

CAREER FACT SHEET

Occupational Therapists

Snapshot

Occupational Therapists assess functional limitations of people resulting from illnesses and disabilities, and provide therapy to enable people to perform their daily activities and occupations

How many are employed in this occupation?	24,000
What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?	\$1,749
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Below Average
What are the job prospects for this occupation?	Low
What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years?	Moderate Growth

Main employing industries

Health Care and Social Assistance; Education and Training; Public Administration and Safety; Wholesale Trade

Tasks

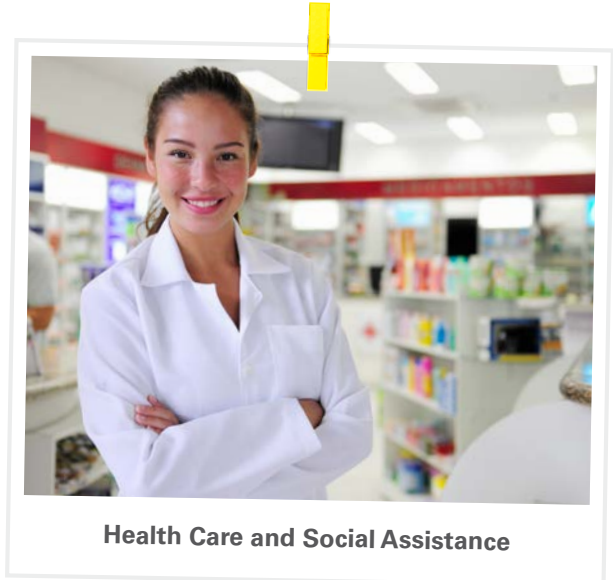
This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

- assessing clients' emotional, psychological, developmental and physical capabilities using clinical observations and standardised tests
- assessing clients' functional potential in their home, leisure, work and school environments, and recommending environmental adaptations to maximise their performance
- planning and directing programs through the use of vocational, recreational, remedial, social and educational activities on an individual and group basis
- providing advice to family members, carers, employers and teachers about adapting clients' home, leisure, work and school environments
- providing adaptive equipment, such as wheel chairs and splints, to assist clients to overcome their functional limitations
- working with other health professionals in overall case management of clients
- working with other professionals in providing specialist advice to specific client groups such as those requiring driver rehabilitation, third-party compensation and medico-legal representation
- recording clients' progress and maintaining professional relationships in accordance with relevant legislative requirements and ethical guidelines

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

Health Care and Social Assistance

Are you interested in helping people improve their health? Do you enjoy caring for others? Perhaps you would like to assist people experiencing a disability, or are keen to get involved in the wellness industry. If you are intrigued by these possibilities, a job in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector may be for you. The Health Care and Social Assistance industry encompasses a diversity of occupations, ranging from fields such as dental hygiene, optometry, pharmacy, disability services, mental health and aged-care, to fitness training, sports science, lifestyle coaching and nutrition. The Health Training Package offers over 75 Vocational and Training (VET) qualifications, so if you're interested in health you'll probably find an occupation and qualification to suit you! Don't forget it's possible to begin your Health Care and Social Assistance career by training for VET qualifications to start with before possibly working your way up to a University Degree. The Health Care and Social Assistance sector has experienced strong growth in the last ten years, making it one of Australia's largest employers and the growth is forecast to continue, so jobs in this industry are expected to be plentiful.



Possible job pathways

- Anaesthetists
- Ambulance Officers and Paramedics
- Chiropractors and Osteopaths
- Complementary Health Therapists
- Dental Assistants
- Dental Practitioners
- Dental Hygienists, Technicians and Therapists
- Dieticians
- Generalist Medical Practitioners
- Health Information Managers
- Indigenous Health Workers
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Massage Therapists
- Medical Imaging Professionals
- Medical Laboratory Scientists
- Medical Technicians
- Midwives
- Nurses (Enrolled and Mothercraft Nurses)
- Nursing Managers
- Optometrists and Orthoptists
- Other Medical Practitioners
- Podiatrists
- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapists
- Practice Managers
- Psychiatrists
- Psychologists
- Nurse Educators and Researchers
- Registered Nurses
- Speech Professionals and Audiologists
- Photographic Developers and Printers
- Aged and Disabled Carers
- Counsellors
- Diversional Therapists
- Health and Welfare Services Managers
- Nursing Support and Personal Care Workers
- Occupational Therapists
- Social Workers
- Special Care Workers
- Welfare Support Workers
- Welfare, Recreation and Community Arts Workers

For more information visit skillsroad.com.au