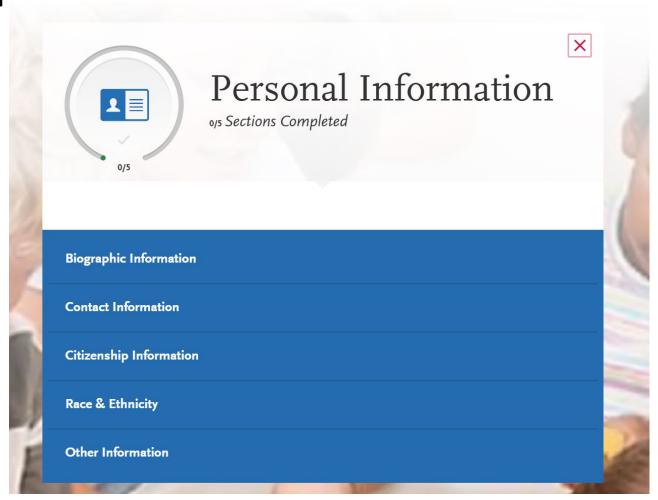
Applicant dashboard

- After selecting BGSU, go back to the applicant dashboard
- Complete each of the 4 quadrants accordingly
- The following pages
 will only highlight parts
 of the application that
 we think is important
 for you to know



Biographic information

- You will provide biographic information
- Proofread your application and ensure that all information is entered correctly
 - Alternate names: List all names used, such as maiden name, or different forms of your last name
 - Date of birth: Make sure this is accurate
- Accurate information will help in processing of transcripts and results of multi-stage interview process





Contact Information

- Email address: provide the email that you check regularly so you do not miss communication from us!
- Current and Permanent address: If accepted, we would like to mail you a welcome package. Please ensure that you have access to mail at these addresses for the duration of the admission cycle

Contact Information

Enter your contact information in this section. Keep this information up-to-date throughout the application process. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

You can edit this section after you submit your application.

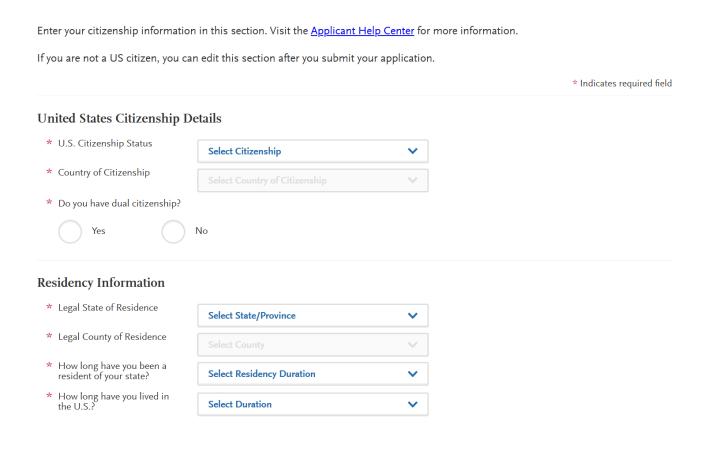
* Indicates required field

* Country / Territory * Street Address 1 Street Address 2 * City * State/Province * County * Zip/Postal Code Approximate Date through which current address is valid * Is this your permanent address?				
Street Address 2 * City * State/Province * County Select a State/Province * Zip/Postal Code Approximate Date through which current address is valid	×	Country / Territory	Select a Country	~
* City * State/Province Select a State/Province County Select a County Zip/Postal Code Approximate Date through which current address is valid	*	Street Address 1		₫
* State/Province Select a State/Province County Select a County Zip/Postal Code Approximate Date through which current address is valid		Street Address 2		
* County Select a State/Province * Zip/Postal Code Approximate Date through which current address is valid MM/DD/YYYY	*	City		
* Zip/Postal Code Approximate Date through which current address is valid			Select a State/Province	~
Approximate Date through which current address is valid	*	County	Select a County	~
which current address is valid	*	Zip/Postal Code		
* Is this your permanent address?		Approximate Date through which current address is valid	MM/DD/Y	m
	*	Is this your permanent address?		



