

NEOTEC

New England Occupational Therapy Education Council

The New England Occupational Therapy Education Council (NEOTEC) is a consortium of member Occupational Therapy Educational Programs dedicated to supporting academic and fieldwork occupational therapy education. We work to enhance the quality of fieldwork education and supervision as well as to provide continuing education opportunities to support fieldwork and current practice. Fieldwork Educators earn FREE continuing education credits recognized by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT), incentives offered through participating colleges or universities, and FREE admission to Annual NEOTEC conferences (hosted locally).

As the profession of occupational therapy grows, so does the demand for quality fieldwork sites.

A national survey of fieldwork educators indicates that supervising students provides:

- **opportunities to update practice, keep current, apply new ideas, research or theories;**
- **personal satisfaction, giving back to university or profession, and**
- **opportunities to develop clinical reasoning and develop supervision skills** (Evenson, Roberts, Kaldenberg, Barnes, & Ozelie, 2015).

Some commonly expressed barriers to accommodating students include: increased stress, decreased productivity, and extra paperwork. In fact, research found that **productivity actually stays consistent** when a student is present (Ozelie, Kreutz, Mulry, & Penkala, 2015).

We ask that you consider collaborating with any of the NEOTEC member schools to strategize how you can start, or grow, a fieldwork program at your facility. Many different training models exist. We are here to work with you to ensure your staff is feeling supported and ready to take on this endeavor and that students obtain what they need from the experience.

Serving as a fieldwork educator is an excellent way to shape our professions' future!

THANK YOU!

References:

Evenson, M.E., Roberts, M., Kaldenberg, J., Barnes, M.A., & Ozelie, R. (2015). A national survey of fieldwork educators: Implications for OT education. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 69(2), 6912350020p1-6912350020p5. Bethesda, MD: American Occupational Therapy Association. doi:10.5014/ajot.2015.019265

Ozelie R., Janow J., Kreutz C., Mulry M.K., & Penkala A. (2015). Supervision of Occupational Therapy Level II Fieldwork Students: Impact on and Predictors of Clinician Productivity. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 69(1), 6901260010p1-7. doi: 10.5014/ajot.2015.013532.