Northwood Technical College Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork Handbook

Guidelines for Amount of Supervision

C.1.13 Ensure that Level II fieldwork supervision is direct and then decreases to less direct supervision as appropriate for the setting, the severity of the client's condition, and the ability of the student to support progression toward entry-level competence.

- This document is provided as an example that can be used or modified by any onsite Fieldwork Supervisor of Northwood Technical College OTA students.
- Collaboration with the Academic Fieldwork Coordinator is available and welcomed to modify this to an individual fieldwork location.
- OTA students benefit from an 8-week plan outlining expectations for the Level II Fieldwork experience. Please discuss this document and provide a copy for the student on the first or second day of the fieldwork experience.
- This chart serves as a guide for the onsite Fieldwork Supervisor to show how supervision should be close and direct in week 1 and decrease to less direct supervision over the 8 weeks. This schedule should be adapted so that it is appropriate for the setting, the severity of the client's condition, and the ability of the student.

Northwood Technical College Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork Handbook

| Major Student Expectations | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Week | Caseload | Documentation | Treatment | Interprofessional Team Reporting (care conference) | Other | Supervision of Student by Fieldwork Supervisor | | | | |
| 1 | 10% | Familiarize self with facility documentation by • Reviewing documentation system and obtaining passwords • Reviewing activity and, as needed, other related fields documentation • Discussing documentation process/requirements for setting with onsite fieldwork supervisor | Observes | Observes | Completes facility orientation checklist Familiarizes self with all supplies in cupboards and equipment Meets team members | It is expected that students receive CLOSE supervision at the start of Fieldwork that is daily and direct contact at the site of work (AOTA, 1999, p.592) | | | | |
| 2 | 25% | Completes documentation for each observed client Reviews with onsite fieldwork supervisor Completes all documentation for caseload | Observes and assists | Observes | Observes clients on caseload Observes other professionals related to the activity department | It is expected that students receive CLOSE supervision at the start of Fieldwork that is daily and direct contact at the site of work (AOTA, 1999, p.592) | | | | |
| 3 | 50% | Completes documentation for each observed client Reviews with onsite fieldwork supervisor Completes all documentation for caseload | Treatment using existing activities | Observes | Locates EBP article related to an intervention for one client and then implements intervention | Gradually over the 8 weeks, it is expected students require less direct and more indirect supervision | | | | |
| 4 | 75% | Completes documentation for each observed client Reviews with onsite fieldwork supervisor Completes all documentation for caseload | Treatment using existing activities | Prepares report for caseload | Leads group intervention with direct supervision from FWE | Gradually over the 8 weeks, it is expected students require less direct and more indirect supervision | | | | |

Northwood Technical College Occupational Therapy Assistant Fieldwork Handbook

| 5 | 75-100% as appropriate | Completes documentation for each observed client Reviews with onsite fieldwork supervisor Completes all documentation for caseload | Treatment using existing activities | Prepares report for caseload | Student leads group intervention independently | Specifically, less direct supervision can be provided when the student has demonstrated proficiency in routine tasks completed multiple times. Direct supervision would be provided when the student encounters novel and/or more complex tasks Supervision is also based on state and reimbursement guidelines |
|---|------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 6 | 100% | Completes all documentation for caseload | Plans and introduces new treatment ideas | Reports for caseload | Advocacy Project | |
| 7 | 100% | Completes all documentation for caseload | Plans and introduces new treatment ideas | Reports for caseload | Creates a resource for the activity department to use in future interventions | |
| 8 | 100% | Completes all documentation for caseload | Plans and introduces new treatment ideas | Reports for caseload | Locates EBP article related to a group or individual intervention and then implements intervention | |

^{*}Student assists with all clients (may observe) but is the primary therapist for the caseload

American Occupational Therapy Association (1999). Guide for the supervision of occupational therapy personnel in the delivery of occupational therapy services. American Journal of Occupational Therapy, 53, 592-594. Modified by A.Polzin 2021

^{**}The amount of supervision will depend on the skills of the fieldwork supervisor, the skills of the student, the nature of the work, and the expectations and requirements of the work setting and external regulatory or legislative agencies.