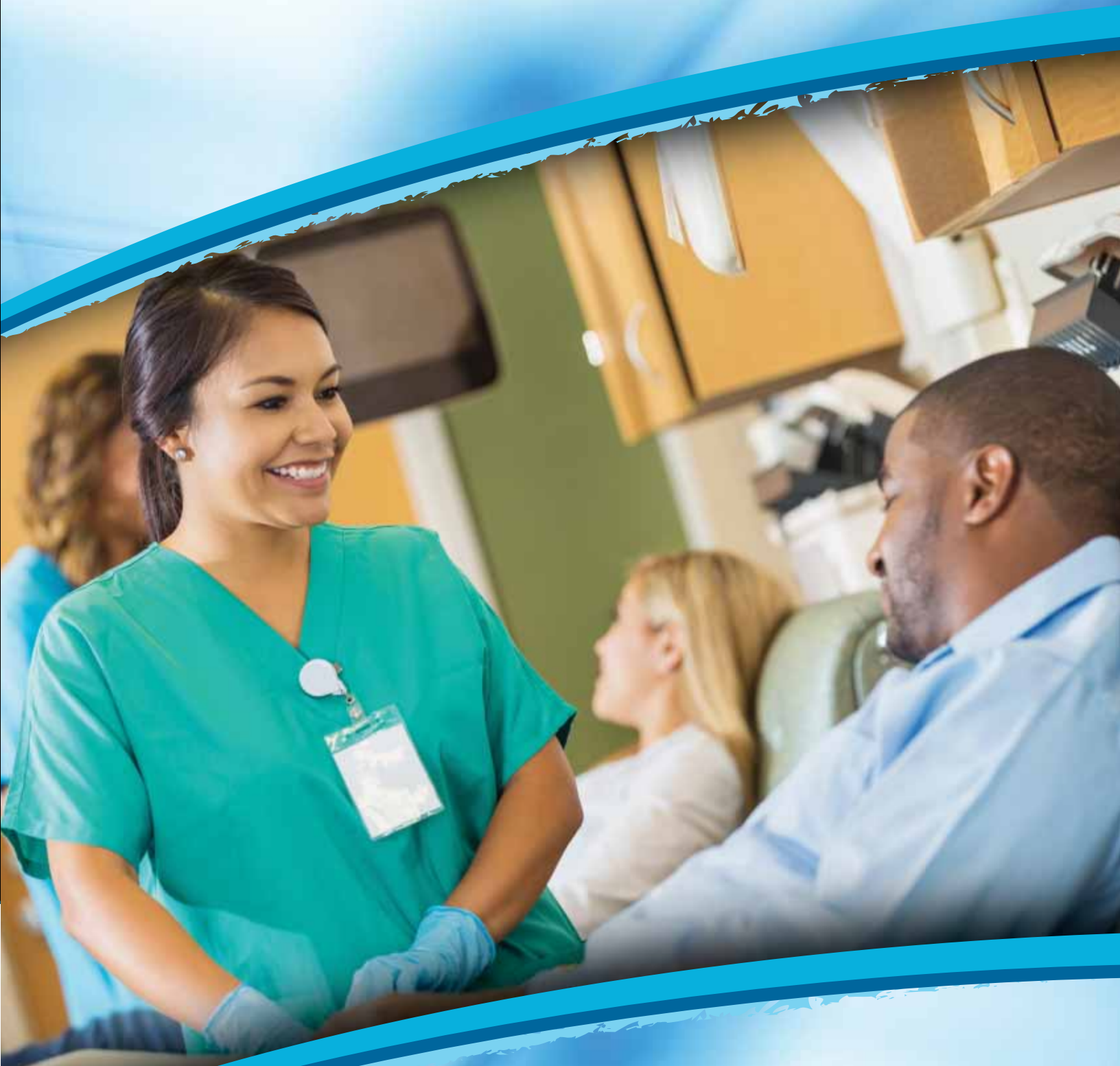


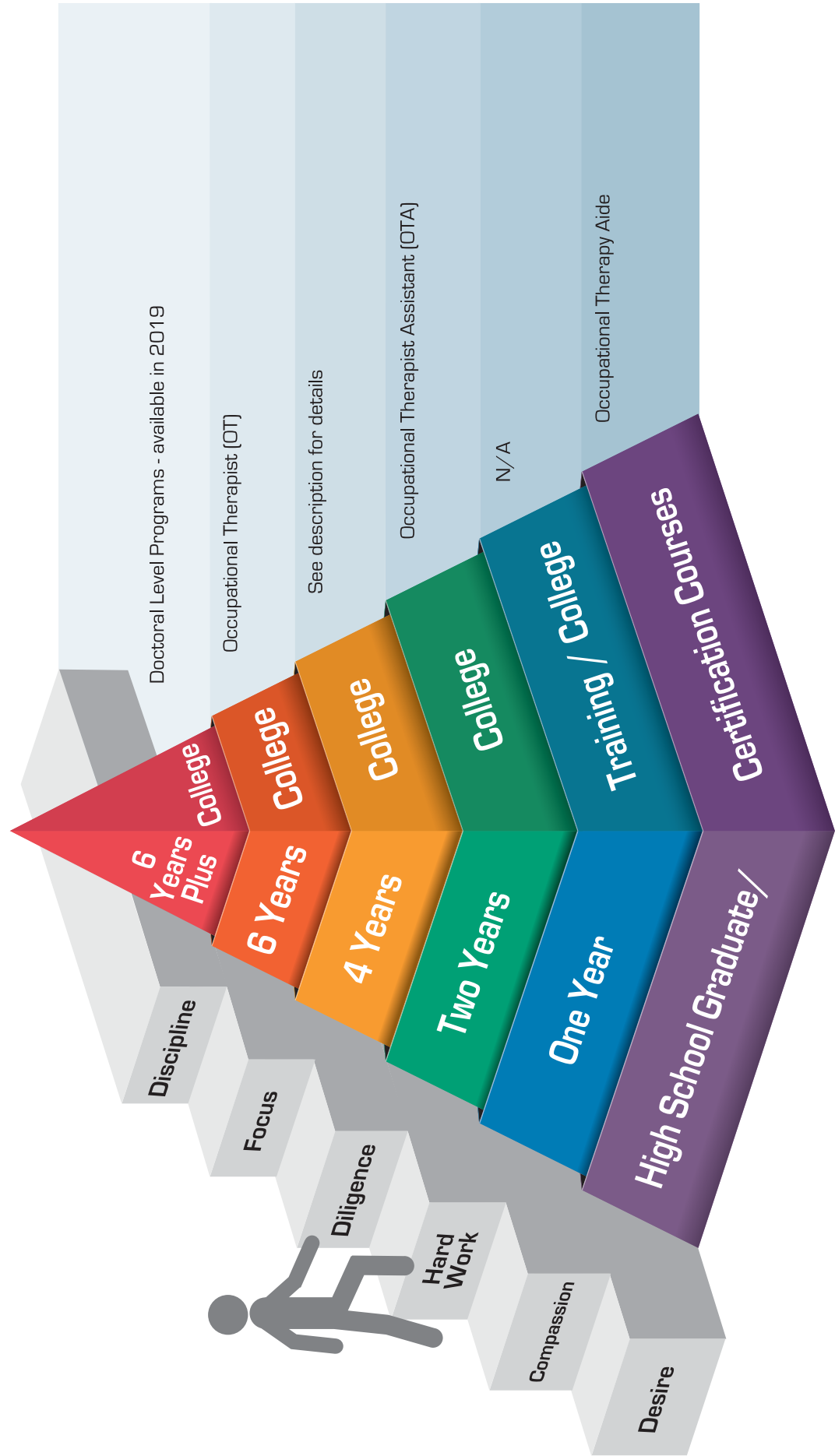
# Exploring Health Careers: What Do You Want To Be?



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# Occupational Therapy Career Pathways





## Occupational Therapy Aide

**Job Description:** Under close supervision of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, performs only delegated, selected, or routine tasks in specific situations. These duties include preparing patients for therapy, positioning the patient for comfort and making sure equipment is clean before and after therapy sessions. Clerical/office duties are also routinely part of the job description for an aide.

**Educational Requirements:** Occupational therapy aides have a high school diploma or equivalent and/or have taken a short training course at an educational institution. Another possible option for someone interested in working in this field is on-the-job training.

**Salary Range:** \$28,000 to \$32,000 per year



**For Additional Information:**

QR Code:

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/occupational-therapy-assistants-and-aides.htm>

Video Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIDUndGUroM>

## Occupational Therapist Assistant (OTA)

**Job Description:** Assist occupational therapist in providing occupational therapy treatments and procedures. May assist in the development of treatment plans; carry out routine functions, direct activity programs, and document the progress of treatments. Occupational therapy assistants may work in hospitals, nursing homes, educational institutions with special education children or for an occupational therapist in private practice.

**Educational Requirements:** Occupational therapy assistants need an associate's degree from an accredited occupational therapy assistant program. Occupational therapy assistants must be licensed by the state of California.

**Salary Range:** \$58,000 to \$68,000 per year



**For Additional Information:**

QR Code:

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/occupational-therapy-assistants-and-aides.htm>

Video Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T79Mpt6NY6o>



