

College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Work

- The Specialist Section for Work is for those with an interest in furthering their knowledge and professional skills in vocational rehabilitation
- Preparing people for return to work or to enter the world of work for the first time is a key function of occupational therapists carrying out vocational rehabilitation.

The College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section (COT SS) – Work defines work as: those activities perceived as work, either paid or voluntary, which are meaningful, productive occupations for the individual.

Work, in its various forms, is seen as being fundamental to the way society is structured and plays an essential and important role in the lives of most people.

The facilitation of work practice is described as a core skill by many occupational therapists and was the reason for the foundation of our profession.

Membership of this Specialist Section includes people working in both physical and mental health settings, representing statutory, voluntary, private and business sectors.

Aims of the Specialist Section

- To define the role of occupational therapy in the activity domain of work
- To promote a person-environment-occupation framework to help identify and overcome barriers to work and therefore promote social participation and inclusion
- To raise awareness of the unique contribution of occupational therapy to work related activity within the statutory, voluntary and corporate sectors
- To foster and maintain regional, national and international networks of members
- To act in an advisory capacity to members on work related matters
- To provide specialist, professional representation to and on behalf of the College of Occupational Therapists for policy and consultation purposes
- To foster relationships and liaison between other professional groups and agencies working in this field
- To support education and training and research and development, related to work and vocational rehabilitation topics.

Occupational therapists may be involved in work and vocational rehabilitation in a variety of ways including:

- Return to work plans
- Rehabilitation in the form of work hardening or work conditioning



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Specialist Section

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- Job retention
- Supported employment
- Functional capacity assessments
- Case management.

Benefits of Membership

- National and international networking via membership data base
- Forum for exchange of innovations, advice and information
- Preferential rates at COTSS – Work conferences and study days
- Periodic newsletters
- Access to COT SS – Work publications
- Voting rights for BAOT/COT members
- Links for employment opportunities.

Application for membership is open to:

- All occupational therapists and support staff working within the occupational therapy profession
- Student occupational therapists enrolled on a College of Occupational Therapists accredited, pre registration programme
- Individuals with a professional interest in work and vocational rehabilitation who are not members of the occupational therapy profession may apply for Associate membership.

If you would like to join this specialist section membership forms can be downloaded from the website at:

<http://www.cot.org.uk/specialist/work/membership/individual.php>

Or for further information please visit the website at:

<http://www.cot.org.uk/specialist/work/aboutus/intro.php>

Alternatively you can contact us at:

COT SS WORK

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