Training offered for occupational therapy assistants

Rogue Community College is partnering with Linn-Benton Community College to provide training for occupational therapy assistants in Jackson and Josephine counties.

The program prepares students to function as entry-level occupational therapy assistants in a variety of settings and to pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy examination. Linn-Benton Community College awards an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, with RCC offering program prerequisites, general education classes and related coursework.

“The Occupational Therapy Assistant AAS partnership with Linn-Benton is one of the collaborative ways we are trying to expand opportunities to students within allied health career fields,” said John Osbourn, director of RCC Allied Health Services. “These partnerships are the type of opportunities we must pursue to not only support students but also the local health care industry.”

By taking a combination of RCC classes and distance-education courses offered by LBCC, the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program could be completed while a student is living in the Rogue Valley. (Students enrolled in the program will need to travel to the LBCC campus in Albany approximately two to four times a term.)

The OTA program includes classroom, laboratory, and fieldwork components. Students must fulfill all requirements within 36 months of admission and must complete Level II fieldwork within 18 months of finishing the academic requirements. Fieldwork placements are determined by the academic fieldwork coordinator and depend on availability of sites. Students may have to travel out of their immediate geographic area to a location in the Pacific Northwest to complete fieldwork.

All OTA courses are offered by LBCC and require admission in spring term each year. To determine eligibility, see program admission and course requirements at www.roguecc.edu/ContinuingEducation/AlliedHealth/OTA/ProgRequirements.asp.

Entry is limited, with a maximum of 24 students moving through the OTA program as a cohort or group. Financial aid may be available through LBCC. Contact LBCC’s Financial Aid office for details at www.linnbenton.edu/go/financial-aid.

For information on careers as an occupational therapy assistant, visit www.roguecc.edu/ContinuingEducation/AlliedHealth/OTA/Careers.asp.

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To apply for the program, print the LBCC Occupational Therapy Assistant Distance packet and complete all required actions: www.linnbenton.edu/go/forms.

Submit the packet by the designated spring application window. LBCC will accept online applications beginning at midnight April 9 through 5 p.m. April 30. Neither early nor late applications will be considered.

Eligible applicants may attend the information session March 20. Call 541-245-7616 for times and locations on the RCC Redwood Campus in Grants Pass, the Riverside Campus in Medford, or the Table Rock Campus in White City.

More information is available by calling 541-245-7750 or 541-245-7610.

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Rogue Community College is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services, alternate form and language services are available to individuals with disabilities and limited English proficiency free of cost upon request.