



NEWS RELEASE

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Media Contacts:

Cheryl Cassaly
Rehab Essentials, Inc.
(513) 815-5508
c.cassaly@rehabessentials.com

Reed Humphrey
University of Montana
(406) 243-4341
reed.humphrey@umontana.edu

University of Montana Launches Online Transitional Doctor of Occupational Therapy Degree Program Powered By Rehab Essentials.

COLUMBIA FALLS, MT (March 31, 2022) – Montana-based Rehab Essentials, Inc, announced a partnership today with the University of Montana to provide innovative, budget-friendly, online, post professional degrees for occupational therapists. Starting with the fall semester in August 2022, the University of Montana will offer an online transitional Doctor of Occupational Therapy (tOTD) degree, which is powered by Rehab Essentials.

“We are looking forward to expanding our current rehabilitation programs at the University of Montana with the launch of the tOTD degree this Fall.” explains Dr. Reed Humphrey, Acting Provost. “This program has the opportunity to empower working occupational therapists to move their careers forward and become leaders or educators in their field. Expanding our partnership with Rehab Essentials allows the program to deliver evidence-based coursework from nationally recognized faculty through robust distance education methodology. The flexibility of the 100% online program, also provides students the opportunity to continue working while earning their doctoral degree in only 2½-years.”

The tOTD is designed with working rehabilitation therapists in mind. As an online distance learning program, working professionals will have the opportunity to balance work, life and school while earning a doctorate degree, and all with a budget-friendly tuition. The contemporary online format allows students to engage with a world-class curriculum from virtually anywhere, on their schedule, and at their pace. Students will have access to a diverse online community of their peers and award-winning faculty who are nationally recognized subject matter experts. Throughout the evidence-based programs at the University of Montana, students will gain advanced critical thinking, professional knowledge, behavior, and skills to become a leader in their respective field.

“We are looking forward to our inaugural tOTD cohorts with the School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science University of Montana in August 2022,” says Jonathan Scheeler, chief program officer at Rehab Essentials and coordinator for the tDPT and tOTD programs at the University of Montana. “The opportunity to bring new occupational therapy rehabilitation professionals into our program at the University of Montana, will continue to enhance our already diverse student base.”

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The transitional Doctor of Occupational Therapy degree will be offered starting Fall 2022, applications are currently being accepted with classes starting on Aug. 29, 2022. Occupational therapists who hold a bachelor or master level degree in occupational therapy and are licensed in the United States can apply to the program. The bachelor to OTD program is 41 credit hours and can be completed in as little as 28 months for under \$18,000. Similarly, the master's to OTD program is 30 credit hours and can be completed in as little as 20 months for about \$13,000. Applications are currently being accepted at UMT.RehabEssentials.com.

“When I started Rehab Essentials 15 years ago, my goal was to improve the standards of the physical therapy profession and to help advance therapists’ careers in a flexible and affordable manner. I wanted to provide an online, affordable, and more flexible path to an accredited clinical doctorate for practicing physical therapists. My focus was to build a program that would fit their busy schedules and budget, while featuring a seasoned, all-star faculty with content expertise from around the U.S.,” says Dr. Steve Tepper, founder and president of Rehab Essentials. “We are driven to continue extending the reach of our programs within physical therapy and into occupational therapy with the intention of improving standards and opportunities in rehabilitation professions. Our work with the University of Montana over the last fourteen years to deliver the evidence-based tDPT and now the tOTD reflects that.”

About Rehab Essentials, Inc.

Rehab Essentials is the leading provider of online doctorate level rehabilitation courses designed to advance rehabilitation professionals globally by curating an innovative, exceptional online learning experience with leading experts, best-in-class content, universal accessibility, and a supportive professional community. Steven Tepper, PT, PhD, FAPTA, founded Rehab Essentials in 2005 with the drive to provide a cost-effective transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (tDPT) program that allowed physical therapists to maintain their work-life balance, continue to practice and advance their professional qualifications by taking online courses from an all-star faculty and outstanding curriculum. In 2008, Rehab Essentials began powering the tDPT program at the University of Montana. In Fall 2022, Rehab Essentials will bring this same mission to the occupational therapy community at the University of Montana and launch an online tOTD program with the university. www.RehabEssentials.com, UMT.RehabEssentials.com, <https://www.linkedin.com/company/rehab-essentials-inc/>, <https://twitter.com/rehabessentials>, <https://www.facebook.com/RehabEssentials/>

About the University of Montana

The University of Montana’s main campus is in Missoula, MT. The University draws a diverse, global population to Missoula – our home and the state’s second-largest city – and helps cultivate an educated, engaged, and vibrant community. Our students receive a world-class education in a broad range of subjects that include the trades, liberal arts, sciences, graduate and postdoctoral study and professional training. The University of Montana is institutionally accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

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If you would like more information about this topic, please call Cheryl Cassaly at 503-815-5508, or email c.cassaly@rehabessentials.com.