



CAREER PATH

Health

CAREER CLUSTER

Health Sciences

CAREER PATHWAY

Therapeutic Services



ORTHOTIST OR PROSTHETIST

Assist patients with disabling conditions of limbs and spine or with partial or total absence of limb by fitting and preparing orthopedic braces or prostheses.

Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as an orthotist or prosthetist are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Orthotists and prosthetists	25.6%	45.0%	25.4%
Health technologists and technicians	21.5%	55.1%	23.5%
Healthcare practitioners and technical	11.6%	30.8%	57.5%

Most Common Educational Level: Bachelor's degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm

National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2008		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$21.06	\$30.09	\$39.09
	Yearly	\$43,800	\$62,600	\$81,300
Missouri	Hourly	\$26.18	\$35.95	\$41.66
	Yearly	\$54,500	\$74,800	\$86,700

Based on (*) lower 25% and (**) upper 25% percentile of wages

National and State Employment Trends

Orthotists and Prosthetists	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2008	2018		
United States	5,900	6,800	+15%	210
Missouri	140	150	+12%	N/A**

*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

**N/A is displayed in cases where data cannot be published because of federal data privacy standards.

Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit www.dhe.mo.gov

**University of Missouri – Columbia
– School of Medicine**
Columbia, MO
(573) 882-6333
www.som.missouri.edu



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