

# GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

College of Health and  
Human Services



ROCKHURST  
UNIVERSITY



# GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

The College of Health and Human Services offers four graduate program options. Each combines the skills necessary to succeed in today's working world, as well as the critical thinking behind those skills.

We currently offer the following graduate programs:

- Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Master of Education
- Master of Occupational Therapy
- Doctor of Physical Therapy

Rockhurst graduates are in high demand. This puts you in the driver's seat when choosing where you want to work.



- 1 JESUIT TRADITION**  
Rockhurst is Kansas City's only Jesuit university, which means our education is built on a 450-year-old foundation. The Jesuit network is the largest educational group in the world, and includes universities such as Georgetown, Boston College and Gonzaga.
- 2 IMMEDIATE IMMERSION**  
Within your first two semesters, you will participate in a field experience that correlates to your future career.

- 3 IDEAL LOCATION**  
Our location in the cultural heart of Kansas City provides faculty and students with exceptional opportunities to plug into existing businesses, practices and schools.
- 4 PREVIEW LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**  
No matter which program you're in, you'll gain first-hand experience working with existing local organizations.
- 5 UNRIVALED FACULTY**  
Learn from the best. Our faculty are practicing experts and academic professionals.

## FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

Your first step is to find out if you are eligible for federal financial aid by completing a FAFSA at [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov). Find out more about these and other financial aid options at [rockhurst.edu/gradfinaid](https://rockhurst.edu/gradfinaid).



# COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS



Rockhurst's communication sciences and disorders program is known for preparing skilled clinicians and leaders in speech-language pathology. Here, you'll obtain the skills necessary to provide therapy services to children and adult clients who exhibit a wide range of communication disorders.

Our program's mission is to develop ethical, compassionate professionals through academic and clinical education that embraces service-learning.

As a CSD student, you can expect:

- Community-based practicum experiences that provide you with valuable, real-world training.
- To choose from a variety of electives, allowing you to foster individual or special interests.
- A curriculum that emphasizes ethics and values in line with RU's Jesuit mission, specifically in developing students to be sensitive and grounded when serving others.
- Close interaction with faculty and multiple mentoring relationships.

## WHY STUDY CSD AT RU?

- **RU Offers Full- or Part-time Options.**  
Full-time students complete the program in two years, while part-time students take about three years.
- **You'll Find a Job You Love.**  
One-hundred percent of our 2015 graduates found jobs within one year of graduation.
- **You'll be Prepared to Pass the Praxis Exam.**  
You'll feel confident knowing that our graduates have an excellent pass rate on the Praxis exam.
- **We're Connected to 125+ Clinical Sites.**  
You'll team up with community agencies on research and clinical service projects, fulfilling Rockhurst's mission of providing leadership in service to others while enhancing your expertise and expanding your network.

**The median annual salary for speech-language pathologists is \$76,900.** \*2015 Bureau of Labor Statistics



"The combination of the dedicated faculty at Rockhurst and the infusion of Jesuit values in our education has helped me feel prepared for my future career. My supervisors in my clinical internships are always impressed with the level of knowledge and practicality that I bring to my practicum experiences."

— Michelle McOsker, '17 CSD



## ACCREDITATION

The Master of Science program in speech-language pathology at Rockhurst University is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.



For information on admission requirements and to learn more, visit [rockhurst.edu/csd](http://rockhurst.edu/csd).

## TAKE IT UP A NOTCH.

Boost your graduate experience by getting involved as a CSD student.

### RUSSLHA

Join the Rockhurst University chapter of the National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association (RUSSLHA) for networking, service-learning, leadership, research, scholarship and social opportunities.

### Community-based Clinical Practicums

Your clinical practicums are designed so that you gain direct experiences in off-campus facilities serving pediatric and adult clients, along with culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

### CSD Graduate Scholars

A program for undergraduate students who have outstanding academic work and meet all other admission requirements, leading to the possibility of advanced admission status into the CSD program.

# MASTER OF EDUCATION

Our Master of Education programs provide you with a solid background in your chosen field and the confidence to bring well-informed perspectives into your future classroom or professional setting.

In short, we develop educational leaders. Here, you'll be called on to analyze alternatives in curriculum, teaching methodologies and assessment strategies.

## PROGRAM OPTIONS

### Elementary Certification

Designed for those interested in teaching grades 1-6, you'll be prepared to develop these young learners.

### Secondary Certification

Designed for those interested in teaching grades 9-12, our program prepares you for certification in biology, business, chemistry, English, French (K-12), mathematics, physics, social science and Spanish (K-12).