Citizenship Information

- BGSU is authorized to accept students who are US Citizens and Permanent Residents (Green Card holders) only
- We are not authorized to accept students on F or J visas at this time
- Please provide citizenship information as you are comfortable
- Please email us at otdadmissions@bgsu.edu if you require additional information





Other information

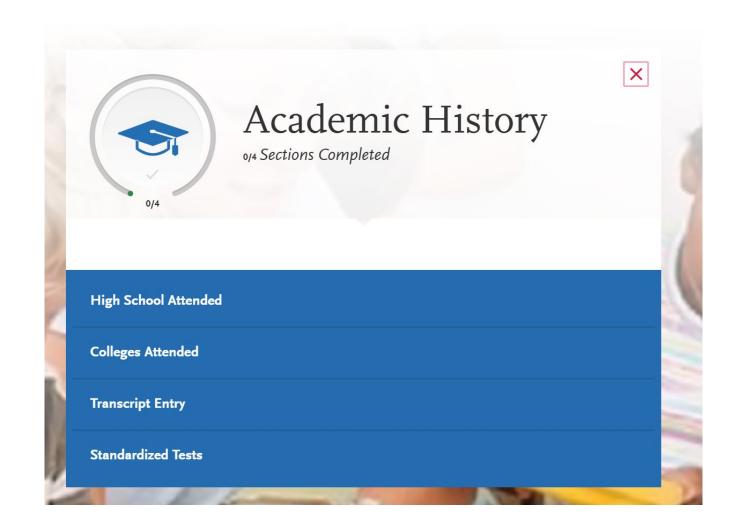
 This information helps us collect data on our applicants and accepted students

Enter your responses to these additional questions. Visit the <u>Applicant Help Center</u> for more information.							
ions only if you submitted your application v	vith an answer of No .						
	* Indicates required field						
Select Military Status	~						
professional school for: (1) unacceptable academi	c performance (academic						
ions?	e performance (academic						
Select Language	~						
	Select Military Status professional school for: (1) unacceptable academicions?						



Academic history

- Start with the colleges attended section first
 - Enter all colleges you attended, including community college for dualcredit, even if you have transferred credits into your current institution
- Omission of any institution will result in a delay in the processing of your application





Transcripts

- All transcripts must be sent to OTCAS
 - **Do not** send any transcripts to BGSU, we cannot forward them to PTCAS on your behalf.
 - One copy for each institution you attended
- Click order
 - If submitting electronic transcripts: select vendor before proceeding
 - If submitting by mail: Transcript ID form must be submitted with each transcript

pplication

Add Program

Colleges Attended

Report all institutions attended, regardless of:

- · Their relevance to the programs you're applying to, and
- Whether the coursework completed there was transferred to another institution.

Also, report each institution only once, regardless of the number of degrees earned or gaps in the dates of attendance. Click here for more information.

Once you submit your application, you cannot edit universities.

y entered colleges and universities, but you can add new colleges and

Information for Applicants Impacted by COVV to obtain official transcripts from all of the PTCAS is granting some applicants an believe you need this exception, please

CAS understands that as a result of COVID-19, some applicants may not be able and universities they have attended. To assist applicants with this this hardship, and allowing them to upload unofficial transcripts for their PTCAS application. If you COVID-19 Transcript Hardships page.

Add a College or University



Transcript Entry

- You will be given the option of Professional Transcript Entry (PTE) or entering it yourself
- Select the applicable option
- See next slide for more information on PTE

Professional Transcript Entry

What is this?

Save time completing your application by having us enter coursework on your behalf.

How long does it take?

Professional Transcript Entry will begin as soon as you submit your application and we receive all of your official transcripts.

After you submit your application and we receive all of your official transcripts, please allow up to ten business days for us to complete your order.

Why should I use it?

- Entering coursework from multiple institutions can be a time-consuming and error-prone task.
- Professional Transcript Entry frees you to focus on more strategic tasks, like writing your essay or gathering letters of recommendation.
- Professional Transcript Entry also improves the accuracy of coursework entry, so you can avoid any processing delays.
- And don't worry, you'll be able to approve all entries before they're finalized.

