



Emerging Practice with Level II Fieldwork: OT-OTA Program Collaboration

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<http://floteceducation.org/index.html>

As our profession continues to refine our science and application of occupation, OT practitioners have the opportunity to utilize our knowledge and skills in our communities and society in settings that are not traditional medical or educational models. Most often, these include serving people in our community who have been underserved or have unique, multi-faceted needs. Recognizing the need to train future practitioners for nontraditional and emerging settings, our educational standards require that these be addressed in our educational curricula, and, if possible, in our fieldwork settings (ACOTE, 2006).

OT educators are charged to provide fieldwork opportunities for students in emerging practice areas. One such emerging practice setting is independent living resource centers (ILCs) which provide services to persons with disabilities living in the community to help them live as independently as possible. ILCs provide four core services – information and referral, independent living skills training, peer support/counseling, and advocacy. ILCs serve a variety of consumers. Because they use consumer empowerment, not a medical model, it provides a unique place for OT students to learn community-based service delivery skills, client-centered service, and professional collaboration.

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AOTA Standards of Practice and ACOTE Accreditation Standards emphasize collaboration between OTs and OTAs with the delivery of OT services. In an effort to emulate the clinical collaboration between the OTA and OT, a partnership between an OTA program, Daytona State College (DSC), and a MOT program, The University of St. Augustine (USA), developed to promote Level II fieldwork in an emerging practice area. OT faculty from DSC and USA established a Level II fieldwork experience for an MOT student with a ILC to provide

learning opportunities for students from both programs. Collaboration between students model an effective team approach, a better understanding of program development and allows a better understanding of OTs role in nontraditional, emerging practice areas. Since 2007, DSC has been providing OT consultation and opportunities for OTA student fieldwork with ILC, disAbility Solutions (dSIL) in Daytona Beach, FL. There is no full time OT with dSIL therefore the facility would benefit from a MOT student to provide OT services for their consumers. OT faculty with DSC volunteered to serve as fieldwork educators for the MOT student while completing a

12 week Level II rotation. The MOT student provided OT services at dSIL and assisted with mentoring OTA students in their didactic courses and labs under the supervision of DSC OT faculty.

In a follow up interview with the MOT graduate, she reported the experience allowed her to work with a diverse consumer population which provided opportunities for utilizing all components of her didactic education. She reports the experience provided a better understanding of OTA knowledge base which improved her supervisory skills. In her current practice she supervises 4 OTAs and she continues to provide services with dSIL one day a month. It is apparent the alliance between the respective OT programs was beneficial for consumers of dSIL, students with the OTA program and the MOT student who completed her fieldwork with the ILC.



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This interactive workshop not only addresses the foundations for eating, the core knowledge of pediatric feeding therapy, but addresses carry-over to the home and school environments as a crucial component to long term success. Successful therapists lay the foundation for more advanced skills while keeping it fun so everyone enjoys the journey!

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	Ft. Lauderdale, FL - Nov 12	\$170 Early Individual
	Jacksonville, FL - Dec 3	\$180 Standard Individual

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0.8 CEUs	Miami, FL - Oct 15	\$150 Early Group
	Tampa, FL - Dec 3	\$160 Early Individual
		\$170 Standard Individual

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This interactive course will emphasize treatment strategies to promote "play skills" in the child with neurological involvement while making progress part of play. This course will take you through lecture, labs, interactive discussions and problem solving sessions to spark individual creativity based on each ones' therapeutic style.

1.4 CEUs	Orlando, FL - Oct 22-23	\$250 Early Group
		\$260 Early Individual
		\$270 Standard Individual

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Florida Occupational Therapy Educational Consortium (FLOTEC)

The Florida Occupational Therapy Educational Consortium is an organization dedicated to the development, implementation, and support of quality fieldwork education for OT and OTA students. The partnership between education and practice provides leadership for fieldwork education programs and clinical faculty development.

Through open discussion, networking, and aggressive exploration of opportunities and visionary ideas, the group fosters and supports dynamic fieldwork education environments for fieldwork faculty and students. These environments enable the student to transition into a competent and socially responsible professional who understands, responds, and promotes creative problem solving in the rapidly changing, competitive health care delivery system. The Consortium explores, designs, and implements innovations that assist practitioners in the provision of quality learning experiences to meet its mission of excellence in fieldwork education.