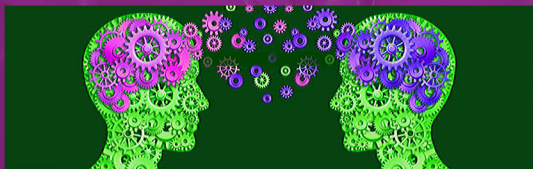


Our Philosophy and Mission

Philosophy: We believe in the development of occupational therapists into highly skilled practitioners through exposure to educational processes with a balance between mentorship, didactic, and experiential learning opportunities in targeted clinical environments.

Our programs are designed to align with our facility's mission as well as the American Occupational Therapy Association's (AOTA) 2025 vision by having the fellow focus on maximizing health, well-being, and quality of life of Veterans by providing effective solutions that facilitate participation in everyday living (www.AOTA.org).



Mission: To provide occupational therapists with the knowledge and abilities to progress their clinical and professional skills in a specialty practice area in order to become an advanced practitioners by:

1. Using evidence-based practice when evaluating and providing interventions,
2. Effectively evaluating the outcomes of services delivered,
3. Participating in scholarly activities/ opportunities,
4. engaging in collaborative inter-professional and cross sectoral partnerships,
5. Increasing awareness of the unique occupational needs of Veterans and active duty Service Members.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The program will facilitate learning through the use of a reflective learning model, in which the fellow will gain confidence in his/her clinical decision making skills, and increase his/her sense of autonomy through deliberate self-reflection.

The program will advance the fellow along the learner continuum, and prompt opportunities that allow the fellow to discover through experience, reflection, and discussion.



Important Information

Fellowship Website:

https://www.tampa.va.gov/JAHVH_Assistive_Technology_OT_Fellowship_Program.asp

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ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY OT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



Fellowship Program Description:

The Occupational Therapy Department at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital (JAHVH) has developed a Fellowship Program dedicated to advancing the knowledge and skills of occupational therapists seeking to develop into highly skilled practitioners through exposure to education processes with a balance between didactic/academic and experiential/clinical environments.

This unique opportunity offers a newly licensed graduate, occupational therapist the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills needed to pursue an Assistive Technology Specialty Certification.

The OT Fellow will gain valuable insight and experience through managing a clinical caseload with mentoring and didactic/scholarly learning opportunities.

Facility/Program Highlights:

Large, complex medical facility with a well-established Assistive Technology Program with stated of the art equipment and assistive technology solutions including:

- Augmentative-Alternative Communication (AAC)
- Assistive Technology for Cognition (ATC)
- Computer Access Devices
- Adaptive Keyboards and Switches
- Device Mounts and Mounting Systems
- Electronic Aids to Daily Living (EADL)
- Electronic Feeders
- ADL apartment with Smart Home Technology
- Virtual Reality and other adaptive gaming devices
- Driver's Training Simulation Lab
- Robotic Assisted Devices for therapeutic interventions, such as Armeo and Reo-Go
- Bioness Hand Rehabilitation System and Bioness Interactive Therapy System
- Ceiling and floor-based lifts

Dedicated Large OT Staff:

- Clinician Average Experience of 17 years in clinical practice
- Highly dedicated and experienced mentors and subject matter experts
- On-site faculty with designations of Assistive Technology Professional, Certified Hand Therapist, and Certified Aging in Place Specialist, with many years of experience.

Clinical Training:

- Consists of managing a caseload in the CARF accredited Assistive Technology Program.
- Emphasis on evaluation, recommendation, and education of assistive technology needs to maximize veterans' occupational participation.
- Well-rounded experience providing exposure to a variety of specialty clinics with the fellow providing OT services both in-person and via telehealth
- One-on-one mentoring sessions with highly experienced clinical mentors/faculty
- Didactic curriculum component with established scholarly activities and continuing education

Opportunities:

- Interdisciplinary patient rounds
- OT journal club meetings
- Staff in-service presentations
- Physical Medicine and Rehab grand rounds
- Mentoring doctoral and masters OT students on Level II fieldwork rotations
- Interdisciplinary collaboration and learning experiences with other OT fellows and PT residents
- On-site medical library, didactic resources, and materials

Curriculum:

The JAHVH Assistive Technology OT Fellowship Program will focus on the participant's development of knowledge, competency, and advanced practice skills in the following core elements:

- Advanced Knowledge
- Reasoning and Performance Skills
- Ethical Practice Skills
- Interpersonal Skills
- Scholarly/Professional Activities

The fellow's multiple unique clinical experiences will emphasize:

1. Acquisition of knowledge pertaining to AT devices, developing clinical reasoning skills in relation to evaluation and intervention.
2. Developing and using evidence-based practice skills as well as measuring outcomes when providing holistic occupational therapy services to clients.
3. Integration of the didactic knowledge and experiential practice to develop interpersonal, scholarly and professional skills in everyday practice.



Goals of the Program:

To educate and train post professional OT graduate's to:

1. Meet the needs of Veterans and active duty Service Members by becoming advanced OT practitioners in the area of assistive technology OT.
2. Demonstrate the use of evidence-based outcome measures and advanced clinical reasoning skills by critically assessing and appraising the current literature to guide evaluation and plan of care development that facilitates occupational participation.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the 2020 AOTA ethical principles and specialty specific ethical standards, and their implication into practice.
4. Demonstrate the ability to access and establish collaborative partnerships with stakeholders to maximize the occupational participation of clients.
5. Participate in scholarly activities such as a quality improvement project and case study development/presentation, that promote lifelong learning.
6. Exhibit the highest standards of professionalism.

The OT Fellowship will be a paid position with benefits, accrued annual/sick leave and federal holidays. Must be a US Citizen.