

Graduate Programs in **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

— THE CARLOW DIFFERENCE —

OCCUPATIONAL JUSTICE

Mercy



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Sacredness of Creation

Pittsburgh has been coined the “City of Bridges” because of the 446 bridges within its limits. The terrain of the city is made up of varying environments including valleys, hills, and river plains. The bridges serve to connect the various contexts of the city and provide access between the different environments and communities. Carlow University, founded by the Sisters of Mercy, is committed to creating a just world, where everyone has access to what they need and our community is free from inequalities. In action, mercy requires the transformation of environmental barriers into opportunities in order to promote access and allow everyone to meaningfully engage in the world. The OT curriculum design is aligned with the Mercy values and has an overarching mission of Occupational Justice, a foundation in health and wellbeing, and threads that support the structure and the path to transformational learning.

The bridge image conveys a journey of overcoming barriers to promote full participation and represents a path where one moves from old self to new self, writing the next chapter in the story of life. It is critical that students bridge classroom concepts to clinical practice and Mercy values to their civic engagement as socially-responsible citizens. Our program is alive with transformative learning experiences in the “City of Bridges” as we explore the world around us and seek to be innovative pathfinders for occupational justice, access, and opportunity for all people, communities, and populations. The educational threads that are embedded throughout the program to support Occupational Justice, health and wellbeing, and the values of the Sisters of Mercy, are professional identity, interprofessional practice, evidence-based reasoning, innovation/technology, and environment/community.

The Master of Science and entry-level Doctorate of Occupational Therapy programs are in the process to attain full-accreditation status with the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association. Information regarding the program accreditation process and Carlow University’s current status can be obtained by contacting ACOTE c/o AOTA at (301) 652-AOTA or online at www.acoteonline.org. ACOTE is located at 6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200, North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). All states also require licensure to practice and licensure is usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.