### Special Education Certification

Designed for those interested in working with children in K-12 settings who have mild to moderate cross-categorical special needs. If you pursue this certification, you could also earn your elementary education certification at the same time.

### Educational Studies

Designed for those who may work in an instructional capacity but do not need licensure. For example, if you're looking to work in a zoo, museum, or other nontraditional educational or work setting, or if you already have teacher certification, this program is for you.

Through rigorous coursework and field experiences, you'll acquire a deep understanding of and special sensitivity to the challenges and rewards of working with diverse individuals.

## EDUCATION IN THE JESUIT TRADITION

A Rockhurst education is rooted in the Jesuit tradition, and prepares men and women for service to and with others through a comprehensive, liberal arts curriculum. Our programs highlight these three themes of Jesuit education:

- A focus on moral reflection
- Teaching for social justice
- The liberal treatment of subject matter

## WHY STUDY EDUCATION AT RU?

- **Learn From Unrivaled Professors.**  
Experience close mentoring by caring professors who are committed to teaching for social justice.
- **Class Sizes are Small.**  
With fewer students per class, you'll receive more mentoring from your professors.
- **We Offer Flexible Course Schedules.**  
Our classes are offered in the evening to accommodate your already busy schedule. Students may begin the program in the fall, spring or summer semesters.
- **You'll Gain Lifelong Skills.**  
We emphasize critical thinking, ethical decision making and effective communication.



## ACCREDITATION

Rockhurst University's education program is approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) as an accelerated, initial teacher education program. The department is nationally accredited by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC).



**100% of students pass the licensure exam.**

"I chose the M.Ed. program at Rockhurst not only because of the program's impressive reputation in the community, but also because I knew the professors would help me become an effective educator, and the counselors would guide me into a successful career. Because of this program, I secured my dream job half a year before graduation."

— Erin Dunleavy, '16 M.Ed.



**Ranked No. 11 in the nation for teacher certification by [graduateprograms.com](http://graduateprograms.com).**

\*2015 student survey results

▶ For information on the admission process and to learn more, visit [rockhurst.edu/med](http://rockhurst.edu/med).

# MASTER OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Do you want to be part of an educational program that is stimulating, challenging and rewarding? Learn in an interactive and diverse environment? Provide service and therapy to underserved populations in developing countries?

You can find all this and more in the Master of Occupational Therapy program at Rockhurst University. As an OT student here, you'll contribute to community health and wellness, conduct research under the guidance of a mentor, present findings at state and national conferences, and help lead select community clinics.

After you complete the program and pass the national certification examination, administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), you'll be a registered occupational therapist (OTR).

## WHY STUDY OT AT ROCKHURST?

### You'll Be Prepared for the National Certification Exam.

In fact, Rockhurst University has an above average pass rate for first time test takers on the national exam.

### See the World.

Our students have opportunities to provide services locally and internationally.

### Enhance Your Leadership Skills.

You will have opportunities for leadership by providing services with our community partners, and by serving on various department and university committees.

### Create Connections.

Your professors will become your greatest mentors, helping you build relationships with industry professionals.

## OT/MBA/MA PROGRAM

With Rockhurst's dual-degree program options, you can enter the health care industry with an MA or MBA to complement your Master of Occupational Therapy Degree. A dual-degree program offers:

- A balanced mix of OT and business classes to create a manageable course load.
- Faculty and staff who work together to support you throughout your program.
- A potential completion time of two years.
- Business classes on week nights so they do not conflict with your daytime OT schedule.
- An opportunity to strengthen your professional readiness.

Learn more at [rockhurst.edu/otmba](http://rockhurst.edu/otmba).



## ACCREDITATION

Rockhurst's OT program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association; 4720 Montgomery Lane, Ste. 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449; 800-377-8555; [acote.org](http://acote.org).

## POINTS OF ACCEPTANCE

Ready to get started? We're ready to help. Our program accommodates multiple points of entry. Rockhurst undergraduates can apply for the program through:

### Freshman Pre-admission

A program for exceptional students, based on a combination of ACT or SAT scores, high school GPA and prerequisite courses.

### Occupational Therapy Scholars Program

RU students with outstanding academic work may apply for this advanced admission program by submitting a letter of intent to the OT office at the beginning of your sophomore year.

### 3+2 Program

A five-year Master of Occupational Therapy program available to students consecutively enrolled at RU from their freshman year. You need to contact the OT department early if you're interested in this opportunity.

### Regular Admittance

Apply during your final year of undergraduate work.

Post-baccalaureate students apply through the Occupational Therapy Centralized Application Service (OTCAS) at [otcas.org](http://otcas.org) the summer prior to the selection of a new class.