How much does it cost?

It's just \$85 for up to 3 transcripts, \$110 for 4-6 transcripts, or \$160 for 7 or more transcripts.



Professional Transcript Entry (PTE)

- OTCAS provides this service to applicants who do not want to enter courses themselves
- This services does not cover
 - Planned and in-progress coursework
 - Coursework taken outside the US
- Takes up to 10 business days to complete in addition to 2 to 4 week verification period
 - Plan ahead if using this service
- You will be given opportunity to review entry and make changes
- Any manual changes to coursework (including planned and in-progress coursework) can only be done after verification process
- Makes the most sense if you have multiple transcripts



Transcripts

- It is your responsibility to verify that all transcripts have been received by OTCAS
 - Allow 7-10 business days for transcript requests to be processed
 - Contact institutions if it has been 10 days and your transcripts have not been received
- OTCAS will not let you know if transcripts are pending
- You can review status of your transcripts on the Applicant Dashboard



Transcript Entry

- When entering your grades...
 - Refer to your unofficial transcript for this section
 - Do not attempt to do this from memory
 - You must enter each course exactly as it is shown on your transcript, including those you failed, repeated, and withdrew from.
 - All coursework must be entered
 - AP, IB, CLEP credit must be entered under the first semester you attended the institution.
 - Enter "CR" as the grade
 - Use N/A if there is no course number or prefix



Transcript FAQ

- Can I submit my application before I submit transcripts?
 - Yes. However, PTCAS will not process your application until all transcripts have been received
- If transfer credit is listed on the transcript of my primary institution, do I need to submit transcripts from each school?
 - Yes. Failure to provide transcripts from every school will lead to a delay in OTCAS processing your application
- How do I submit transcripts for planned or in-progress coursework?
 - Courses that are in-progress will be listed accordingly on your official transcript
 - If you signed up for summer and fall courses before requesting transcript, they will show up on your transcript
- Can BGSU view my transcript before my application is verified?
 - Yes. However, we will not proceed with review of your application if it has not been verified by OTCAS.



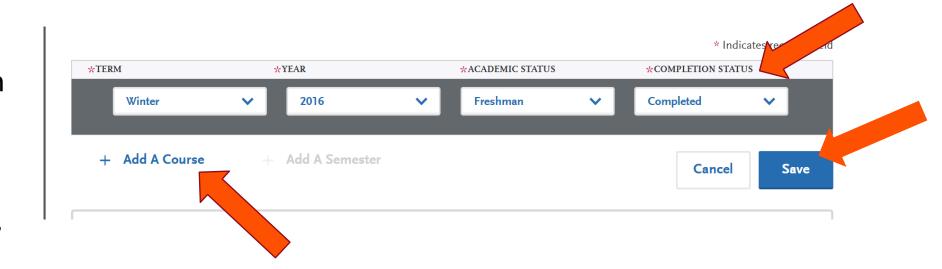
Transcript FAQ

- What if I attended an overseas institution?
 - Do not send these transcripts to OTCAS
 - Use a credential evaluation service like WES and request for a course-by-course evaluation
 - Evaluation is sent directly to OTCAS
- What about Study Abroad credits?
 - If your study aboard credits were transferred to your undergraduate institution, you will
 provide the transcript from that institution and enter courses accordingly
 - If they do not transfer to your home institution or do not reflect grades or specific coursework, follow instructions for submitting international transcripts



Transcript Entry

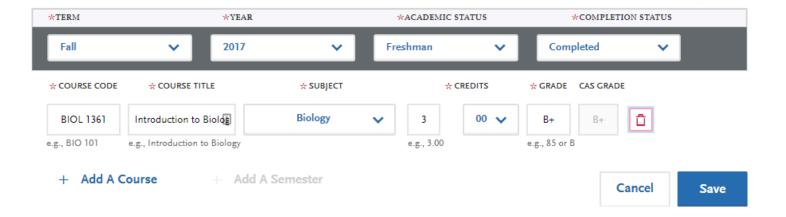
- Select "Term", "Year", "Academic Status, "Completion Status"
- Click "Save" to proceed
- Click "Add a Course" to begin adding courses





