

Alumni Questionnaire (Job or Grad School)

**Occupational therapy grad student at Indiana State University.**

How did your experience at USI help you find your first position after graduation?

**My time at USI prepared me greatly for graduate school! The information I learned and the opportunities I had, all stemming from the amazing people there.**

If you had it to do all over again, what would you do differently?

**If I had to do it over, I wouldn't change anything; it all happened the way it was supposed to. All I would do differently is slow down and enjoy it. I would spend less time worrying about future and wishing time would go faster. Those years are amazing and character-building, spend as much time as possible to look around and appreciate it.**

On a typical day in this position, what do you do?

**Every day is really different! I often have class, then I spend time studying and just trying to keep it all together haha. I'm trying to take my own advice and calming down; it will all work out the way it's supposed to.**

What personal qualities or abilities are important to being successful in this job?

**You definitely have to be able to go with the flow and be flexible, enjoy working and spending time with people, and not take some things too seriously. I focus on working hard and doing the best I can. That will often get you where me need to be, and I'll always be able to look back and have peace.**

What opportunities for advancement are there in this field?

**Once I'm graduated and working as an Occupational therapist, there's so many opportunities! This field is great because you can always switch areas (ages of people, conditions, certain areas of the body, etc.). There's so many classes you can take for continuing education and get certified in all kinds of areas. There's also a lot of leadership positions available.**

Is there a demand for people in this occupation?

**Since the field is incredibly vast and ever-evolving, there's always a need (job security for life!).**

What do you think of the experience you've had so far in terms of entering this field?

**This career is centered around people, so I have had a lot of experience working with people and helping them. As time went on, I was able to get more and more**

**experience with people in a health-related setting, which is even more helpful. Once I began the program, I was immediately required to gather hours in professional and community settings.**

If you could do things all over again, would you choose the same path for yourself?

**Yes!!**

Why? What would you change?

**Although it is hard that school is a long process. I'm often envious when I see my nursing & other health care professional friends already working. I have to remind myself that nothing good comes easily and it will be so worth it in the end! I love Occupational therapy and what it stands for. I'll be able to make so many major differences in people's lives.**

What part of this job do you find most satisfying? most challenging?

**It's not often that one little person can make a huge difference, but in this field I can! Even in the health field, sometimes it's hard to get a professional to listen and help you, or solve your problems. As an OT, I can listen, help, and change someone's life. That is very gratifying.**