Zita Kalandarishvili, OTA-S

Occupational Therapy Assistant Student | Occupational Therapist (Ukraine)

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Summary

Occupational Therapy Assistant student with seven years of previous experience in pediatric occupational therapy and a strong background in healthcare and education. Experienced in supporting children and adults with diverse needs to improve independence and participation in meaningful daily activities. Demonstrates strong communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and client-centered care skills while maintaining a compassionate, reliable, and professional approach.

Education

Santa Ana College — Santa Ana, CA
Associate of Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant — Aug 2025 – Expected June 2027

National University of Ukraine on Physical Education & Sport — Kyiv, Ukraine
Master's Degree in Physiotherapy & Ergotherapy — Dec 2019

Zhytomyr Nursing Institute — Zhytomyr, Ukraine
Master's Degree in Nursing — Jul 2013
Bachelor's Degree in Nursing — Jul 2011

Skills

Transfer & Mobility Assistance
Patient & Caregiver Education
Sensory-Based Interventions
Leadership
Team Collaboration
Fluent in Ukrainian & Russian

Fieldwork Experience

LimbTech, LLC — October 2026
Level I-B Fieldwork Student, Hendersonville, NC (Remote Telehealth)

- Participated in virtual wheelchair and mobility evaluations, identifying client needs related to positioning, mobility, safety, and independence with daily activities.
- Gained experience with durable medical equipment documentation, including clinical justification, letters of medical necessity, insurance requirements, and CPT/ICD-10 codes.

Integrity House — April 2026
Level I-A Fieldwork Student, Santa Ana, CA

- Supported adult members in a community-based mental health clubhouse environment through structured, meaningful activities.
- Assisted members with work-based tasks in kitchen, media, and maintenance areas to promote participation and independence.
- Collaborated with fieldwork supervisors and students while maintaining professional communication and client-centered support.

Work Experience

Complete Care at Home Aug 2024 – Present
Caregiver, Santa Barbara, CA

- Provide individualized care to older adults and individuals with disabilities while promoting safety and independence.
- Assist with activities of daily living, including dressing, grooming, bathing, and personal hygiene.
- Assist with mobility, transfers, and positioning using appropriate safety techniques.
- Observe client needs and communicate relevant changes while maintaining a supportive, professional environment.

INDIVID Jan 2021 – Feb 2022
Occupational Therapist (Private Practice), Zhytomyr, Ukraine

- Conducted pediatric assessments and developed individualized treatment plans based on client needs.
- Addressed activities of daily living (ADLs) to promote independence and participation in daily routines.
- Recommended adaptive equipment and environmental modifications during home visits.
- Collaborated with clients and parents regarding goals, progress, and ongoing challenges.

ICF "Mission to Ukraine" Apr 2015 – Apr 2021
Occupational Therapist, Zhytomyr, Ukraine

- Provided occupational therapy services to children ages 1–16 with disabilities.
- Conducted assessments and implemented individualized treatment plans based on client needs and goals.
- Addressed feeding, dressing, self-care, play, and school-related activities to support daily participation.
- Educated parents and recommended adaptive equipment and environmental modifications for the home.

Volunteer Experience

Anthem Chapel 2024 – Present
Sunday School Teacher, Goleta, CA

- Teach Sunday school lessons and lead age-appropriate activities for first-grade children.
- Engage children through interactive activities while maintaining a supportive and organized classroom environment.

Professional Development & Leadership

Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) Club – Mentor — Aug – Dec 2026
2026 AOTA Inspire Annual Conference — Apr 23 – 25, 2026
International Occupational Therapy Conference Presenter — 2019 – 2022

Certifications & Memberships

National Board Certification of Occupational Therapy — Expected: Jun 2027
California Board of Occupational Therapy – License — Expected: Jun 2027
American Occupational Therapy Association – Member — Expires: Aug 2027
World Federation of Occupational Therapy – Member — Expires: Dec 2027
CPR/AED/First Aid Certification — Expires: Feb 2028
Mental Health First Aid Certification — Expires: Sep 2029