Transcript Entry

- Enter the course code, title, credits and grade accordingly
- CAS grade will populate accordingly after entering the grade

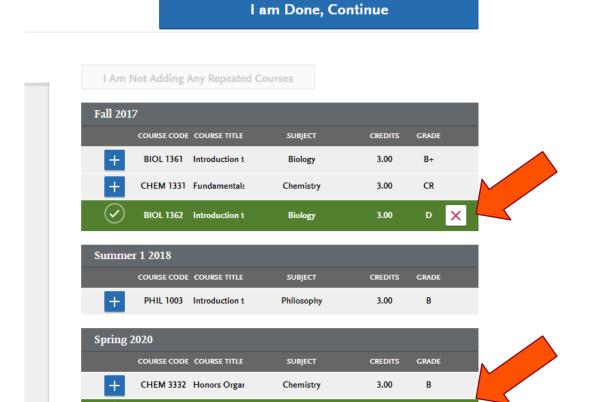




* Indicates required field

Repeated coursework

- You will be asked if you repeated any classes
- Courses that you withdrew from and then retook is not considered a repeat
- Mark all attempts as repeat



Biology

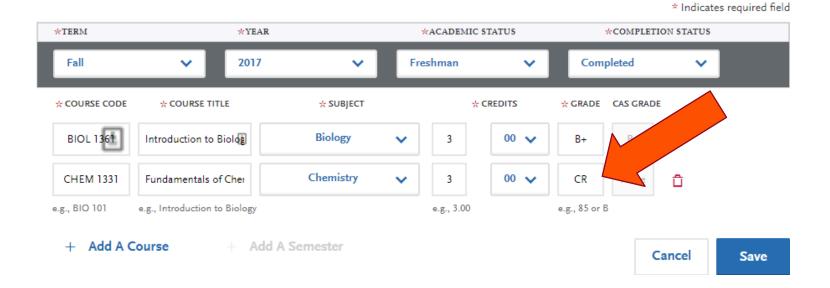
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BIOL 1362 Introduction t



AP/IB/CLEP credits

- If you obtained AP credits, you will list the grade as CR
- Confirm AP credits under the Transcript Review section





AP/IB/CLEP credits

- Click the "+" next to any courses you received AP/IB/CLEP credit
- BGSU will not accept CLEP credits to fulfill prerequisites
- AP credits will only be accepted if your undergraduate institution accepts it as credit

I Am Not Adding Any Advanced Placement Courses

Fall 2017							
	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	SUBJECT	CREDITS	GRADE		
+	BIOL 1361	Introduction t	Biology	3.00	B+		
+	CHEM 1331	Fundamentals	Chemistry	3.00	CR		
+	BIOL 1362	Introduction t	Biology	3.00	D		

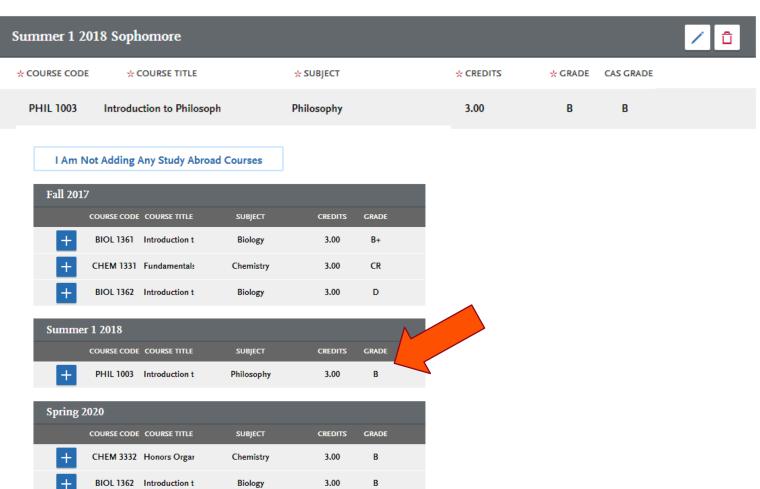
Summer 1 2018						
	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	SUBJECT	CREDITS	GRADE	
+	PHIL 1003	Introduction t	Philosophy	3.00	В	

