



# Jefferson College of Health Sciences

at CARILION CLINIC 



Inviting Applications and Nominations for the

## **Founding Director of the Doctorate in Occupational Therapy Program**

**Jefferson College of Health Sciences**, a highly respected independent, coeducational, health sciences college in Roanoke, Va., announces a national search for the **Founding Director of its Doctorate of Occupational Therapy program**. Applications and nominations are being accepting.



### The Opportunity

Jefferson College of Health Sciences currently has two Occupational Therapy-related degree programs: the Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) and the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT).

The Director will be responsible for organizing, administering, implementing, and evaluating the overall effectiveness of both the new Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD) and the established Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) programs. The College's Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program was established in 2008 and previously existed as a bachelor's degree program. The MSOT program accepts up to nineteen students per year and has one part-time, three full-time, and several adjunct faculty members. The MSOT program is accredited until 2018.

Jefferson College plans to accept its first doctoral class in fall 2016. The Director's primary responsibilities the first year will be to hire new faculty members for the doctoral program, work with the Marketing and Enrollment Management departments to promote the program and recruit students, and guide the implementation of the first year coursework.

The OTD will be a five-semester, 39-credit-hour, part-time, online program. Specialties will be offered in occupational therapy for children, leadership, and education. The program is designed currently as a post-professional degree, accepting up to fifteen students per cohort year. The curriculum has been written for easy transition to an entry-level OTD program later. The new program has been approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

The doctoral program will be housed within the College's Department of Rehabilitation and Wellness. This department includes the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, Bachelor of Science in Health and Exercise Science, Associate of Applied Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant and Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapist Assistant.

The Founding Director position presents an experienced administrator with an exceptional opportunity to shape and develop this advanced academic program in occupational therapy and guide the already established master's program.

Beyond the administrative duties, the Director will:

- Teach in his or her area of expertise
- Conduct scholarly activities

### *Jefferson College of Health Sciences*

#### **Mission Statement**

Jefferson College of Health Sciences prepares, within a scholarly environment, ethical, knowledgeable, competent, and caring healthcare professionals. We believe that excellence in education encompasses all delivery methods and promotes:

- Interdisciplinary and Interprofessional learning
- Diversity of person and thought
- Personal and professional integrity
- Commitment to life-long learning
- Advancement of knowledge through scholarship
- Holistic development of the individual
- Participation in the local and global community



- Guide students in their scholarly pursuits
- Participate in service activities

This is a non-tenured position, as are all faculty positions within Jefferson College of Health Sciences.

### Qualifications

Candidates must have a doctoral degree from a regionally accredited institution in a related field, such as education or psychology, along with the ability to be licensed as an Occupational Therapist in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A minimum of eight years of documented experience in the field of occupational therapy is required, including:

- Clinical practice as an occupational therapist
- Administrative experience including, but not limited to, program planning and implementation, personnel management, evaluation, and budgeting
- Scholarship as defined by E.L. Boyer in his 1990 publication "Scholarship Reconsidered"
- At least three years of experience in a full-time academic appointment with teaching responsibilities at the post-baccalaureate level

### Jefferson College of Health Sciences

Jefferson College of Health Sciences has a long and distinguished history of preparing health care providers, which can be traced back to 1914 when it was a hospital-based nursing school. In the 1980s, the College obtained accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate degrees. It later received SACS approval for bachelor's degrees in 1995, and Master's degrees in 2005.

Today, Jefferson College of Health Sciences, the oldest hospital-based college in Virginia, enrolls more than 1,100 students, including approximately 225 graduate students. Jefferson College's graduate programs in nursing, occupational therapy, and physician assistant are nationally ranked. The College offers 25 degree programs and tracks, as well as certificate programs, across four academic departments: Rehabilitation and Wellness; Community Health Sciences; Nursing; and Arts and Sciences.

The College's exclusive affiliation with Carilion Clinic, one of the largest and most innovative health systems in Virginia, gives students the opportunity to experience some of the most outstanding clinical learning environments in the country.

While 30 states are represented in the student body, 84 percent of the students are from Virginia and 81 percent are female. Seventy-eight percent of undergraduate classes have 21 students or less, and 68 percent of the students take a course online. Among the alumni, 97 percent are employed. The license/certification pass rate is 95 percent.

One of the unique qualities of the College is its commitment to interprofessional learning. Throughout their studies, students have classes and assignments with those in different degree programs at the College. This interaction enables students to gain an understanding of how their field relates to other areas of healthcare, which benefits them when they begin their professional careers.

As an example, MSOT students have organized activities and classes with students in the Master of Science in Nursing, the Master of Science in Physician Assistant, and Master of Healthcare Management programs as well as students from Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (VTC).

Each year, the College joins Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and the Carilion Clinic for an Interprofessional Simulation Day. Using mock patients from VTC's standardized patient program, the



event allows students and other healthcare professionals to experience what it's like to work as a team during a simulated situation involving many patients with a variety of injuries. This simulation activity helps improve students' leadership skills and encourage interprofessional collaboration.

In addition to SACSCOC accreditation, the Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapy Assistant programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, Maryland, 20824-1220.

For more information on Jefferson College of Health Sciences, visit the web site of [www.jchs.edu](http://www.jchs.edu).

### Roanoke, Virginia

The College is located in Roanoke, Virginia, a mid-sized city that has been selected as one of "America's Most Livable Cities." Roanoke has been named an All-America City six times.

Situated in the foothills of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, just south of the Shenandoah Valley, the city is easily accessible to Interstate 81. The Allegheny Mountains and the Appalachian Trail are six miles to the north and the renowned Blue Ridge Parkway is accessible 15 miles to the South. This location provides Roanoke Valley residents easy access to a variety of outdoor activities, including skiing, hiking, camping, and canoeing.

The Roanoke Valley is a charming metropolitan area and boasts a lively and historic Farmer's Market and a rich and varied cultural scene, including a symphony orchestra, the ballet, and an art museum. Additionally, both the Roanoke and Salem civic centers offer venues for performing artists from around the world. Neighborhood theaters add to the cultural opportunities.



### Applications & Nominations

Confidential inquiries are welcomed and nominations are invited.

1. **To Apply** - Application packet must include:
  - a) A letter of interest
  - b) Current curriculum vitae
  - c) At least five references with full contact information (References will not be contacted without consent from applicants.)
  - d) Your answers to the questions at:  
[www.myersmcrac.com/skins/userfiles/file/MMQuestions.pdf](http://www.myersmcrac.com/skins/userfiles/file/MMQuestions.pdf)
2. **Submit application packet** to: [JCHS-OT@myersmcrac.com](mailto:JCHS-OT@myersmcrac.com)
3. An application is required by the Carilion Clinic Office of Human Resources. The Carilion Clinic application is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/otm5kvr>

**Nominations** should include complete contact information for the individual being nominated to the application e-mail above. We will contact them and provide information on the search.

*Confidential review of materials begins immediately and continues until the appointment is made.*

**Emily Parker Myers**, President and CEO of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting**, is assisting Jefferson College of Health Sciences with this search.



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*Jefferson College of Health Sciences does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, sex, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, political affiliation or sexual orientation.*