



June 2024

Dear Student,

On behalf of Dr. Stephanie DeFranceschi - sdefranceschi@stclaircollege.ca, Chair of the School of Health Science here at St Clair College (SCC), the OTA & PTA program faculty and myself, I would like to congratulate you on your acceptance into this program.

We all look forward to you joining us at Chatham Campus to commence the OTA & PTA program in September. This is a two-year program offering theory classes, practical/mandatory lab classes and clinical placements that will help you develop the knowledge and skills to graduate with a diploma from our Occupational Therapist Assistant & Physiotherapist Assistant program.

Included in this package is some important information that I would ask you to carefully review.

First, there is a "Smart Start" document that outlines important items you need to know as you join us at Chatham Campus.

Placements do not occur until semester 3 so pre-placement requirements are not immediately necessary. A list of requirements is available on the St. Clair College website on the OTA & PTA page under the "Placement" tab. We highly recommend that you complete the requirements early in order to avoid any issues with placement – some requirements such as police checks do become outdated and must be no less than six months old throughout the of each block placement in semester 3 and 4. In addition, please note the following: 1.) Student personal requests for placement cannot be accommodated. 2.) Placements may be outside the Windsor/Chatham area depending on availability. 3.) Students are responsible for their own accommodation. 4.) Students are responsible for their own travel and all costs to placements. 5.) Students are responsible for the cost of scrub uniforms/footwear and equipment

If you require an accommodation plan, this can be created by a College Counsellor, upon review of appropriate documentation as requested. The Accommodation Plan outlines reasonable and appropriate learning accommodations and supports that may assist in overcoming disability-related learning barriers. They do not include modifications to the student's program and courses. If you anticipate that you may need such assistance, again, please contact student services at as soon as you can. Furthermore, it is your responsibility to inform your professors if you require accommodations. This is very important because we want everyone to succeed to the best of their abilities and if you are entitled to accommodations, please let us know in advance.

Most of our correspondence will be through email and this will be through your college email address which will be assigned. While you may have a social email address, please use your college email for all school related emails, and check it regularly. Remember that you must set up your St. Clair College email account and agree to receive emails from the college before you will get any emails at all. So please do this at your earliest opportunity.

Lastly, please do not forget the St Clair College Chatham Campus OTA & PTA Orientation 2024. Orientation will take place at Chatham Campus in room W1049 on a date to be determined. Please check back with the College Website for updates. Orientation is an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the college and your program. You will also get to meet your peers and some program faculty. There will be ample opportunity for questions and there are workshops available to help prepare you for college life. **It is highly recommended that you attend orientation.**

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the college. If you have questions of concerns please reach me at jspirou@stclaircollege.ca or the Administrative Assistant to the School of Health Sciences – Chatham, Ms. Linda Quick – lquick@stclaircollege.ca.

Once again, congratulations on your acceptance into this exciting program and I look forward to being with you on your journey to a meaningful and rewarding career.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Spirou

John Spirou PT, DPT, MBA
Professor and OTA/PTA Program Co-ordinator