Spring 2020							
	COURSE CODE COUR	SE TITLE	SUBJECT	CREDITS	GRADE		
+	CHEM 3332 Hono	rs Orgar	Chemistry	3.00	В		
+	BIOL 1362 Introd	luction t	Biology	3.00	В		



Study abroad coursework

- Enter study abroad coursework accordingly during transcript entry
- You will confirm them in the transcript review section
- Click the "+" next to any study abroad courses you have taken





Honors coursework

- Enter Honors coursework accordingly during transcript entry
- You will confirm them in the transcript review section
- Click the "+" next to any Honors courses you have taken

I Am Not Adding Any Honors Courses

Fall 2017							
	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	ѕивјест	CREDITS	GRADE		
+	BIOL 1361	Introduction t	Biology	3.00	B+		
+	CHEM 1331	Fundamentals	Chemistry	3.00	CR		
+	BIOL 1362	Introduction t	Biology	3.00	D		

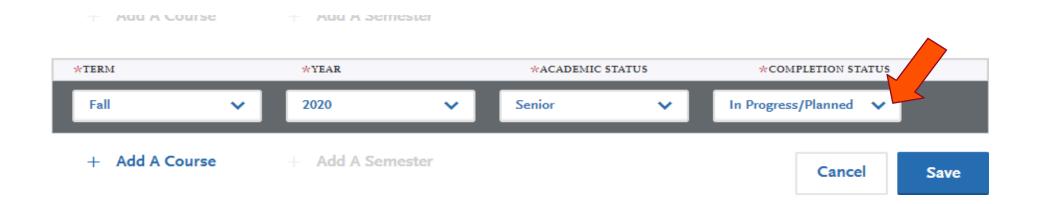
Summer 1 2018						
	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	SUBJECT	CREDITS	GRADE	
+	PHIL 1003	Introduction t	Philosophy	3.00	В	

Spring 2	Spring 2020						
	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	ѕивјест	CREDITS	GRADE		
+	CHEM 3332	Honors Organ	Chemistry	3.00	В		
+	BIOL 1362	Introduction t	Biology	3.00	В		



In progress coursework

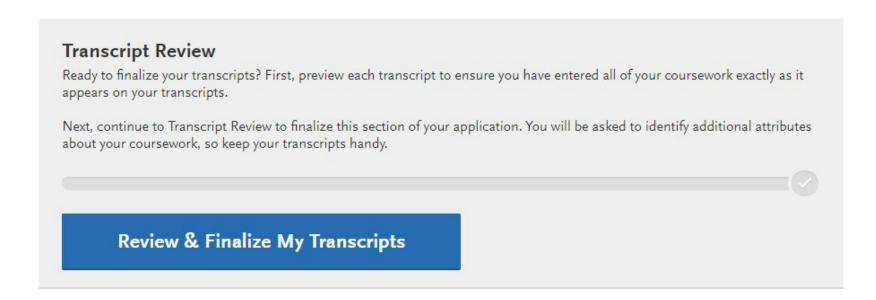
- All planned coursework must be indicated on the transcript entry
- Select "In progress/planned" under completion status





Review and finalize transcripts

- Once you have entered **all** your coursework from **all** colleges you attended, click "Review and Finalize My Transcripts"
- You will be given an opportunity to confirm AP credit, repeated coursework, honors coursework and study abroad credits





