

THERAPY SERVICES

Therapeutic and diagnostic disciplines are an increasing feature of health care practice. There are many therapies that help maintain specific organs and systems of our body at an optimum level throughout a lifetime.

PHYSIOTHERAPIST
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY/
PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSISTANT

physiotherapist

Physiotherapists work with clients of all ages and with a wide range of health conditions. Whether it is pain management and rehabilitation from an acute injury like a sprained ankle, or management of chronic conditions such as diabetes or heart disease, a physiotherapist can help. But physiotherapy is not limited to rehabilitation of injury and the effects of disease or disability. A physiotherapist also provides education and advice for health promotion, disease and injury prevention. Physiotherapists work in a broad range of settings providing client and/or population health interventions as well as management, educational, research and consultation services. Physiotherapy can be accessed in the community at private clinics and through home care services. Physiotherapy services are often affiliated with retirement residences and child development centres as well as hospital settings, i.e. heart surgery or joint replacement, where a physiotherapist is an important member of the health care team.

Approximate salary:

\$34.50 – \$36.50

Academic requirements:

- Completion of a 4-year undergraduate degree from a recognized university with a minimum grade point average of 3.3 or letter grade of B+ in the most recent 60 credit hours of an undergraduate degree plus the following prerequisite courses: Human Physiology (6 credit hours) Human Anatomy (3 credit hours); Physics (6 credit hours); Biology (3 credit hours); Psychology (6 credit hours); Statistics (3 credit hours); Languages and Humanities and/or Social Sciences (6 credit hours).
- Passing grade on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- 40 hour non paid volunteer experience
- Completion of a Masters in Science in Physiotherapy.
- To work as a Physiotherapist in Nova Scotia, one must write and pass the Physiotherapy National Exam and register and obtain licensure through the Nova Scotia College of Physiotherapists.

Educational institute(s) in Nova Scotia offering a program:

- Dalhousie University

occupational therapist

Occupational therapists (OTs) work with people of any age to promote health, prevent disability, and develop or maintain abilities. Occupational therapy provides the skills for the job of living to help people solve the problems that interfere with their ability to do the occupations (activities) that are important to them. These problems may be a result of injury, disease, social disadvantage, or the environment.

Occupational therapists are specialists in the analysis, adaptation and therapeutic use of occupations, to achieve goals jointly determined by the therapist and the client, in the context of their own home and community.

Approximate salary:

\$32.25 – \$37.50 per hour



occupational therapy assistant/ physiotherapy assistant

As a collaborative member of the health care team, occupational therapy assistants (OTA) and physiotherapy assistants (PTA) work under the supervision of either a registered occupational therapist or a registered physiotherapist assisting them with treatment plans for individuals who have conditions that are physically or developmentally disabling. Assistants prepare materials and equipment used during treatment and may perform clerical or administrative duties as assigned. There are also rehabilitation assistants that are qualified to work under the supervision of and in collaboration with both an occupational therapist and a physiotherapist.

Academic requirements:

- Completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree from an accredited university with a minimum of a B average plus two prerequisites: 6 hours in human physiology and 3 hours in human/vertebrate anatomy.
- Passing grade on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
- Completion of a Masters of Science in Occupational Therapy.
- Upon completion of the educational requirements, one must write the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists National Exam and to work in Nova Scotia as an Occupational Therapist, one must register with the College of Occupational Therapists of Nova Scotia.

Educational institute(s) in Nova Scotia offering a program:

- Dalhousie University



Approximate salary:

\$19.50 – \$24.50 per hour

Academic requirements:

- High school diploma or equivalent, including (differs for educational institutions) grade 12 Academic English and Biology; and one additional grade 12 Academic Science.

Educational institute(s) in Nova Scotia offering a program:

- Nova Scotia Community College
- Eastern College