 

**MSc Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification)**

**Programme Specific FAQs**

 **1. How many places are available on the MSc Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification) each year?** There are approximately 30 places available each year.

**2. I'm in the final year of my degree. Will I be eligible to apply in the same year that I graduate?** Yes

**3. Are some undergraduate degrees more useful than others in applying to this program?** No

**4. If I do not have a 2.2 award in my undergraduate degree or my degree is in an unrelated area, are there any additional courses I can do to increase my chances of being accepted on to the MSc in Occupational Therapy?** You could complete a Masters degree (Level 9 NFQ). As an alternative you might also wish to explore undergraduate study in Occupational Therapy (courses are available at UCC, TCD and NUI Galway).

**5. What previous work experience would be considered relevant when applying for the course?** No previous work experience is required or considered as part of the entry process.You may increase your knowledge and understanding of the profession by seeking visits/shadowing/volunteering in Occupational Therapy Departments. Please note Occupational Therapists work in a variety of settings with diverse populations including acute, primary and community care, mental health services, physical rehabilitation, school and community settings.

**6. How intense is the course and when will I be expected to be in college?** The MSc is a two-year, full-time course incorporating four regular university semesters and one summer study period. As a graduate entry masters, the workload is consistently high across the programme and the completion of 1000 hours of placement increases the intensity of the course.

**7. Can you give me more information about Practice Education?** Practice Education is an integral part of the MSc in Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification). It is organised by the Practice Education Co-ordinator and takes place throughout the two years of the course. Students will be placed in four different sites around Ireland and there may be opportunities for some placements to take place outside of Ireland. There is no financial support for practice education: students will need to cover their travel and accommodation costs associated with placement.

**8. What are the fees?** Information on Fees can be found athttp://www3.ul.ie/finance/fees.php

**9. Are there any additional costs associated with the course?** There are some additional costs mainly associated with Practice Education. These include accommodation and travel costs while on placement, placement uniform and vaccinations.

**10. Are there any grants available?** Students enrolling in postgraduate courses may get financial assistance under the Student Grant Scheme. See <https://susi.ie/eligibility/postgraduate-student/>

**11. I am a mature student. Will this influence my application**? No. As this is a postgraduate degree, it is only open to those who have already completed an undergraduate degree. The entry process is the same for all applicants.

**12. I have been offered a place on the programme but am unable to take it up this year. Is it possible to defer my place?** It is not possible to defer a place on the MSc in Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification). However, if you intend to apply again next year you can contact the Postgraduate Admissions Office and request that your papers be held on file.

**13. Where can I find more information on Occupational Therapy?** Further information on Occupational Therapy can be obtained by exploring the Useful Links section of the website.