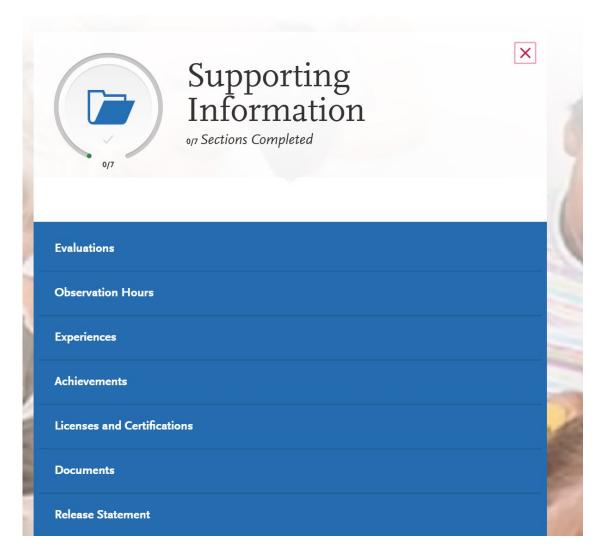
Standardized Tests

- BGSU does not require the submission of the GRE
- TOEFL is required if you did not obtain your undergraduate degree from a US institution (please email us if unsure)
- AP scores: BGSU does not accept AP scores for fulfilling prerequisites unless it has been accepted by your undergraduate institution for credit
- CLEP scores: BGSU does not accept CLEP scores in lieu of fulfilling prerequisites



Supporting Information

 This section provides us with any additional information that is needed to review your application





Evaluations

- Enter the contact information for those who are writing your letters of recommendation
- A link is automatically sent to your evaluators after entering their information and hitting "Save this Evaluation Request"
- BGSU requires three letters of recommendation, with at least 1 letter from a licensed US OT
- These letters are sent to all programs that you applied to and therefore does not need to be program specific

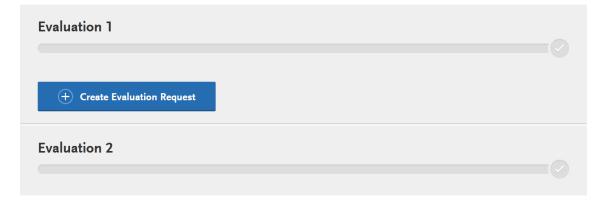
Evaluations

You must have a minimum of 3 requested evaluations in order to submit your application. You may enter a maximum of 5.

Once you have saved an electronic evaluation, an email request will automatically be sent to the evaluator on your behalf. Please advise your evaluator to look for this email in their inbox, as well as their spam or junk-mail folder, as emails do occasionally get filtered out.

In this section, you can send requests for evaluations. Evaluations (sometimes called Letters of Evaluation, Letters of Reference, or Letters of Recommendation) are submitted by the evaluators themselves via Liaison Letters, our recommender portal; they cannot be completed or submitted by the applicant or another party on behalf of the evaluator. Visit the <u>Applicant Help Center</u> for more information.

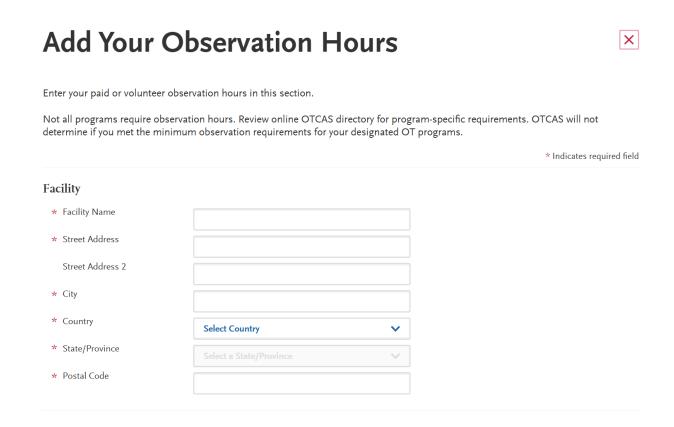
You can edit and delete requests that are in Requested or Accepted status. Once a request is Completed, you cannot make any changes regardless of whether you've submitted your application or not.





Supporting information: Observation Hours

- Observation hours are not required, but highly recommended
- Include all of your Observation hours (if any)
 - Make sure that any planned observation hours are included in this section





Supporting information: Experiences

- Include all of your experiences including:
 - Research
 - Work
 - Leadership
 - Co-curricular activities
 - Volunteer
 - Teaching



Supporting information: Achievements

• Use this page to include any academic achievements such as scholarships, Dean's list, publications.



