



CarFit Occupational Therapy Practitioner Role

About CarFit

CarFit is a national educational program supported by CAOT and CAA in Canada.

OT Role

Occupational Therapy Practitioners bring a unique understanding of aging and medical conditions to the CarFit educational program.

Occupational Therapy Practitioners at CarFit Events must also be trained Technicians, Coordinators, or Instructors.

At CarFit Events the OT practitioner may perform any of the duties of a CarFit Technician. Additionally, the OT practitioner Technician performs the 12th step of the CarFit Checklist at Check-out with the participants (drivers). The OT practitioner reviews the Checklist for those items flagged by a trained Technician at steps 1-11. The OT practitioner provides additional education to the participant (driver) that may include information or demonstration of devices or gadgets, community resources, and how to obtain the services of an occupational therapist or driver rehabilitation specialist.

- Note that in some situations, a driver rehabilitation specialist, who may or may not be an occupational therapist will be at the Check-out station of an in-person CarFit event.

At no time does the OT practitioner provide individual occupational therapy interventions. The role is to provide education only, it is not intended to be therapy or therapeutic intervention.

Responsibilities

- Participate at CarFit Events to the level of their training (Technician, Event Coordinator, or Instructor) where appropriate.
- Follow the direction of the Event Coordinator overseeing the CarFit Event.
- Review the 12-point CarFit Checklist with participants at the Check-up station.
- Review the Checklist items flagged by Technicians at the Check-out/12th step and provides education/educational materials as appropriate.
- Defer concerns, or complaints to the CarFit Event Coordinator.
- Promote CarFit priorities and goals.



- Stay current about CarFit.
- Consult the Canadian and American CarFit websites for program updates and additional resources and information.
- Become familiar with occupational therapy services and driving services and resources in your area.
- Become familiar with community resources that support driving “retirement,” such as grocery or pharmacy deliver services, public and private transportatoin options, driver refresher and driving safety programs.
- Become familiar with assistive devices that support driving and drivers. Note that CarFit does not endorse any one product, service or vendor, with the exception of CAA. CAA is a funder of CarFit in Canada, and CarFit supports CAA’s programs, services and benefits.
- CarFit does share local resources and does allow sponsorship of CarFit events and permits sharing of promotional items in resources bags from businesses and organizations who support CarFit events.

Qualifications

- A registered occupational therapist, occupational therapy student or occupational therapist assistant.
- Must have the physical ability to bend over, stoop down, and assist someone else in walking.
- Good observational and communication skills.
- Demonstrates good time management skills.
- Good demeanor in addressing the potentially stress-provoking topic of driving.
- Must be a licensed or previously licensed driver.

Training Required

- Complete an in-person or virtual Technician training session
- Complete an in-person or virtual OT Supplement training session.
- Participate in one (1) CarFit in-person Event including lab session.
- Complete a Virtual Lab Session recognized by the National CarFit Coordinator when there is no local Event Coordinator or Instructor for in-person training as part of Technician training.
- All CarFit volunteers must identify to an Event Coordinator or Instructor when volunteering at an in-person Event if they are participating in a CarFit Event for the first time, or after over a year of non-participation.

Ongoing



Find comfort behind the wheel.



CAOT · ACE

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Association canadienne des ergothérapeutes

- OT practitioners are also trained Technicians, Event Coordinators, or Instructors and must:
- Complete a yearly attestation that they completed a refresher training or volunteered at an in-person Event, and
- That they abide by the requirements and responsibilities of the program.

- It is the responsibility of the CarFit volunteer to review the current CarFit materials for their role as a refresher prior to involvement in each CarFit Event of any type.**

Available Resources

- Visit the [Canadian CarFit website](#).
- Visit the [American CarFit website](#).