

Fieldwork Requirements in the Master of Occupational Therapy Program at UBC

Please read thoroughly

UBC is the only occupational therapy program in British Columbia thereby servicing a provincial mandate. Throughout BC, the university has developed collaborative relationships with numerous agencies for the provision of fieldwork opportunities for students of the program.

In order to continue to maintain our relationships with the agencies throughout the province and continue to develop exceptional Occupational Therapy graduates from UBC, there is a requirement that each student **participate in at least one placement in one** of the more remote Health Authorities in the province. This is **either** *Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA)*, *Northern Health* or *Interior Health*. This requirement can be fulfilled at any point in the program. As well, to not overburden the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority there is the additional requirement that each student complete at least one placement in *Vancouver Coastal Health* and one in the *Fraser Health Authority*. The rationale behind this model is that the educational program is enriched by requiring experiences in settings that differ both geographically and clinically. Therefore to embody this philosophy, students will also be required to complete one of their placements in the Vancouver Coastal region, and one in the Fraser Health region. The continued variety and availability of placements needs to be maintained by students participating in both in- town and out-of-town placement opportunities.

In summary, to complete the 5 required block placement experiences in the 2 year Masters program, each student **must** complete **one** of their placements in Vancouver Coastal, **one** in Fraser Health and **one in their choice of either Northern, Island or Interior Health**. Please refer to the enclosed map to understand the geographic boundaries. The other 2 placements can be completed in any region of their choice. Students can still apply for National and International placement opportunities as set out in the Fieldwork policies. As per our Fieldwork philosophy, we are looking to try to provide placement experiences that round out the Occupational Therapy scope of practice through a wide range of settings.

Exemptions for attending an out-of-town placement are granted only under certain limited circumstances. The student must submit these reasons in writing and each case is considered individually by the university academic fieldwork coordinator. Students are responsible for **all** costs associated with the Fieldwork program. Exemptions **are not** granted for financial hardship reasons.

Yours truly,

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