## Bachelor's Degrees

A Master's Degree is considered standard for the field of occupational therapy, so it is important for the student to be certain this is the health profession they wish to pursue prior to beginning this educational path. Possible Bachelors degree majors include: bio-sciences, psychology, kinesiology, or health sciences. Two colleges in California offer a combined baccalaureate/masters program over 5 years (University of Southern California and Dominican University - 2017). Admission to these programs are highly competitive and you must have a GPA >3.0 for acceptance.

If you are still unsure occupational therapy is the right field for you (many students have difficulty deciding between occupational and physical therapy fields), you may choose to attend a community college first, then transfer to college of your choice. Courses in anatomy, physiology, chemistry, biology and psychology are essential to prepare for this field.\*

For more information on career planning go to: The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. <http://www.aota.org/>

**Job Description:** N/A

**Educational Requirements:** N/A

**Salary Range:** N/A



**For Additional Information:**

QR Code:

<http://www.aota.org/Education-Careers/Considering-OT-Career/Resources/consider-becoming-ota.aspx>

Video Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETcPH5-LmDw>

\* Description provided by Valerie A. Fisher, RN, MA, Health Workforce Initiative

## Occupational Therapist (OT)

**Job Description:** Assess, plan, organize, and facilitate rehabilitative programs that help build or restore vocational, homemaking, and daily living skills, as well as general independence to persons with disabilities or developmental delays or someone recovering from illness or injury.

**Educational Requirements:** Occupational therapists must have a master's degree in occupational therapy. All states require occupational therapists to be licensed. For more information: <http://www.bot.ca.gov/>

**Salary Range:** \$80,000 to \$92,000 per year



**For Additional Information:**

QR Code:

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/occupational-therapists.htm>

Video Link:

<https://connectedstudios.org/url-zuF2ha7ENUkhXWnhzOFCGrTnKFIAxYaCUodeL00B>



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