Supporting information:License or Certification

• Enter any licenses obtained or certifications received



Supporting information: Documents

- BGSU requires submission of a personal statement
- Additional documents are not required



Personal statement

- Brief essay based on prompt displayed in OTCAS
 - Proofread: Make sure someone else has read it and you have corrected for any errors
 - Use of AI to write essay is discouraged



Release Statement

Please read this section carefully

Advisor Release

* By selecting Yes, you authorize OTCAS to release parts of your OTCAS application and application status to health profession advisors and advisory committees at schools you previously attended. Your advisor can then better assist you throughout the admissions process. Once you submit your application, you cannot edit this response.

OTCAS Release

* Before you submit your application, review this list to ensure you properly completed the OTCAS application process. If you have any questions about this list or the application process, contact OTCAS customer service for clarification.

Remember, it is your responsibility to monitor the status of your application on a regular basis.

Did you:

- Request all official transcripts be sent to OTCAS?
- Enter all of your coursework from your entire academic career?
- Confirm that your evaluators received the evaluation request emails?
- Review your application for accuracy?
- Research school pages for deadline requirements and supplemental information?
- Read through the OTCAS Applicant Help Center?

Do you understand that once you submit your application:

• You cannot delete any information. You can add or edit certain sections, where applicable.



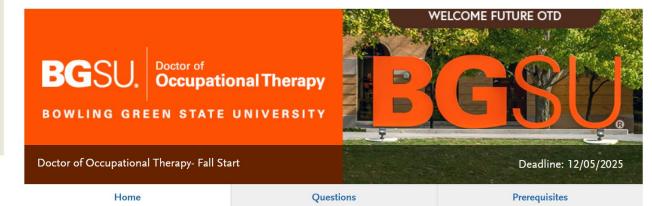
Program Materials

- BGSU supplemental application is found in this section
- Answer 1 additional question on prior disciplinary action



Doctor of Occupational Therapy- Fall Start

Bowling Green State University



Add Program

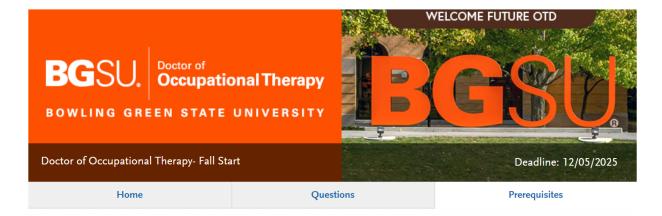
Earn your Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) in just two years from anywhere in the country!

Bowling Green State University's (BGSU) two-year innovative, hybrid delivery model allows you the flexibility to live and learn in your own community! Students will periodically travel to BGSU's main campus in Bowling Green, Ohio for on-site lab immersions and hands-on skill development led by our renowned faculty and clinicians. Students will have the opportunity for interprofessional education and collaboration with other healthcare professionals. BGSU was established in 1910 as a public university for the public good. Since then, the university has evolved into a vibrant campus with NCAA Division I athletics and enrollment exceeding 20,000 students.

The OTD program is grounded in a philosophy to embrace the integration of key curricular threads, including *collaborative care*, *clinical reasoning*, *evidence-based practice*, and *client-centered care*. At BGSU, our OTD curriculum provides a comprehensive and evidence-based education, integrating theoretical foundations with practical experiences to prepare graduates for the diverse challenges of modern healthcare.

Program Materials: Prerequisites

- Section must be completed accurately
- Only include prerequisite coursework if you received a C or above
- Only include prerequisite coursework to fulfill the requirements.
 - If you took multiple classes that can fulfill the prerequisite, use the best grade.
- Each eligible prerequisite coursework can only be used to fulfill <u>one</u> prerequisite requirement.
 - For example, you can use Abnormal Psychology (3 credits) to fulfill the Abnormal Psychology requirement, not both General Psychology and Abnormal Psychology requirement.



