

MSc Occupational Therapy

**Further Guidance for Applicants and Additional Questions document**

Before completing your application, please read this information carefully:

**Admissions for MSc Occupational Therapy entry in January 2021 opens 10th February 2020.**

Applications are fully complete only when they include **all** of the following:

* Completed application form.

Please note that you will be assessed on your entire educational profile, so a complete application includes **details of all further education qualifications (including grades)** which should be recorded in the “Other Relevant Qualifications” section of the application form.

* Two references **\***
* Completed ‘Additional Questions’
* Your degree certificate (if you have already been awarded your degree)
* Degree transcripts from each year of study

If you submit an incomplete application, you have 30 days from the date you applied to provide any outstanding documents. After this, your application will be deemed incomplete and will be automatically withdrawn.

You may submit additional documentation by directly emailing AdmissionsPGT.ELS@soton.ac.uk and quoting your full name and application ID.

**\*References**

You may *either* upload complete references with your application, or provide contact details (including email addresses) for your referees on your application form.

***If uploading complete references with your application they must:***

* ***Be on headed paper from the organisation employing your referee***
* ***Be signed by the referee***
* ***Be dated within the last 2 years***

If submitting contact details instead, the on-line application system will send out automated reference requests to your referees **by email** within 3 working days of receiving your application.

References must be returned by your referees within 30 days of you submitting your application, so we strongly recommend that you contact your referees in advance, to make them aware that the University of Southampton will be requesting a reference by email and ask that they reply promptly.

**Please note that we will not chase referees for outstanding references and it is your responsibility to ensure that we receive both of them before the deadline.**

If you provide contact details for your referees, you may be notified by automated email that your references are outstanding. Please be assured that the University will be in the process of contacting your referees, but this reminder is so that you know the documents have not yet been received. There is no immediate action that you are required to take, but you are advised to monitor these reminders as you may wish to speak to your referees and ask them to respond if they remain outstanding for too long.

References that are requested by the University of Southampton may be returned either by email to AdmissionsPGT.ELS@southampton.ac.uk from an account owned by the organisation employing your referee, or by post to FELS Admissions Team, University of Southampton, Building 37 Room 4107, Highfield Campus, Southampton, SO17 1BJ. If being returned by post, references must be signed and on headed paper.

**Interviews**

\*Selection days will be held on:

Wednesday 18th March 2020

Wednesday 15th April 2020

Wednesday 6th May 2020

Wednesday 17th June 2020

We aim to give two weeks’ notice if you are invited to selection, but please keep a note of these dates in advance.

\*Due to the recent unprecedented changes as a result of Covid-19, we will now be offering ALL UK and international applicants a virtual selection day experience via Microsoft Teams. It is likely we will add additional dates in June/July/August 2020 to the ones highlighted above to ensure we offer interviews to all those who are shortlisted.

**Additional Questions – to be completed by ALL applicants**

On the next page are six additional questions that you must submit in support of your application.

Please type your answers concisely in the boxes. We expect the answers to these questions to go above and beyond your personal statement, so you may wish to consider both at the same time to avoid duplication. We therefore suggest your personal statement should be max 500 words, rather than the 2500 words as stated on the online application.

When completed, please upload the Additional Questions with your application.

**If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact** **AdmissionsPGT.ELS@soton.ac.uk** **or tel: 023 8059 4732**

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| Full Name |  |

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| Please tell us why you want to become an Occupational Therapist (Max 200 words) |
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| Please tell us what experience you have of Occupational Therapy or working with people in a health and social care setting eg observations, shadowing, or employment. For each, please provide specific information about the type of experience, duration and what you observed (Max 250 words) |
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| What insights do you have about working as an Occupational Therapist? We are interested in your understanding of the diverse areas of practice that Occupational Therapists may work in, the challenges they (and their service users) face and the skills and qualities that Occupational Therapists draw on. Give specific examples by drawing on the experiences you described above and any other research into the profession you have undertaken (Max 350 words) |
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| What experiences have you gained in your own life that demonstrate you have the skills and qualities you described in response to the previous question? Give specific examples to evidence your points. (Max 250 Words) |
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| What learning skills have you developed that will enable you to successfully complete this accelerated MSc programme in which there is an emphasis on self-directed and group learning. (Max 250 Words) |
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| Give specific details of the research dissertation/project that you undertook in your first degree. Be specific about your personal involvement at every stage of the research process (from development of the research question, protocol writing, applying for ethics approval to data collection, analysis and write-up). Specify the research skills you have developed that would enable you to complete a higher degree. (Max 350 words) Please feel free to also upload your abstract if you would like to. |
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