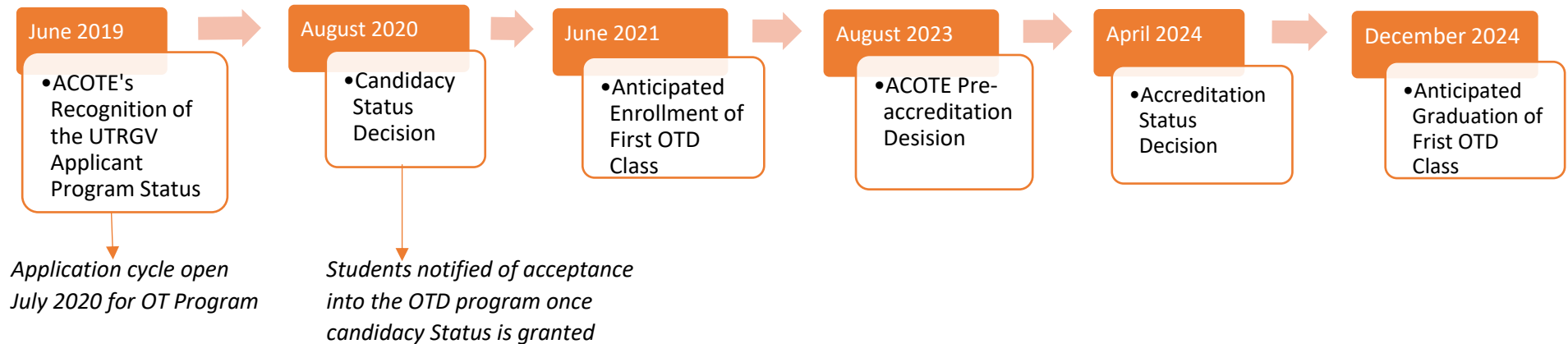


Information Regarding ACCREDITATION + ADMISSION TO OTD PROGRAM

The UTRGV Occupational Therapy program is in the process of transitioning to the doctoral entry-level.

UTRGV plans to offer a 3.5-year entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) beginning June 2021. Beginning November 2020, applicants who apply to the UTRGV OT program to begin Summer 2021 need to be aware of the intended transition to the doctoral degree.



Accreditation of the OTD program involves several steps that are presented in the above diagram. These steps with anticipated dates include:

- Approval by THECB to offer the OTD degree
- ACOTE Candidacy status granted (August 2020)
- Pre-accreditation review and approval (August 2023)
- On-site evaluation completed (January -March 2024)
- Accreditation Status granted (April 2024)
- First OTD class graduation (December 2024)

All steps of the accreditation process must be completed before the OTD graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification exam for occupational therapists administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

Note: New admission to the master's degree program not be accepted once candidacy status is received.

For further information about the accreditation process contact:

American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Department
6116 Executive Boulevard, Suite 200 | North Bethesda, MD 20852-4929
(301) 652-6611 | accred@aota.org | www.acoteonline.org



Important:

The UTRGV Occupational Therapy program is in the process of transitioning to the doctoral entry-level.

Applicants need to be aware that the OT program is in the process of transitioning the entry-level MS in occupational therapy program to an entry-level Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) program. The program must be granted approval by THECB and Candidacy status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) before students can be admitted to the entry-level OTD program. Applicants who apply to the OT program during the transitional period will be admitted to either the entry-level MS or OTD program depending on when Candidacy Status is granted by ACOTE. Check the UTRGV OT program webpage about the status of the OTD program. New admission to the master's degree program will not be accepted once candidacy status is received.