Prerequisites

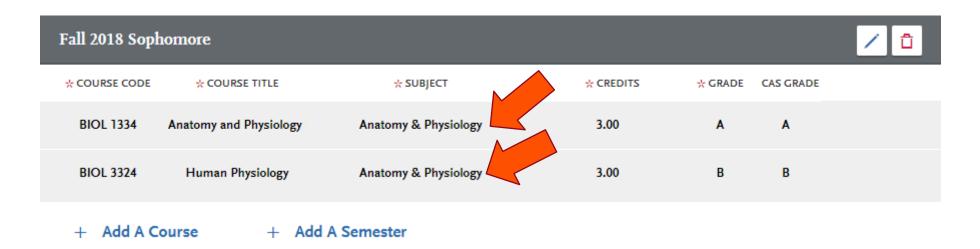
Courses must be completed before matriculation into the OTD program, but applications will still be accepted if courses are in progress or will be completed, reported, and verified prior to July 1st of cohort start year. All pre-requisite courses will be assessed for fit on a case-by-case basis. Substitution of requirement for any of the prerequisite courses may be granted by the occupational therapy admissions committee on an individual basis. Please reach out to otdadmissions@bgsu.edu with any questions.

- 1. Complete all required pre-requisite courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) and pre-requisite course GPA of 3.00 or greater on a 4.00 scale.
- 2. Complete all required pre-requisite courses by and provide official transcripts/academic updates by July 1 of cohort start year.
- 3. All pre-requisites must be completed with a grade C or better.
- 4. If a course is repeated, the repeated course must be a grade C or better. The pre-requisite GPA will be determined using the highest course grade achieved; however, both grades will be calculated into the cumulative overall GPA.
- 5. Quarter System Courses: In MOST instances, completion of three (3) quarters of science courses with lab components are required to fulfill the two-semester requirement. These courses will be reviewed individually as institutions have different requirements and standards.
- 6. No more than 6 calendar-year 2020 pre-requisite course hours can be submitted in pass/fail format; Anatomy and Physiology I



Program Materials: Prerequisites

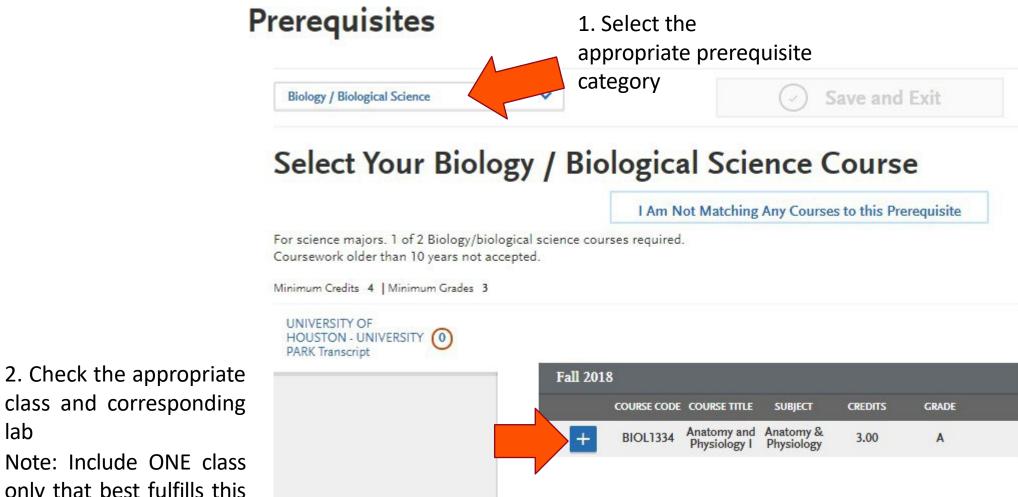
- BGSU requires all applicants to match courses taken to prerequisite classes
- Make sure that your prerequisite classes are coded correctly under "Subjects" in the Transcript entry section
- Note: Transcript review must be finalized before this step can be completed





Program specific - prerequisites

lab





Submit your application

- BGSU will not review applications until they have been verified.
- Verified Application:
 - Submitted
 - Application fee paid
 - Transcripts sent to OTCAS



Checking application status

- Clicking the "Check Status" link will allow you see whether transcripts and test scores (if sent through PTCAS) have been received
- It will also let you know when your application has been verified under "Application Status"