### Transfer Pre-admission

Students transferring to Rockhurst may apply for pre-admission if they have completed two years of undergraduate coursework.



**The median annual salary for experienced occupational therapists is \$80,000.**

\*2015 AOTA Salary and Workforce survey



"The faculty cares about the success of their students and do a great job of bringing real occupational therapy experiences into the classroom." — **Colt Moller, '15 OT**

**100% of OT graduates are employed within six months of graduation.**

**Ranked No. 18 in the nation for career support by [graduateprograms.com](http://graduateprograms.com).**

\*2015 student survey results

▶ For information on admission requirements and to learn more, visit [rockhurst.edu/ot](http://rockhurst.edu/ot).

# DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY



At RU, we're committed to preparing competent, caring physical therapy professionals. You'll be ready to assist individuals in the prevention or treatment of impairments due to developmental deficits, aging, physical illness or injury.

This rewarding career allows you to make a positive difference in the health and function of people in local and global communities. You are the bridge between your patients and their recovery, helping them physically and emotionally as they build confidence and abilities.

**More than 99% of Rockhurst PT graduates have passed the national licensure exam in the last 10 years.**

## WHY STUDY PT AT RU?

- **We Offer a Jesuit Education that Emphasizes Excellence in Teaching.**  
Your instructors have advanced doctoral-level degrees and/or APTA approved clinical content specialization, with many maintaining current clinical practices. They utilize a variety of teaching methods such as lectures, class discussions, clinical problem solving, simulated patients, and other active-learning strategies.
- **We Stress the Importance of Serving Others and Sharing Your Skills.**  
You will participate in various community and clinically based service projects locally or internationally. Classroom service learning projects allow students to reflect on the impact of their interactions with individuals they come in contact with.
- **You'll Develop Your Ability to Lead and Advocate for Patients and Clients.**  
You will be provided with numerous opportunities to develop your leadership skills and participate in advocacy projects throughout our curriculum.

## POINTS OF ACCEPTANCE

We're ready when you are.  
Apply as early as possible through:

- **Freshman Pre-admit Guarantee**  
If you're accepted for pre-admission, you are assured a position in the program once you complete an undergraduate degree and maintain specific academic criteria.
- **Transfer Admission Guarantee**  
If accepted, you are assured a position in the program after completing your undergraduate degree and maintaining specific academic criteria.
- **Regular Admittance**  
Apply during the summer prior to your final year of undergraduate coursework.

All applicants, even those with pre-admission guarantees, must apply through the Physical Therapy Centralized Application Service (PTCAS). If you do not attend Rockhurst, we encourage you to apply during the summer before your final year of undergraduate coursework. A significant portion of each new class is comprised of students who complete their bachelor's degrees at other universities.

## ACCREDITATION



Rockhurst University's physical therapy program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, American Physical Therapy Association.

"I never imagined how much it would mean to me to be a graduate of Rockhurst's physical therapy program. My professors taught me the importance of treating the whole person and always striving for excellence. I will be a lifelong learner because of the foundation I gained during my time at RU."

— Caroline Ludwig, '16 DPT



## DPT/MBA/MA PROGRAM

Looking for an edge in the competitive health care marketplace? Be among the first in the nation to expand your clinical skills into managerial experience through RU's Doctor of Physical Therapy and Master of Business Administration or Master of Arts in management dual-degree program in health care leadership.

- Earn both your DPT and MBA or MA degrees in three years, or complete your MBA or MA degree shortly after graduation while working as a physical therapist.
- Certain courses will count toward both degrees, saving you time and money.
- Curriculum allows you to simultaneously learn clinical and health care leadership skills.

Learn more at [rockhurst.edu/dptmba](http://rockhurst.edu/dptmba).

**The median annual salary for physical therapists is \$84,020, and they are in high demand with jobs expected to grow by 34% through 2024.**

\*2015 Bureau of Labor Statistics

▶ For information on admission requirements and to learn more, visit [rockhurst.edu/pt](http://rockhurst.edu/pt).

## GET STARTED.

We're here to help answer questions, walk you through your program's application process, provide insight into financial aid options, and more.

Contact Graduate Admissions for the College of Health and Human Services. For information regarding the occupational therapy or physical therapy programs, call 816-501-4059, and for the master of education or communication sciences and disorders programs, call 816-501.4097, or email [graduate@rockhurst.edu](mailto:graduate@rockhurst.edu).



**ROCKHURST  
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*Where leaders learn.*

[rockhurst.edu/chhs](http://rockhurst.edu/chhs)  
800-842-6776