



School of Health Professions

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH AT GALVESTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UTMB Announces the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) Program

Galveston, Texas - - The University of Texas Medical Branch, School of Health Professions Occupational Therapy department is excited to announce that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has approved UTMB's transition from its long-standing master's degree program (MOT) to a doctoral-level (OTD) degree.

The OTD program will begin admitting students in Fall 2019 having received candidacy status from the American Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The general curriculum requires three years of coursework that includes fieldwork.

Graduates of the entry-level Doctorate of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program will be eligible to take the national certification examination administered by the **National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy** (NBCOT) and to apply for licensure that is required for practice in most states.

The UTMB Occupational Therapy program is a top-rated program ranked by US World News and Reports as #1 in Texas and #14 in the United States. Occupational therapy is a growing field with an opportunity to positively change lives. From comprehensive evaluations to the therapeutic use of everyday activities, occupational therapists promote quality of life for the clients that they serve.

Graduates of the UTMB OTD program will be well prepared to meet the health needs of Texas and fulfill the Occupational Therapy Vision 2025 *"As an inclusive profession, occupational therapy maximizes health, well-being, and quality of life for all people, populations, and communities through effective solutions that facilitate participation in everyday living."*

For more information on the Occupational Therapy program, call (409) 772-3062 or visit <https://shp.utmb.edu/OccupationalTherapy/>

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